New-York Tribune.

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THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—The French government received Germany's counter proposals for a settlement of the Morocco dispute and decided to consult M. Regnault, the French Minister to Morocco, a recognized expert on subjects pertaining to that country. ═══ The German imperial manœuvres, designed to reproduce actual war conditions more closely than any war game hitherto carried out, began on the banks of the Elbe; the Kaiser will act as umpire. ═══ A movement was begun in Newfoundland for union with Canada, should the latter ratify reciprocity next week, in order to secure better trading terms with the United States than hitherto obtainable. ═══ A secret agent of the Portuguese government who visited the monarchist camp reported that the hostile troops number nearly 5,000, well armed, and that the population of Northern Portugal will rise in favor of the invaders.

DOMESTIC.—It was stated at Chicago that the sentiment of the international officers was against a strike on the Illinois Central Railroad. ═══ Prayers in the churches ended the campaign in Maine to keep the liquor prohibition clause in the state constitution; the Woman's Christian Temperance Union began working for world-wide abolition of the liquor traffic. ═══ A Washington dispatch said more light on the Sherman anti-trust law was expected when the Supreme Court reconvenes in October and disposes of the "hard coal," "cotton corner" and "St. Louis Bridge" cases. ═══ Governor Dix at Lake George completed speeches he will deliver at the state fair on Wednesday and at the conference of governors in Spring Lake, N. J., on Friday. ═══ Henry Solomon, Commissioner of Prisons, reported in Albany that conditions in Sing Sing had improved since Warden Frost was superseded and that the convicts were happier. ═══ John C. Richberger, president of the Illinois commission on uniform laws, stated at Chicago that more than 90 per cent of the states have uniform legislation in the causes for divorce.

CITY.—It was a day of accidents at the flying exhibition at Brighton Beach, "Tom" Sopwith and a passenger outstripping all others by landing in the ocean off the Casino. ═══ The liner George Washington beat her own record by crossing from Bremen in 6 days 18 hours and 6 minutes. ═══ A fireman was badly injured when two freight trains came into collision on a bridge crossing the Hackensack River. ═══ Alfred Brown was forced to leave the water after seven hours from the Battery when within a mile of Sandy Hook. ═══ The Central Federated Union asked the various labor organizations to join it in demanding that the Bureau of Municipal Research be abolished. ═══ Jacob Becker was arrested in New York charged with being concerned in the blowing up and burning of a German newspaper in Paterson, N. J. ═══ Otto Weil arrived from Europe with a fund of gossip about opera favorites. ═══ Alanson Skinner, of the Museum of Natural History, returned from a sojourn among the Menominee Indians, bringing many curios.

THE WEATHER.—Indications for today: Unsettled. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 82 degrees; lowest, 62.

CORROBORATED.

In a recent issue of "The Commoner" Mr. Bryan has corroborated in a striking way the charge made by President Taft that the tariff legislation passed by Congress at the last session was of the sort which could be justly labelled "for politics only." He flatly contradicts the assertions of Messrs. Clark and Underwood that the wool bill was a legitimate attempt to carry out the recognized principles of the Democratic party or to apply the economic ideas by which its framers pretended to be governed. According to Mr. Bryan, the wool bill was a cheap piece of political claptrap, its only purpose being to attract the support of the Insurgent politicians in Congress who were anxious to revenge themselves on the President.

Mr. Bryan does not mince words in exposing the fraudulent character of the wool bill. He says that the Democratic majority in the House of Representatives made its initial mistake in selecting a chairman of the Ways and Means Committee who "is not a thorough-going tariff reformer." Then he continus:

> The second mistake of the session has already been mentioned—the putting of a tariff on wool. The tariff on wool is the keystone of the protectionist arch, and those who do not know it have yet to learn the A B C of the tariff question. Every speaker on the tariff will be confronted by the tariff on wool if he attempts to attack the principle of protection, and he must criticise Congress, or, if he defends Congress, he must do so at the expense of party principle. The mistake can be corrected at the regular session by a new measure making free wool the basis of the reduction, but this is not likely so long as Mr. Underwood's influence is paramount in the committee.

Had Mr. Underwood and his associates been legislating with serious intent they would have prepared a wool bill very similar to the wool schedule of the Wilson-Gorman tariff law. That schedule had been tested by nearly three years' experience, and it would have been a fairly plausible answer to the objection that a report from the Tariff Board ought to be awaited to say that the proposed schedule had been thoroughly tried out between 1894 and 1897. The domestic wool and woollens industry knew just what to expect under such a schedule and so did the Treasury.

