Amusements.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—8—East Lynne.
ALHAMBRA—2—8—Vaudeville.
AMERICAN—1:30—7:30—Vaudeville.
ASTOR—8:20—The Aviator.
BELASCO—2:20—8:20—The Concert.
BIJOU—2:15—8:20—The Havoc.
BROADWAY—8:15—The Squaw Man.
CARNEGIE HALL—8:15—Boston Symphony Orchestra.
CASINO—8—Marriage à la Carte.
CIRCLE—3—8:30—Oberammergau and Passion Play.
COLONIAL—2—8—Vaudeville.
COMEDY—8:15—I'll Be Hanged If I Do.
CRITERION—8:30—Secret Service.
DALY'S—8:30—Baby Mine.
EMPIRE—8:15—Trelawney of the Wells.
GAIETY—8:15—Get Rich Quick Wallingford.
GARRICK—8:20—The Impostor.
GLOBE—8:15—The Slim Princess.
HACKETT—2:15—8:15—Over Night.
HAMMERSTEIN'S—2—8:15—Vaudeville.
HERALD SQUARE—8:15—The Girl and the Kaiser.
HIPPODROME—2—8—The International Cup—Ballet of Niagara—The Earthquake.
HUDSON—8:30—Nobody's Widow.
IRVING PLACE—8:15—Freund Fritz.
JOE WEBER'S—8:15—Alma, Where Do You Live?
LIBERTY—8:15—The Spring Maid.
LYCEUM—8:30—Suzanne.
LYRIC—8—The Deep Purple.
MADISON SQUARE GARDEN—Automobile Show.
MAJESTIC—8:20—The Blue Bird.
MANHATTAN OPERA HOUSE—2—8—Vaudeville.
MAXINE ELLIOTT'S—8:30—The Gamblers.
METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE—8—Armide.
NAZIMOVA'S—8:15—We Can't Be as Bad as All That.
NEW AMSTERDAM—2:15—8:15—Madame Sherry.
NEW THEATRE—8:30—Vanity Fair.
NEW YORK—8:15—Naughty Marietta.
PLAZA—1:30—7:30—Vaudeville.
REPUBLIC—8:15—Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm.
WALLACK'S—8:20—Pomander Walk.
WEST END—8:15—He Came from Milwaukee.

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New-York Tribune.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 1911.

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: Mr. Gallinger and Mr. Hale spoke in support of the postal subvention bill. House: The session was devoted to discussion of the Moon bill for the codification of the laws relating to the judiciary.

FOREIGN.—A majority of the railroad employes in Portugal struck and they were followed by store clerks, in Lisbon, who demanded fewer hours of labor and one day off in seven. The mission of Dr. Mendoza, of Panama, who went to Bogota to negotiate a treaty of peace with Colombia, has failed. A dispatch from Peking says the National Assembly was dissolved after a stormy session in which there were frequent clashes with the throne and the Grand Council. A dispatch from Paris says the International Aeronautic Federation received a cablegram from the sports committee of the Aero Club of America saying the committee had approved the changes in the rules which allowed the late John B. Moisant to contest for the Statue of Liberty prize.

DOMESTIC.—Senator Aldrich will introduce a bill providing for a central bank at the present session of Congress. Argument in the American Tobacco Company cases was closed in the United States Supreme Court, and the Standard Oil dissolution suit will come up to-day. The report of a special state Senatorial committee submitted to the Governor of Wisconsin charged irregularities in the election of United States Senator Stephenson. Charles J. Hughes, jr., junior United States Senator from Colorado, died at his home in Denver. It was said at Albany after Charles F. Murphy had arrived there that Governor Dix was being urged to follow Mayor Gaynor's example and declare for the election of Edward M. Shepard as United States Senator; political circles were in a turmoil over the situation. It was said at Albany that the new legislative committee designations had not been completed and probably would not be announced to-day. The body of a boy who, it is believed, had been forced to drink carbolic acid was found at Albany; there are no clews to his identity.

CITY.—Stocks were irregular, closing weak. Mayor Gaynor made public a statement he will present to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, placing on that body responsibility for any further delay in considering contracts for subway construction and operation, declaring the city the owner of all present and future subways, and charging that the real purpose of the opposition was to force the city to operate the system. The legislative investigating committee decided to ask an extension of one year in its legal life in order to examine City Chamberlain Hyde, who is still absent. An official of the Northern Bank was indicted, but the name will not be disclosed until to-day. George J. Gould said he was not going to retire from the presidency of the Missouri Pacific, but the rumor persisted, nevertheless.