Moreover, the Democratic party would have put itself in the attitude of being ready to revise the tariff along known Democratic lines. If it was going to abandon the historic principle of free wool on the false pretence that a revenue duty on wool was a necessity, no one could possibly tell what it would do when it came to deal with the other schedules. There is no excuse, according to the doctrines which the Democratic party has preached for the last forty years, for a revenue duty on wool. Such a duty is an economic absurdity if it is not laid for protective purposes pure and simple. Mr. Underwood and Mr. Clark both know this as well as Mr. Bryan does, but they were willing to stultify themselves in order to be able to dicker with the Insurgents, who, although they wanted to see the tariff reduced on manufactures, were exceedingly reluctant to have it reduced on any raw materials. The wool revision of the last session, so far as the Democratic majority of the House had a hand in it, was a piece of political bunco from start to finish. Mr. Clark and Mr. Underwood have attacked Mr. Taft for exposing their insincerity. Now they have to face exactly the same charge bluntly put forward by Mr. Bryan.

THE PRIZEFIGHT SCANDAL.

In the present prizefight situation in this city Governor Dix's administration is face to face with a positive scandal. If he cares about the enforcement of the state's laws, if he is solicitous about the fair fame of his administration, it is high time for him to bestir himself and take a hand in that situation.

The Frawley prizefighting law requires clubs giving these exhibitions to own or hold a lease for at least one year on the building in which the fights are to be given. The Madison Square Athletic Club, under a license from the State Boxing Commission, gave the first fight under the new law at Madison Square Garden on August 30. To obtain its license it represented itself as having a lease on the Garden for a year from July 27, 1911. Mr. Frank K. Sturgis, president of the Madison Square Garden Company, tells The Tribune that no lease of the Garden for every night of the year to July, 1912, exists.

If, as Mr. Sturgis says, no real, *bona fide* year's lease exists, the commission violated the law in licensing this club. It refused to grant a license to a club in Albany which had a lease of the building where it wanted to give fights for one night each month instead of for 365 days. On August 30 Commissioner O'Neil was quoted in "The Evening World" as saying that he had what he considered proof that the Madison Square Athletic Club did not hold a valid lease of the Garden for a year, that he laid this proof before his fellow members as a reason why no license should be granted to this club, but was outvoted. The fight promoters now refuse to give information about their lease, defying the commission in this respect and others even more important.

The entire course of the commission regarding this particular club has been amazing. Why was it able to obtain a license without giving clear proof that it held a valid, *bona fide* lease on the Garden and so conformed to the law? The commission had the issue presented squarely to it, enough facts laid before it to warrant the most careful and searching investigation, if it had been scrupulous about the enforcement of the letter and spirit of the law it was sworn to uphold. Why, the license having been obtained, was it not revoked after the disgraceful occurrences of the night of August 30? The club now is in the position of refusing to meet virtual charges that it did not pay to the state all the money it should have as 5 per cent of the gross receipts of that first night. The commission still is in the position of refusing to compel the promoters to meet these charges and clear up the question about the lease. The club is still doing business.

"I don't see why there should be any "discrimination between the big interests "behind the Madison Square Athletic "Club and the small interests behind 'smaller clubs," Mr. O'Neil was quoted by "The Evening World" as saying. Who are the "big interests"? Mr. "Larry" Mulligan is commonly recognized as one of the owners. Mr. "Larry" Mulligan is one of the "Sullivan clan," which aggregation, headed by Senator "Big Tim," is a powerful force in city and state Democratic politics. Is it possible that there should be "discrimination" in their favor? Is it possible that the commission, with its star-chamber hearings, is afraid to let the public know if the laws have been broken for favored politicians? Is it possible that Governor Dix can look with smug complacency on this slimy mess and continue to prate about a "fair trial" of the Frawley law?

INSANITY EXPERTS.

The American Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology, which is doing a useful work in furtherance of criminal procedure reform, has through one of its committees taken up the subject of the insanity defence and the medical expert in criminal trials. It condemns with the usual sharpness this scandal in the enforcement of the American criminal law, but its suggestions for reform, like most of the suggestions that have been made by the bar associations and others interested to remove this evil, are not particularly promising. It recommends the establishment by the medical profession of a code of ethics governing physicians called upon to give opinions as to the sanity of defendants in criminal trials and by the bar to govern lawyers employing insanity as a defence for their clients. The trouble with codes of professional ethics is the difficulty of enforcing them. Another recommendation is for the creation of a group of qualified experts and the restriction of the state and the defence to this group in calling expert witnesses. Constitutional difficulties might stand in the way of this. And where are the experts to be found who are not already discredited by what has been done in the name of expert testimony?

Much of the scandal regarding expert testimony is usually held to result from the arbitrary standard of insanity fixed by law and the consequent difference between legal and medical insanity. This difference is such that in the Thaw case the witnesses who testified at Thaw's trial that he was legally insane at the time of his shooting of Mr. White also testified that he was medically sane when he was being tried, while the experts who pronounced him legally sane at the time of the act had no hesitation in calling him medically insane at the time of the trial. The committee recommends that legal tests of insanity be abolished, but even if legal and medical insanity could be made synonymous it is not clear that any great gain would result. Doctors constantly disagree even when there is not a large fee to induce a disagreement, and it is the fact that it is always possible to array as many experts on one side of the question of insanity as upon the other that constitutes the discredit of expert testimony. If medical insanity were the question before the court, the exact balance of expert testimony at trials would very likely still be maintained.

Perhaps it is unnecessary to seek a remedy, since juries themselves show signs of curing the evil by exhibiting their complete disregard of the experts. In a recent case in this city a jury ignored the unanimous opinion of a considerable body of medical experts. With juries exhibiting that disposition, it will soon cease to be worth while for either side in a trial to spend large sums upon expert testimony. And with the commercialization of such testimony over, its worst evils will disappear.

WHAT THE BOSS IS ABOUT.

What has become of that fine spirit of revolt in the Democratic party which flamed up when Boss Murphy dared to name his own man for United States Senator? The profit to Murphy in securing the election of Mr. Sheehan was not entirely obvious, yet all of the truly good turned upon the boss for his presumption. Insurgency reared its head, and the mugwumps ate all their unctuous words about the boss's "excellent intentions."

Where is insurgency now that the boss is coolly getting ready to appropriate to himself all of the additional members of the New York delegation to Congress to be gained through the new apportionment? Where is insurgency now that the boss is emulating his predecessor Tweed and preparing to force upon this city a charter to suit his nefarious purposes, a charter full of stratagems and spoils and one which will serve the ends of the boss's politico-commercial allies, the purveyors of traction in Manhattan, by taking the control of subways out of the hands of the officials whom the people chose to provide the new facilities, the members of the present Board of Estimate and Apportionment? The stake of Murphy in the present situation is larger than it was in the Senatorship contest. What is a mere Senator to six Congressmen and a Tammanyized system of government for the city of New York?

STUDENT "WICKEDNESS."

We are glad to see that the card catalogue moralist and social reformer has tried his system upon the college student. He has pursued his way everywhere, gravely collecting and tabulating all sorts of "information" about all sorts and conditions of men. Would you like to know whether the sons of mothers who used to be addicted to "tatting" are more gifted in business or in the learned professions? Go to the right card catalogue man. He has it all down on a little bit of pasteboard filed away in a cabinet. Are you curious about the effect of wearing brown Fedora hats upon the next generation? An investigator has collected all the facts about that habit, and he can tell you from his card catalogue exactly what percentage of the daughters of such men incline to wear russet shoes and stockings. Whether it is the price which men who earn $18 a week pay for their cigars or the relative consumption of beer by persons whose names begin with F as compared with that of persons whose names begin with G, "investigators" have collected all the "facts." The card catalogue sociologist has them.

Something was needed to strip this card cataloguing of humanity of all its solemn pretentiousness, and the college student has done it. The investigator who was putting down on paper the student's moral derelictions evidently struck the latter as the funniest thing in his experience. Other men have bowed to the card cataloguing sociologist's grave appearance in the name of "science," and if they have been hurt by his impertinence they have treated him almost as seriously as the census collector. Not so the college student. Would the student tell him all about his vices? There is nothing about which a student talks more gladly than about them. Does he drink? Of course! Four or five "bats" a year. Women? To be sure! The evil resorts he goes to? Oh, glad to show them, and unblinkingly to point out every beardless youth in the place as a fellow student! For confirmation, if the investigator wants any, why, there is the bartender, who assures his shocked inquirer gravely that two hundred students are in the place all the time; fifty of them have to be carried home every night. The information thus collected works out 95 per cent drink (5 per cent of the college students have no sense of humor, or else they are the greatest wags of all). Sixty-five per cent "combine wine and bad women." Thirty-five per cent "drink heavily." Fifteen per cent are drunkards.

The joke on the card catalogue sociologist surpasses even the expectations of those who gave him all this "information," for it is printed in serious newspapers. The most rakish thing about the "college man," his hat, will no doubt be more rakish than ever this year. His trousers will be more shocking. He has to live up to the wide reputation for wickedness which the guileless cataloguer and the guileless press have bestowed on him. If the sad dogs had only put the card cataloguing of humanity out of business! But they haven't!