THE WEATHER.—Indications for to-day: Rain or snow. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 42 degrees, lowest, 34.

ANARCHY IN AMERICA.

There appears to us to be a certain hiatus which perhaps he might readily fill in the otherwise most impressive argument of Dr. Andrew D. White's recent letter to The Tribune on the anarchist peril in America. Of the prevalence of crime in this country all intelligent citizens are painfully aware. The contrast between the criminal statistics of the United States and those of the United Kingdom cited by Dr. White is not creditable. But—and this is the point on which Dr. White's argument seems to be deficient—where is the proof that these conditions are due to the too great laxity of our immigration laws and to the too free admission to this country of anarchists and alien criminals?

That may be the fact, and Dr. White may have the statistics at hand to establish the proposition. But it does not appear upon the face of the case as thus far presented by him. There is doubtless a considerable amount of crime among certain classes of our immigrant population. So, too, there is much, and it is, we believe, rapidly and ominously increasing, among the population of American birth and ancestry. The murderous affrays of the Chinese "tongs" and the crimes of the Black Hand are to be charged against aliens, and they are abominable. But no Sicilian vendetta was ever more ruthless or more persistent or more vile than the feuds which have for years prevailed in some of our states among families which have been settled there since before the Revolution, and we are not sure that the latter are not to be charged with the longer death rolls. It would not be difficult, moreover, to name among the most insidious and pernicious propagandists of anarchical and criminal doctrines men of American birth and even of long American ancestry.

We are entirely at one with Dr. White in deploring the prevalence of crimes of violence in the United States and in his indictment of the frailties and follies of our judicial and administrative systems, which tolerate and even facilitate it. But further evidence must be awaited before accepting the suggestion that this detestable state of affairs is solely or chiefly due to our open door policy toward immigrants. We must add, moreover, that while there is doubtless some regrettable laxity in the enforcement of the law, and while some strengthening of the existing system of scrutinizing immigrants, and even some decided increase of restrictions upon immigration, may be desirable, as indeed we have suggested, it does not seem to us that this country is justly to be described as "lying wide open" to anarchists and criminals. The theory of our law and practice certainly is to exclude them, and improvement is to be made not so much by a radical change in principle and disposition as in a stricter and more effective administration of existing laws.

AN "ORGANIZATION" SENATOR.

We should suppose Murphy's announcement that he was opposed to Mr. Edward M. Shepard for Senator would at last shake the faith which the political innocents in the Democratic party have been reposing in the boss's change of heart. What becomes of those "best motives" of which we have been so often assured of late and that desire to strengthen the Democratic party by bringing forward its best man, now that Murphy has set his face firmly against the one Democratic candidate for Senator whose choice would have been accepted as an indication that the party would mend its ways? The truth of the matter is that the "good elements" in the Democratic party deserve the fate that has befallen them. They deliberately blinked their eyes at Murphy's well known character, went about assuring themselves and telling the state that Murphy had grown to the moral stature of "leadership," and thus helped to deliver their party and the state over to the boss. Their Saratoga League played into Murphy's hands, and everything they have since done has played into his hands and has helped to make a situation in which it is possible for him to dictate the choice of the United States Senator. Lacking the courage to attack the shameful leadership of their party, they tried to pretend to themselves that there was no moral need to attack it, and now they have their reward. "The organization is against" their man—Shepard.

With Murphy's word the gage is thrown down, and who is there to take it up and oppose him. The Mayor again says he favors Mr. Shepard, but he is in no position to lead a fight. Governor Dix is hopefully mentioned. The "better elements" of the Democracy are always cheerfully ready to see taken upon some one else's shoulders the task of fighting Murphy, which they themselves never have the courage to assume. But Governor Dix may not unnaturally feel that he has more immediate and pressing duties than the reform of the Democratic party at the cost of a fight. At any rate, he gives no indication of a willingness to allow any more than his "sympathy" to be drawn into the senatorship contest, and presumably Murphy felt sure of Governor Dix before he finally committed himself against Mr. Shepard. For the rest, there is no one to give him battle except these "better elements," who have been laboriously endeavoring to create a legend of a better Murphy. What respect he has for their prowess is indicated by his tossing with amused contempt the support of McCooey over to them for their use and profit.

"The organization is not for Shepard," and although it is not declared who is the organization's choice it is made plain enough in those words what kind of man he is. Whether he is Mr. Sheehan or some one more immediately identified with Tammany, he will be one of the organization's kind of men, true to the traditions of Tammany Hall and of the old Hill ring, a performer of "unostentatious services" for the machine and for those interests that stand behind Murphy and the machine. The "virtue and political ideals" business is over. Murphy has torn off the mask which "the better elements" made for him, laughs in their faces and raises the standard of "the organization."

THE SULLOWAY PENSION BILL.

The passage by the House of Representatives of the Sulloway pension bill is to be regretted as a surrender on the part of that body to impulse and the pressure of specious but unsound arguments. It is proper to demand that the country shall pay its just debt to the veterans of the Mexican War and the War of the Rebellion, but in meeting that obligation Congress is also bound to consider the public interest and to see that liberality is not pushed to the extreme of heedless extravagance.

It is nearly forty-six years since the War of the Rebellion ended, and the nation has paid out in pensions in that time no less than $3,976,611,125. The annual pension outlay has increased from $15,450,549 in 1865-'66 to $159,974,056 in 1909-'10. The amount expended in the last fiscal year was exceeded only by the amount expended in 1908-'09, so that the government is now devoting to pensions, nearly forty-six years after the close of the Civil War, more money than it devoted in any year prior to 1908-'09 and about four times as much as it spent on the average in the two decades following the war to relieve those who were directly disabled in that contest or to provide for the widows and orphans of those who perished. No charge of illiberality can be maintained against the federal government. On the contrary, its pension system has been extended to the very limit of equitable generosity.

To add $45,000,000 a year to the present pension outlay would be a death-blow to the plans of public economy on which the Taft administration has been so sedulously working. What will it profit to save a few millions here and a few millions there if the government's annual obligations are to be increased at one stroke by $45,000,000, and the way is to be opened for other pension legislation even more costly? The supporters of the Sulloway measure pictured all the remaining veterans of the Civil War who have passed sixty-two years as dependent solely on the government for support. That is a wild exaggeration, for men who were mustered out as soldiers forty-six years ago and have since been engaged as ordinary citizens in making a living without developing any physical disability must be as able on the average to take care of themselves as other citizens are. The age pension was never intended to be a veteran's sole support, but only a moderate assistance given him in old age. If the sole support theory is to be accepted, why stop at $15, $20, $25 and $36 a month for varying ages? Why not make a flat rate of $50 for every veteran over sixty-two?

The Invalid Pensions Committee of the House, which reported the Sulloway bill, made the extraordinary argument that the measure ought to pass because it would relieve the committee of the staggering task of putting through private pension bills. But the committee's activities along that line should have been suspended some time ago. Private pension bills give claimants advantages to which they are not entitled under the general laws. They are justifiable only in exceptional cases. But because the committees of the House and Senate have not had the courage to refuse to act except in really deserving cases, the bad precedent has been set of passing thousands of private bills at each session of Congress instead of tens or hundreds. The House committee may think it will be relieved of doing an unpleasant duty if the Sulloway measure becomes a law. But it will probably find just as many appeals for special relief coming in afterward as came in before.

The Senate ought to subject to the closest scrutiny a bill which would upset the present equilibrium in pension payments and commit the government to an annual pension outlay of $200,000,000 or more.

STREET CLEANER AND CHAMBERLAIN.

A year or so ago Mayor Gaynor, on one of his pedestrian rounds of the city, noticed snow shovellers filling a wagon while the driver stood by knocking his heels together in the cold and not lending a hand at shovelling. He promptly wrote to the Street Cleaning Commissioner about it. Here was a man being paid by the city and standing idle when he might be at work. The Mayor suggested that a shovel should be put into his hands. And then he concluded with one of his charming bits of irony: "I am afraid he will catch his death of cold standing about with nothing to do," or words to that effect.

Isn't the Mayor afraid that his valued friend and associate, the City Chamberlain, will catch his death of cold from having nothing to do? Or has the Mayor only a keen eye for the failures of day laborers to give their utmost to the city in return for their wages, while he looks with toleration upon the absentee salary collecting of his $12,000 appointee?

MOTOR CARS AND ROADS.

The complaint of damage to park roads by automobiles is vigorously renewed and is probably well founded. At all seasons of the year those vehicles have in several respects an injurious effect on macadam and telford pavements. In dry weather, in summer, by virtue of their speed and probably also their peculiar formation, they sweep off the dust and fine surface stones, exposing the larger stones which lie below and which should always remain covered. In wet weather, and especially in winter, their chain clad wheels cut and grind into the roadbed and make ruts and holes. These things have been too often observed to be doubted. Indeed, it is not likely that any denial of them would be made, the ground taken by automobilists being—and it is by no means without force—that their vehicles are lawful and so useful as to be practically indispensable, and that it is incumbent upon the city to make roads which will endure them.