THE TRAFFIC SQUAD.

The scheme by which Police Commissioner Waldo hoped to nullify the effect of the three-platoon police law on the traffic squad apparently doesn't work. Though he increased the membership of that squad by two hundred after the three-platoon law went into effect, it has been found that the new men, untrained in traffic regulation, are not giving entire satisfaction. On the other hand, the old traffic squad men, expert in the handling of that difficult and dangerous task, are forced to do patrol duty part of the time, at which work their special experience, the result of years of training, is wasted. Naturally, the public interest suffers to that extent, and the men in the squad are not slow in discovering that they do not receive the consideration to which their good work for several years has accustomed them.

Commissioner Waldo is conferring with representatives of the Merchants' Association and the National Team Owners' Association about the preparation of a bill to exempt the traffic squad from the scope of the three-platoon law. He has promised to favor such a bill and to confer with the Mayor about the text of it. A bill designed to accomplish this purpose was passed by the Legislature in July, after much peculiar opposition had threatened to kill it. Then Commissioner Waldo had the Mayor veto it, on the ground that a joker had been discovered in it and that without it he thought he could run the traffic squad as of old. Since a trial has demonstrated that the squad is not at its old standard of efficiency, there should be no hesitation in setting about the process of restoring that efficiency. Enactment of the three-platoon law was an unjustifiable interference with home rule for this city in an effort to make political capital. There would be no lack of public support of a bill to put the traffic men on the old footing. The general public always has taken a peculiar pride in this squad and its work. It has been about the one branch of police activity deservedly free from criticism. It should be so again, and the public should not be deprived of its best work because of a miserable bit of partisan politics.

MONEY AND BUSINESS.

While many of our industrial plants are not working up to their full capacity, while curtailment in production continues in many lines and while extreme conservatism prevails in the matter of making forward commitments, the general business situation, as measured by bank clearings, the number of idle railway cars and railroad earnings, shows improvement. Sentiment is more cheerful regarding the outcome of the cotton and grain crops, and the actual conditions in the agricultural section of the country, as a rule, are far more promising than they were at the close of July. The labor outlook is not altogether satisfactory, but the chances appear to favor a settlement of existing difficulties without the development of widespread strikes on railroad lines. The demand for drygoods is heavier than that recently reported, operations in the wool market are fair in volume, jobbing and retail trade in general is slowly expanding and reports received by the commercial agencies covering all parts of the United States indicate a larger amount of business in almost all departments of industry than was recorded at this time a year ago. A development of value in the last week was the resumption of work in many New England textile mills.

Money is in abundant supply and stocks on merchants' shelves are low. The two factors named will encourage trade expansion, but great activity in our industries is not looked for pending the elimination of various perplexing uncertainties of the current situation. Furthermore, it should be borne in mind that financiers and ordinary business men are not likely to engage in extensive new undertakings with the approach of a Presidential year and with the possibility of tariff changes ahead. The inquiry for money from Stock Exchange houses is almost at a standstill, owing to the absence of active speculation on the Stock Exchange, and the banks are finding little employment for their surplus funds in either time loans or commercial paper, the offering of the latter being light and confined in large part to second grade bills. Efforts to force the rate of discount to 5 per cent have not been effective, owing to the stagnation in collateral loans, which induces many banks and trust companies to accept a 4½ per cent quotation on paper that is beyond all suspicion. Interior withdrawals of currency incident to the financing of the crops have not yet developed in volume, and cash supplies at out-of-town points are so ample this year that a heavy drain on the local institutions is improbable. Activity in the money market would be accompanied by a flow of gold from Europe.

Some improvement is reported in the cotton trade, and although buyers are not disposed to make large purchases, owing to the uncertain price outlook, the general feeling in the industry is far from pessimistic. With the appearance of the new crop for actual use it is not unlikely that the mill men who have been opposed to taking orders at prevailing quotations will be willing to accept business on the current basis. The returns of the National Ginners' Association, showing more than 700,000 bales of new cotton ginned prior to September 1, against 353,000 bales a year ago and 476,655 bales—the preceding high record—reported in 1905, tend to encourage the expectation of more than a normal harvest and a rapidly developing demand from home and foreign spinners, while the present course of speculation on the Cotton Exchange discourages the idea of materially higher prices for the raw product. Commodity prices, as a rule, are high and stiff quotations for wheat throughout the year appear to be foreshadowed by the latest government figures, indicating a disappointing harvest in the spring wheat country. The condition of corn is better than that recorded at the beginning of August, and the final yield will be small only in comparison with the tremendous crop gathered last year.