We are inclined to think, however, that the damage to the roads is chiefly if not entirely superficial and does not, as some reports would make it appear, involve the very foundation of those excellent pieces of telford and macadam. If in some cases it has gone deeper, that is probably because there has been neglect to repair surface breaks and erosions promptly. The secret of good roads lies in maintenance as much as in original construction. But it is also probable that many of these surface injuries might be prevented by avoidance of the abuses to which motor cars are too often subjected. A speed of ten miles an hour would do little harm to the roads, and that is as fast a rate as should be permitted in the park. And while "skidding" is to be avoided, it may well be questioned whether for that purpose it is lawful to employ devices which ruin the roads.

A GOOD EXAMPLE.

Pennsylvania has set a valuable precedent in pushing to the bitter end the prosecution of the conspirators who carried through the state Capitol "furnishing" frauds. Political influence was powerless to prevent a relentless pursuit in the courts, and the state now has the satisfaction of having convicted the chief conspirators and recovered from them or their estates about $1,600,000. In most scandals of this sort a few scapegoats suffer and the ill-gotten gains disappear. None of the Pennsylvania "furnishers" got much enjoyment out of his unlawful profits. Court expenses and the restitution made on Tuesday probably ate most of them up.

William P. Snyder, former Auditor General; William L. Mathues, former Treasurer, and James M. Shumaker, former Superintendent of Public Grounds and Buildings, were sentenced to imprisonment, Mathues dying before the sentence could take effect. These three officials, as members of the board supervising the furnishing of the Capitol, acted in collusion with the architect and with contractors in covering up the overcharges for materials and work. The chief contractor, John H. Sanderson, was convicted and died before his prison sentence was confirmed by the Supreme Court. Another contractor, George F. Payne, died before he could be tried. Joseph M. Huston, the architect, was convicted and sentenced to imprisonment, and is now out on bail awaiting the result of an appeal. To make the punishment more complete, civil suits were brought to recover about $5,000,000. In the opinion of the Attorney General it would have been impossible to collect a judgment for that amount from the defendants or their estates, and after an investigation he decided to recommend a settlement which involved a cash payment to the treasury of $1,300,000 and the annulment of various unpaid warrants and unsettled claims amounting to $295,000. The cost to the state of the prosecution was about $250,000.

So carefully was the plot to defraud the treasury worked out that it would probably not have been discovered for years but for the suspicions aroused in the mind of William H. Berry, the state Treasurer elected to succeed Mathues. He looked beneath the surface and made the first charges of crookedness, and a legislative investigating committee afterward brought the frauds to light in their entirety and laid a basis for criminal and civil prosecutions. These have had a tonic effect. Making "easy money" out of a state Capitol will be discouraged in Pennsylvania and elsewhere. Immunity for crooked political contractors and architects with grafting alliances is getting out of date.

Where are the famous Belgian police dogs which General Bingham imported? They might be allowed to smell around the vanished City Chamberlain's desk and then be started on the trail toward Florida.

"Nix on the virtue business."—Murphy.

Charles J. Hughes, the junior Senator from Colorado, who died yesterday, had not served long enough at Washington to make his mark on legislation, but he had shown himself a competent debater and an industrious worker. He was an expert on mining and land laws, and Colorado will miss his services in Congress, where questions of policy concerning public lands have recently assumed a new importance.

When he returns Hyde should confer with that other great disappearer, Dr. Cook, on how to place his confessions to advantage in the magazines.

Now the Nantucket cod are being brought to the fore as long distance weather prophets. From their offshore habitat they are at least better able to master the ways of "flarebacks" than are the inland experts of Professor Moore's prediction establishment.

An aeroplane's running away with the Governor of Texas while he was posing for his picture in it shows the new perils that beset statesmanship.

We shall now see how the state likes the sensation of having Murphy as its boss.

If the legislative committee is continued for a year for Mr. Hyde's benefit will he stay away a year and will his $12,000 salary keep going on just the same?

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

Dr. W. A. Evans, Chicago's versatile and ever active Commissioner of Health, writing in "The Medical Record," says, speaking of the general run of public eating places: "If people who patronize hotel, restaurant and lunch rooms and who at home eat food produced in immaculate, sunlighted, ventilated kitchens could see the places in which food is produced eating would be diminished and a reef would be taken in the general tendency to obesity. Besides, what right has a man or woman to patronize such places and by that support force poor or ignorant Bohemian, Polish, Irish and German men and women to work in places that will probably be their undoing in a few years?"

"Is he a stranger here in New York?"
"Must be. He knows every theatre, lobster palace and gambling joint in town."—Puck.

WELLESLEY SPELLSLY.

Note: The Wellesley authorities are insisting that the girls of that school learn how to spell.

Ah, girls of Wellesley,
Soft, sweet things,
To whom the poet lightly sings,
Why should you care to spell by books,
When you can better spell by looks?
What boots it that you do not know
The name of Webster, if your bo
Is Robinson, or Jones, or Brown,
And at your feet he lays the crown
Of his affection, which may be,
By Wellesley spelling, L-u-v?
Sweet sorceresses of the school,
Rise, to a man, against the rule
That seeks to place the spell of books
Above the gentle spell of looks,
And firmly but respectf'ly tell
That teacher bunch to go to—well,
Just tell them to go there,
That's all. What?

W. J. LAMPTON.

First Critic—Seems to me that the humor of Bronson's play is—er—well, dragged in, so to speak.
Second Critic—Dragged in! Shouldn't wonder—it's unconscious.—Boston Transcript.

John E. Gilman, commander in chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, has appointed a committee to present to Congress a plan for a federal charter for the organization. Strong as it is, the great organization of Union veterans has never been incorporated, and General Gilman thinks it is about time that it was. In a recent general order, in which the subject of incorporating was included, General Gilman said: "Over 550,000 Civil War veterans are still on the pension roll, and less than half of them are members of the Grand Army of the Republic. Why do they not join the Grand Army?"

"Who is the fellow wearing a suit of calliope clothes?"
"What do you mean by calliope clothes?"
"Garments that can be heard a mile away."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Chicago is rather proud of the record it has made so far in providing a fund for the families of a score or more of firemen who recently lost their lives, along with their chief, Horan, in the stockyards disaster. It is planned to raise $250,000, and so far something like $130,000 has been contributed. "The Tribune" expresses the belief that the full amount will be easily obtained. Chicago seems to be as proud of her "blue shirts" as New York is of hers.

Sillicus—You must remember that Justice is represented as a woman.
Cynicus—Yes, but she is blindfolded.—Philadelphia Record.

A CLEVER PORTRAYAL

Mayor Gaynor's Personality, as Seen in a Tribune Cartoon.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I was greatly impressed with today's cartoon alluding to the attitude of the Mayor toward what may well be called the Hyde scandal. It is indeed a work of art, and as a character study it is one of the best things I have ever seen outside of an art gallery.

The expression, features, everything, strikingly and graphically portrays that side of our Mayor's complex character that renders only too plausible his entanglement with this Hyde-racetrack matter in a way that does him little credit. It reveals that harsh note that seems to be a constant companion to the good in the man and which taints with a sanctimonious ring even his most reverent utterances.

To any thinking person knowing of the intimacy that existed between the two men, it would seem incredible that Hyde should have vanished, even in the first instance, without his chief's knowledge and consent, much less to have remained away all this time and under all these circumstances. And, as if to remove the last vestige of doubt, the Mayor assumes an attitude of comparative indifference to the entire affair and good natured wonder at all the fuss such a simple thing engenders, when to those who are at all acquainted with his hair trigger irascibility such an occurrence without his sanction would have brought forth the most scathing and violent of criticisms and summary punishment.

Yet though these acts would cap the climax of ingratitude and insult to himself and injury to his beloved city, now we find this man, once so easily provoked, not even offended. I wonder why. Is it love of a friend, loyalty to a "pal" or what? Does any one know? C. P.

New York, Jan. 9, 1911.

WANTS LITTLETON SENATOR

Assemblyman Hollmann, of Nassau County, Will Vote for Him.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I am a newly elected Assemblyman from Nassau County, N. Y. I have been earnestly endeavoring to make up my mind as to how to vote on the question of the United States Senatorship.

I have considered the claims of Edward M. Shepard, who I believe is a capable and honest man; I am bound, however, to say, that when I looked over his record it did not appeal to me.

The whole country has about made up its mind that United States Senators should be elected by the people. Mr. Shepard ran for office several times and was always defeated. I therefore do not think he could be said to be a popular choice. He has for many years been connected with large corporations in their organization and management, and I feel that the people would not think him distinctly free from this corporative influence.

I have also thought over fully Mr. Sheehan's claims for this great office, and while I understand that he is a resourceful man, I cannot help the conviction that he does not represent the best and most progressive views of the Democratic party. He has been so long a political manager and at the same time represented public service corporations that I am sure no one would naturally have thought of him for the place.

I have come to the conclusion that it is my duty to support Martin W. Littleton for United States Senator, and, feeling this, I called upon Mr. Littleton and asked him to be an active candidate. This he said he would not do, but if the Legislature should select him he would accept it as a great honor.