Blast furnace output in August showed a substantial gain, the bulk of which came from steel producing companies. According to "The Iron Age," the daily average pig iron production in the last month was 62,150 tons, against 57,481 tons in July and 59,585 tons in June, the total production for the period being at the rate of 22,684,750 tons a year, comparing with approximately 27,000,000 tons brought out in 1910. Steel ingot production of the United States Steel Corporation in August made a high record for the year at 1,228,000 tons. Since September 1 there has been a slight falling off in the operations at the steel mills, but the decline is not considered an indication of a serious reduction in the volume of orders for finished steel materials, although it is generally conceded that there will be nothing in the nature of a boom in the iron and steel industry in the course of the next twelve months. In August stocks of copper on hand in the United States decreased 4,297,357 pounds, an especially good showing, as production increased from the July figures of 112,000,000 pounds to upward of 125,500,000 pounds, the latter being exceeded in the current year by the output of only two months, March and May. A gradual diminution of the world's stocks appears assured.

It will be a lasting misfortune, however, if the present ill feeling over the attempts at tariff revision both at the late session and the Payne-Aldrich session should result in discrediting the tariff commission principle. It is the only business method of tariff revision from time to time, and the only method of taking it out of sectional, partisan and factional politics.—Toledo Capital.

That is what all the Western Insurgent leaders were saying a year ago before they fell victims to the dementia of the extra session. They may find now, when they are at home again, that that dementia did not spread far from Washington.

Denver dispatches report that Governor Shafroth of Colorado, on leaving that state, locked and bolted the executive offices so that the Lieutenant Governor could not occupy them in his absence. Western lieutenant governors have been known to do strange things when subbing as governors. In Montana some years ago one appointed a United States Senator while his principal was away overnight. The bonding companies ought to put in the market an assurance policy guaranteeing governors unvexed nights and tranquil days while on their vacations.

The Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Jefferson County, Ky., was quite right in condemning the proposal to exploit the wretched mistress of the wife murderer Beattie upon the theatrical stage, but it would have done better if it had practised temperance in its language sufficiently to make its resolutions on the subject printable in the press.

Pessimists contend that the world doesn't move. Yet out in Kansas City an official of a great—and, of course, grasping—corporation tells a few hundred bankers, railroad presidents and other malefactors of great wealth that corporations must obey the laws and conform to the public sentiment of the land, just as if they were ordinary human individuals. It was not like that in the olden days.

The battleship New York, on which work begins this week at Camden, is hailed as the largest in the world, with a displacement of 27,000 tons. The Arkansas and the Wyoming have only 26,000, the biggest German Dreadnoughts 22,000 and the British Dreadnoughts 21,000. There may be some doubt about her comparison with some South American ships, however. The Argentine Rivadavia and the Moreno have been set down at only 25,600 tons each, but there is authority for reckoning them at 28,000 tons on trial and at 30,000 when fully loaded. Then there is the Brazilian monster, the Rio de Janeiro, which we are told is to displace 32,000 tons for the carrying of her twelve 14-inch guns. Chili also is planning to build some ships at least as large as those of any other South American power. The New York may not, therefore, be the biggest of all, though we should hope that there was none to match her in actual efficiency.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

Another resident of New York has qualified for membership in the Don't-Know-the-City Club. She is a governess in the home of a professional man, who lives with his wife and little girl in one of the large apartment houses in upper Broadway. Recently the man's sister and little son visited the couple, and the boy one morning asked if some one would take him to the new library, of which he had heard. The governess volunteered and started away with the boy. They were back in an incredibly short time. The boy said the library was "not so much" and no better to look at than the one at home "out West." Of course the hostess knew that some one had blundered, and after a little investigation learned that the only New York public library known to the boy's guide was the branch in Amsterdam avenue, near 82d street. When the boy was taken next day to see the new building the governess was one of the party, "and," said Aunt Mary, "what the poor woman didn't say she looked."

"Is your new song going to be a success?"
"It's sure to make a big hit."
"How can you tell?"
"Every musician who has heard it says it's simply rotten."—Toledo Blade.

TELL IT TO SWEENEY.

Thomas Sweeney, of New Jersey, continued to sleep while the house he was in collapsed. Wakened, he said: "Go to bed; it can't fall any lower."—News Item.

Philosophers are not all dead,
Although the ones most mentioned are;
Here's one who slumbered in his bed,
Although his house fell with a jar.
To some the tale may read quite beany;
You'll note the fellow's name was Sweeney.

That he possessed such common sense
Is not at all a thing of doubt;
There's pile on pile of evidence
That many seek this Sweeney out.
And tell their pleasures and their troubles,
Which he, in turn, proves to be bubbles.