I understand that he has always been a good party man, but never afraid to tell his party when he thinks it wrong.

He has, above all things, shown a sincere desire to serve his country at all times. He is not under the control of or connected with any of those interests which have made the Senate the object of criticism. He comes from a plain and humble beginning, and worked his way through life with industry and honesty.

If the people of the state wish a man who can get a hearing in the Senate, he can get it, and if they wish a man who can understand the great questions, he can understand them.

I am only one Assemblyman, and this may not meet with the views of others, but I am going to discharge my duty as I see it and vote for him.

HENRY A. HOLLMANN,
Assemblyman, Nassau County, N. Y.
Sea Cliff, N. Y., Jan. 11, 1911.

A REPUBLICAN PREFERS SHEPARD.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I am a Republican to the core, but if I were a member of the Legislature I should consider it a perfectly proper, nay, meritorious, act to cast my vote for a Democrat like Mr. Shepard for United States Senator, rather than see a commonplace, dubious character like Sheehan elected.

I feel a deep interest in this Senatorial contest, and I cannot think with any patience whatever of the Empire State having for Mr. Root's colleague a mere second rate politician of Sheehan's stamp. I should regard his election as a disgrace to the state and an insult to every respectable citizen, Republican as well as Democrat. There are occasions where partisan feeling can be wisely set aside to a reasonable extent, and I think the exigency in question is one of them. W. G. B.

New York, Jan. 11, 1911.

SAFETY IN AUTO CHAINS.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: On several occasions lately I have read in The Tribune objections by correspondents to the use of chains upon automobiles, because much damage to the city's roads and driveways results from their use. Yet is there anything more damaging to the roads and driveways than the lateral motion of an automobile cutting and grinding the material while the machine is in motion? It would seem that to avoid this all machines should be by law compelled to use chains or something similar, not only to preserve the roads, but also to protect other persons who may be walking or driving in the roadway from accidents due to such lateral motion, or skidding. G.

South Orange, N. J., Jan. 10, 1911.

FOR SUCCESS IN 1912.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The letter of Michael J. Hickey in The Tribune of January 7 has the true Republican ring, and its advice ought to be heeded by all who desire to see the party victorious in 1912.

Let the Republican party remain loyal to the principles of Lincoln, Blaine and McKinley, and success will crown its efforts in 1912. Lincoln gloried in being a protectionist. Blaine and McKinley believed in protection, and both were ever on the alert to expand the foreign trade of the United States and were firm supporters of the doctrine of reciprocity.

Let all Republicans uphold the administration of President Taft, whose name will deservedly take a place beside the great statesmen of the Republic.

GEORGE W. WAGNER.

Brooklyn, Jan. 9, 1911.

PREVENTING CELLAR FIRES.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Mr. Croker, in his excellent article "How Fire Demon's Menu Might Be Reduced," in The Tribune on Sunday last, says: "Clean the cellars of various buildings of inflammable material and install automatic sprinklers." He seems to overlook the fact that cellars are built principally for the temporary or permanent reception of articles not desired or required in the upper part of the building. This being the case, they will always remain the most dangerous part of the building, and it would be utterly impossible to keep them otherwise.

There is no doubt that sprinkler systems are efficient, but they are costly to install. Being a practical electrician, visiting numbers of these cellars daily, I would suggest that local automatic fire alarms be installed. This could easily and cheaply be done by placing thermostats or fire detecting wire on the ceilings connected electrically to a vibrating gong placed in the upper part of the building or on an outside wall to attract the attention of an occupant or passerby. It would not be feasible to connect all such various installations to central stations, as this might necessitate too great a system of outside wiring.

There is no doubt that by the above system of fire protection, by bringing to notice the existence of incipient fires, the appalling number of lives lost and the large amount of property damage would be greatly decreased. H. D. MONTGOMERY.

New York, Jan. 9, 1911.

TO KILL OR CURE.

From William J. Conners's Buffalo Enquirer.

Mr. Sheehan is in the patent medicine class. He has just received another "testimonial" that he will be, if elected, a "cure-all" for Democracy. If this prescription is taken in sufficiently large doses, the cure is warranted to be permanent.

AS PER CAMPAIGN PROMISES.

From The Binghamton Republican.

Now that Governor Dix is firmly seated in the chair we may expect the high cost of living to drop with a dull, sickening thud.

People and Social Incidents

AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Jan. 11.—The President expects to send a list of judicial nominations to the Senate next week, including appointments in the 8th Circuit, in the Eastern District of New York, and to the Customs Court. Representatives Norris, of Nebraska, and Smith, of Iowa, while they have not themselves made known to Mr. Taft any desire to be appointed to succeed Judge Van Devanter in the 8th Circuit, have been urged for the place, and President Taft has received daily recommendations from the friends of both.

The President is awaiting a recommendation from the Attorney General as to the man best qualified for judge of the Eastern District of New York.

Several members of the House Military Affairs Committee called at the White House to-day to urge the appointment of Representative Hull, who was defeated for re-election, as the civilian member of the board of ordnance and fortifications. This office is now held by Thomas J. Henderson.

Senator Gallinger assured the President that favorable action would be taken by the Senate on his postal subvention bill.

President Taft was asked by Representative Craig to appoint E. C. Melvin, president of the Selma (Ala.) National Bank, a member of the board of visitors of the Naval Academy.

Representative Longworth told the President that, in his opinion, the Ways and Means Committee would report the permanent tariff commission bill within the next few days.

The President will deliver an address at a dinner to be given to-morrow evening at the New Willard by the National Tariff Commission Association.

Whitelaw Reid, American Ambassador to Great Britain, called to pay his respects to the President.

Among the White House callers were the Secretary of War, Senators Hale, Brown, Curtis, Dillingham, Crawford, Burkett, Davis, Stephenson, Root, Brandegee, Smith, of South Carolina; Gallinger and Gamble and Representatives Gallagher, Young, Sabath, McKinney, Graff, Kahn, Hill, Barnhart, Bradley, Burke, Anthony, Slayden, Lafean, Morgan, Sulzer, Lloyd, Dent, Gordon and Creager.

President Taft entertained at dinner to-night in honor of the members of the Canadian government who are in Washington to confer on a number of important subjects, including reciprocity, the fisheries settlement, etc. The guests included the Ambassador from Great Britain and Mrs. Bryce, His Excellency the Prime Minister of Newfoundland, the Hon. the Minister of Finance and Mrs. Fielding, Miss Edith Fielding, the Hon. the Minister of Customs and Mrs. Paterson, the Hon. the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, the Hon. the Minister of Justice and Lady Aylesworth, the Secretary of State and Mrs. Knox, the American Ambassador to Great Britain and Mrs. Reid, Senator Penrose, Senator Simmons, Senator and Mrs. William Alden Smith, Representative and Mrs. Payne, Representative and Mrs. Boutell, Representative and Mrs. Mann, Representative and Mrs. Stephens, Representative and Mrs. Peters, Representative Brantley, Mr. and Mrs. Chandler P. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. Pepper, Miss Boardman, Miss Catherine Anderson, Miss Harriet Anderson, Miss Taft and Captain Butt. The table decorations were French trumpet jonquils and maidenhair ferns.

THE CABINET.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Jan. 11.—The home of the Secretary of State was the meeting place this afternoon for all of the members of the diplomatic corps, who made their first call since the diplomatic breakfast on New Year's Day, and with them were many members of official and resident society. It was Mrs. Knox's first official reception in two years, she having been in mourning for that length of time, and the event was treated with great formality. The drawing room, library and dining room were fragrant with the odor of roses which filled the vases and decorated the rooms, and Mrs. Knox was assisted by her niece, Miss Hester Singer, of Pittsburg.

Mrs. MacVeagh also held a reception, the home of the Secretary of the Treasury being almost as brilliant and crowded as that of the Secretary and Mrs. Knox. Mrs. F. E. Eames, of Chicago, the sister-in-law of Mrs. MacVeagh, assisted her.

Mrs. Ballinger observed her regular custom of being at home on Wednesday, and had assisting her Mrs. Robert L. Taylor, Mrs. W. H. Carter, Mrs. Jessie Wilson and Mrs. Humphrey and Mrs. McCreedy, wives of the Representatives from Washington.

Mrs. Nagel had assisting her her daughter, Miss Hildegarde Nagel; her nieces, the Misses Shepley, of Boston, and others.

THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Jan. 11.—The German Ambassador and Countess von Bernstorff entertained at dinner at the embassy to-night the Austrian Ambassador, the Danish Minister and Countess Moltke, Mrs. Richard H. Townsend, the Austrian naval attaché and Baroness Preuschen, Mr. and Mrs. George Howard, Miss Louise Foraker, Miss Patten, Countess Luise-Alexandra von Bernstorff, Prince Koudacheff, Russian Chargé d'Affaires, and Count Pourtales, the attaché of the embassy, and others.

The Belgian Minister and Countess de Buisseret had dining with them to-night the Mexican Ambassador, Mrs. Peckham, Mrs. Philip Millan, Mr. Glover, the second British secretary and Mrs. Kennard, Mr. and Mrs. A. Garrison McClintock and Mr. and Mrs. "Jack" Story.