Than any other man alive,
This man hears tales more frequently,
And it's supposed that he must thrive
On ready-made philosophy;
But as men preach, but seldom follow,
This fellow Sweeney beats all hollow.

A. W. U.

"What's the little boy crying about?" "Dat other kid swiped his candy." "But you have the candy?" "Yes. I'm de little kid's lawyer!"—Puck.

A Nashville woman whose nerves broke down was told to live in the country, says "The Florida Times-Union." Her husband provided a little home and she began to raise poultry for amusement. Now her husband has sold out his town business and accepted a partnership with her. She is selling eggs at $1 each, and says she will have $40,000 in the next five years, while she has grown strong and bosses the husband, who keeps the books.

"Any fish in this brook?"
"Government stocked it with trout once," replied the old-timer.
"But they won't come near a hook."
"They do seem smarter than other fish. I reckon maybe they had to pass a civil service examination 'fore the government would notice 'em."—Washington Star.

COMPARATIVE NAVAL POWER

Correspondent Adduces Figures in Rating Germany Below United States.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I was very glad to see in your editorial this morning on German and American navies an answer to the premature and aggressive statements of German naval "experts," coincident with the recent Kiel review, placing Germany in second rank of the world's navies and the United States third. But in your very admirable comparison of the pre-Dreadnought battleships of each nation I would not even use accompanying question marks.

In the minds of all the world's naval men there is no doubt about the position of the United States. Germany is in third place at the present time and will be until the fall of 1912, and then her margin over us will be very narrow.

The United States has twenty-five pre-Dreadnought battleships, sixteen of which are first class, to Germany's twenty, ten of which are first class; and in every class of vessels of the same date the American ships are superior in speed and armor. But the most telling point is that of armament. In the American twenty-five ship fleet there is a total of eighty-eight 12-inch, thirty-two 13-inch, one hundred and forty-four 8-inch, one hundred and twenty-eight 7-inch and ninety 6-inch guns, while in the German twenty-ship fleet there is a total of forty 11-inch, forty 9-inch and three hundred and twenty 6-inch. In these days of big gun ships the comparison is obvious. In armored cruisers Germany is also outclassed, possessing nine to our fifteen.

Now we come to the matter of Dreadnoughts, and it is here that most people are in error in their calculations. Figuring in the two cruiser-Dreadnoughts, which are not the equal of battleship Dreadnoughts, Germany has ready for service to-day nine vessels of this type on which the powers rely for their chief naval strength, while the United States has only six. But, averaging up as before, the Americans again are superior in protection and speed (except in the case of the two cruiser-Dreadnoughts, which would have to operate independent of the other seven to utilize their extra knots), and in the most vital point of all, broadside fire, could defeat the opposing fleet of three more vessels than their own.

Germany made a bad mistake in her first seven Dreadnoughts, which, though they mount twelve main battery guns apiece, can use only eight on broadside. England likewise did this, only not to such a degree, as her first Dreadnoughts mounted only ten 12-inch guns, two of which were masked on broadside. Both powers are at last adopting the American centre-line principle, which first appears in Germany in the Oldenberg type of three ships mounting ten 12-inch guns all on broadside, except in the case of the two cruiser-Dreadnoughts.

The American Dreadnought squadron of six ships has a broadside fire of fifty-six 12-inch guns to the German nine ship squadron's twenty-four 12's and forty-eight 11's—this in spite of the fact that the German squadron mounts forty-four more big guns than the American squadron! As the protection of the American vessels would nullify the fire of the forty-eight German 11-inch guns, leaving only twenty-four 12's to contend with, and as the two lighter armored German cruiser-Dreadnoughts could not live for ten minutes in this imaginary engagement, the result is also obvious.

As you state in your editorial, technical data must be taken into account in estimating the comparative strength of the navies, and the above details clearly show the remarks on Germany's rank of second appearing with the accounts of the Kiel review to be incorrect.

HAROLD M. KENNARD.

Brooklyn, N. Y., Sept. 8, 1911.

SUPERVISION OF DANCING.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I note that a certain Mrs. Israel, who for some time has been identified with the movement for the suppression of immoral dancing at public dance halls, has discovered that improper conduct in dancing obtains in the dance halls of the various picnic grounds within the city.