IN WASHINGTON SOCIETY.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Jan. 11.—Mrs. Sherman, wife of the Vice-President, held her regular Wednesday reception this afternoon, and received the official and resident members of Washington society in large numbers. Many of the Senators and their wives, who recently returned from their Christmas visits at home, made their first call. With Mrs. Sherman were Mrs. Charles A. Culberson, Mrs. Isidor Rayner, Mrs. Nathan B. Scott, Mrs. Fairchild, Mrs. Schleuter and the Misses Miller, of Utica. The Vice-President and Mrs. Sherman will go to Utica on Friday afternoon, to remain over Sunday. They occupied a box at the New National this evening and were accompanied by the Misses Miller, their house guests.

The Assistant Secretary of War and Mrs. Robert Shaw Oliver were hosts at a dinner to-night, having as guests the Secretary of the Interior and Mrs. Ballinger, Justice and Mrs. Hughes, the Netherlands Minister and Mme. Loudon, the chief of staff of the army and Mrs. Leonard Wood, the former Ambassador and Mrs. Joseph H. Choate, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas T. Gaff, Miss Marion Oliver and Major von Herwarth, German military attaché.

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick A. Keep entertained guests at luncheon to-day, having in the party Mr. and Mrs. William J. Boardman, Miss Boardman and their house guests, the Ambassador to Great Britain and Mrs. Whitelaw Reid.

Mrs. Francis B. Crowninshield was hostess at a large tea this afternoon at the home of her father, Senator du Pont.

Miss Mary McCauley entertained at dinner to-night in compliment to Miss Margaret Cotton Smith.

NEW YORK SOCIETY.

Mrs. Geraldyn Redmond gave a dance at the Colony Club last evening for Miss Elizabeth Jay Russell, daughter of Mrs. Howland Russell and a granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Francis T. Garretson. The cotillion was led by Worthington Whitehouse, dancing with Miss Russell. Among the guests were Mrs. Howland Russell, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander D. B. Pratt, Mr. and Mrs. Johnston Livingston, Mrs. Robert R. Livingston, Mrs. Howard T. Martin, Mrs. Edwards S. Hosmer, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Oakley Rhinelander, Mr. and Mrs. John W. Cross, Mr. and Mrs. John Innes Kane, Mrs. Archibald Rogers, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Worthington Bull, Miss Virginia Alexandre, Miss Ruth Appleton, Miss Elizabeth G. Bacon, Miss Catherine L. Hamersley, Miss Lilian Endicott, Miss Emily and Miss Rosalie Coe, Miss Muriel and Miss Marjorie Kingsland, Miss Cornelia M. Landon, Miss Dorothy Perkins, Miss Katharine and Miss Margaret Steward, Grosvenor Atterbury, Fulton Cutting, Phoenix Ingraham, Courtlandt Nicoll, William Barclay Parsons, jr., Bayard Tuckerman, jr., and George Henry Warren, jr. A supper, served in the gymnasium, followed the dance.

Miss Justine Van Rensselaer Barber gave a dinner last night at the house of her mother, Mrs. Thomas Barber, in East 68th street, for Miss Eleanora Kissel. Among her guests were Miss Aileen Osborn, Miss Jean Roosevelt, Miss Margaret Townsend, Miss Edith Morgan, Miss Elizabeth Hoyt, George Roosevelt, Raymond Noyes, Leroy King, Stuyvesant Pierrepont, Thomas H. Barber, Charles Brown, David Ely and William Baylis, jr. Miss Barber afterward took her guests to Mrs. Redmond's dance at the Colony Club.

Miss Barber will give a dinner on February 7 for Mr. and Mrs. John A. Dix, who were recently married. Mrs. Dix was Miss Sophie Townsend.

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Robinson gave a luncheon yesterday at their house, in East 63d street, for Earl Grey, Governor General of Canada.

Mrs. H. B. Hollins gave a luncheon yesterday at her house, in West 56th street.

On account of the death of a relative, Mrs. Eben Wright has recalled the invitations to the dance she was to give tomorrow evening for her daughter, Miss Leta Pell Wright.

Mrs. James F. Sullivan, sister of Mrs. James B. Clews, and her daughter, Miss Frances Livingston Sullivan, have arrived in town from Philadelphia, and are at the Hotel Gotham.

Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt, jr., will give a dinner dance this evening at her house, in Fifth avenue.

Dinners will be given this evening by Mrs. H. Fairfield Osborn, Mrs. Walter G. Oakman and Mrs. J. Allen Townsend.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Wagsta