I am personally in charge of a dance hall in the Borough of Brooklyn, and in addition have been so interested in the improvement of this form of amusement that I have visited various places where dancing is generally held for the purpose of personally convincing myself of the truth of various reports concerning immoral dancing. I have noticed that there are certain forms of dancing which are so disgusting and nauseating to any decent person that the criminal law should certainly be put into force, so that such public exhibitions may be prevented. Some of the dances, such as the "turkey trot," "lovers' two-step," "grizzly hog," etc., are vile, and should be prohibited by law. In addition to the disgusting features, the influence of these dances is so powerful as to attract many of the younger generation and has in many instances been the primary cause of many a young girl's ruin.

About one year ago, through the efforts of Mrs. Israel, a law was enacted by the Legislature of this state which required dancing hall proprietors to procure licenses for the purpose of conducting their business. The license fee was fixed at $50 per annum. This law has had absolutely no effect in the movement to abolish immoral dancing in public or the teaching of immoral dances. In addition to swelling the coffers of the state, its only benefit has been to make these halls less dangerous in case of fire. But dives where low, vile and disgusting dances are taught, where young people are misled by dancing masters who practise the so-called profession for pecuniary gain only, are still flourishing, in spite of the fact that the dance hall proprietor pays the license fee.

From my observation, it would seem that the proper method of remedying the situation is to have an organized body, such as the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, whose agents shall visit places at the times when dancing is in progress and shall act in accordance with proper authority.

EDWARD NUNARH.

Brooklyn, Sept. 8, 1911.

AS TO "FOREIGN" ARBITERS.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: In the controversy between President Taft and ex-President Roosevelt as to submission to international arbitration of the question whether or not a case is justiciable, it seems to me that President Taft holds the better end of the argument. The underlying principle of all arbitration is the confidence of both the contending parties in the impartiality of the body or board of men chosen as arbiters. It is a rather specious ad hominem plea to reflect on the possibility of such arbiters being all "foreigners." The very fact of their being so would insure a greater degree of impartial and just consideration and adjudication than otherwise.

The making of any invidious distinction between "foreigners" and natives in such cases is repugnant to the very idea of international arbitration, based, as it is, on the broad viewpoint of the brotherhood of man. He who raises that point in this connection is merely playing on those chauvinist sentiments that lie at the bottom of all unjust and unnecessary wars. To treat of international righteousness and justice in the same breath with utterances tending to arouse national passions and prejudices is merely begging the question and reducing the whole subject to absurdity.

ADAM ROSENBERG.

New York, Sept. 8, 1911.

REVIVAL OF A MERCHANT MARINE.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: At last we have the good news that a real move has been made by high minded men for the establishment of an American merchant marine. Fifteen steamships for East and West carrying service via the Panama Canal two or three years hence may perhaps appear as little more than a beginning; but, as outlined by promoters of this most highly laudable enterprise in to-day's Tribune, it certainly affords much relief to minds accustomed to dwell on the outrageous fact that our railroad and other transportation magnates have long opposed American shipping interests so that little or nothing exists of a truly American marine, such as was ours in former times and should be ours now.

The Baltimore and Washington men who are named as sponsors for this timely lift to what should always be a national institution deserve every praise, and, in this instance, particularly because the charter which they have made for themselves so unmistakably voices that truly fine and distinctively brave spirit which declares itself to be that of absolute integrity such as anticipates machinations of kinds that so commonly result in dissipations of actually sound, honest and perfectly efficient control.

ALFRED LAURENS BRENNAN.

New York, Sept. 6, 1911.

SAFE TO BET ON.

From The Toledo Blade.

A Kansas woman announces that she wants a husband who is "a tower of strength, energetic and generous, very loving, very tender, very kind and courteous always." We suspect that she is too late, that he is already married.

CHANCE FOR KITTY.

From The Louisville Courier-Journal.

Kitty Gordon, actress, says she wants to marry a man with whom other women will not fall in love. Well, there's a Louisiana man who tried to drown himself because he was so fat nobody would love him, and proved too fat to sink.

PROTECTION FOR CHILDREN.

From The Rochester Post-Express.

Port Jervis, a New York State town of 10,000 population, has just contracted for the building of three fireproof schoolhouses. These are to be terra cotta, the material used to be subjected to a heat of 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit. It is encouraging to note that the safe and sane methods of schoolhouse construction are being adopted in the smaller cities of this state.

CONFESSION OR ASSERTION?

From The Ohio State Journal.

An editor never feels more important than when he is writing an able review of general financial conditions and trying to make it sound as if he had absolute mastery of the subject.

HIGHLAND SPORT

Luxurious Entertaining—Grouse and Deer Drives.

London, August 23.

There can never be a poor year for every class of sport. When grouse are scarce owing to phenomenally wet weather, and young birds have been drowned before they have been strong on the wing, partridges are plentiful, and there is fine autumn weather for deer stalking and pheasant shooting. This year grouse are abundant and free from disease, and the prolonged drouth has not affected the heather on the moors nor diminished the shelter of the woodlands. The conditions are not equally favorable for good bags of partridges, for the root crops have not done well in dry weather, and the late clovers have withered, and there are no refuges from the bare stubble of the grain fields, where the birds can be found in large coveys and driven toward the guns. Partridge drives on a large scale will be difficult next month, both in the North and in the Eastern counties, where the shootings are parched and burned with heat and there are no coverts for the little brown birds. The grouse drives have been unusually successful on the big estates, and as there has been fine weather for young pheasants there will be no lack of sport at the country houses during the late autumn.

The "small and early" season for grouse has opened well in the North, with the largest estates occupied by privileged sportsmen and the King himself shooting with the crack marksmen. Shooting parties become more luxurious in their appointments every year. Special trains were hired this season for taking some of the largest companies of visitors to country houses. Motor cars have become indispensable not only for conveying guests from railway stations to houses, but also for carrying sportsmen on successive days to and from the sections of moor to be shot over, and also the ladies when they are allowed to join the guns at luncheon time. "Punch's" joke about the wireless operator in the open field, who repeats the head beater's message that a pack of grouse will arrive in two minutes and receives the financier's message about Amalgamated Ice before the gun is in hand, is a grotesque exaggeration; and yet entertaining in good style is decidedly "up to date" in Scotland. There must be a large acreage of moor, pasture and woodland for all kinds of sport for the men and a well appointed house with tennis courts, golf courses, lawns and gardens for the women. Dinners must be as elaborate and as well served as in London at the height of the season, and there must be swarms of servants indoors and a trained body of gamekeepers, gillies and beaters outside. Hospitality needs to be princely and the field organization scientific if the host aspires to keep up with the smartest set and "to do the thing well."

It is well enough for old-fashioned sportsmen to talk about the superiority of dogging to driving, and to deplore the abandonment of leisurely methods of shooting and the creation of the modern passion for record bags and indiscriminate slaughter of birds. Fashion has decreed an approach to military science in hunting operations, and it is made on the great estates. Sportsmen are distributed among the butts so that the game can be driven up to them over the heather and killed by rapid firing. There is time enough for enjoyment of the moist air, the breath of the moors and the scenic environment before the white pennants of the beaters are seen and the birds begin to settle in the dark heather before the final flight; and there are always chances for watching the workings of dogs when retrievers are set free to follow runners. Dogging and mixed bags have been condemned as slow work by a new generation of sportsmen, which demands rapid firing and concentration of effort and enjoys the field operations and evidences of organization in an effective campaign against the birds.

As close an imitation as possible has to be made by ambitious hosts of the grouse drives with which the King opens the season with five other crack marksmen, where the butts are deliberately spaced and constructed with painstaking care and the birds are driven toward them with precision by trained bands of beaters. When sport is over for the day and guests are gathered at bridge tables or in the smoking room there is as much talk about record bags and the details of the field manœuvres as in old times there used to be about guns, horses and dogs and the pleasures of outdoor life. The acme of luxury in shooting is reached when the host commands the widest possible range of sport for the entertainment of his guests and offers them the promise of a deer drive in the forests after they have enjoyed the pleasure of killing grouse, partridges, black game and wild pheasants. Deer stalking and driving is royal sport, because it is the recognized recreation in the ranges of Balmoral woodland for red deer and roe deer, and also because there is comparatively little of it and it is very costly.

There can hardly be more than two hundred deer forests in the Highlands, and a majority of them are reserved by titled owners for their own recreation. English or American tenants literally amuse themselves like lords when they supply their guests with this strenuous sport; and the talk in the evening turns on the number of stags killed during the day, and not on the record bags of grouse or partridge, as at other country houses. Market values of forest rentals depend mainly upon the stags which are taken annually, and for the sake of keeping up or raising the average record systematic efforts are required for the protection of the preserves, the regulation of breeding and the enlargement of the feeding grounds. Costly as is the upkeep of forests and herds, deer driving is even more expensive as sport, for a large force of experienced foresters and game keepers is indispensable. The guests at these shootings are expected to contribute generously for the support of the estate staff, for when a stag has been shot by stealth after a wearisome but exciting tramp in the forest glades they pay well for the privilege of counting the tips in the antlers.

As much as £5,000 has been paid for the tenancy of a large estate in Scotland for a short shooting season of three months, and even one with moderate acreage and a small house commands as much as £500. The sporting value of land in the best shooting districts is a considerable asset when the rentals in Scotland, Yorkshire, North Wales and the eastern counties amount to several millions annually; and it covers a large