New-York Tribune.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1911.

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THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

CONGRESS.—The President informed the Senate he had denounced the Russian treaty; a resolution approving that course was favorably reported, but a vote was delayed until to-day; no language to which Russia could object was contained in the note of denunciation or in the Senate resolution. ═══ House: Objections by Democrats and Republicans prevented consideration of any bills.

FOREIGN.—The peace conference in Shanghai began its sittings; a cable dispatch to The Tribune announced that a joint note was about to be presented to the conference by Great Britain, Germany, France, Russia and Japan urging the importance of arriving at a settlement. ═══ General Tuan-Fang, ex-Viceroy and a noted scholar and art critic, was murdered by his own soldiers in the province of Shan-Si. ═══ The Persian National Council refused to accept the Cabinet's proposals for a solution of the Russian difficulty, and Russian troops began preparations for a march on the capital, to begin on Thursday. ═══ Denunciation of the 1832 treaty by President Taft roused favorable comment in St. Petersburg and Vienna. ═══ Allan Ross McDougall, the assailant of David Lloyd George, was sentenced to two months' hard labor.

DOMESTIC.—Judge Elmer B. Adams, in the United States Circuit Court at St. Louis, appointed three receivers for the Wabash Railroad Company, on the application of the Westinghouse Air Brake Company. ═══ State Department officials admitted there was little chance of a new Russian treaty being negotiated; the trade balance in favor of the United States was estimated at $21,000,000. ═══ It was stated in a dispatch from Atlanta, Ga., that C. W. Morse's condition was alarming; the physicians pronounced his ailment incurable; President Taft, it was reported, would pardon him at once, but feared the shock would prove fatal. ═══ Women formerly employed by the Iron Workers' Association testified before the federal grand jury at Indianapolis; hotel registers figured in the investigation. ═══ The government filed suit at Los Angeles in the federal court to dissolve the so-called Pacific Coast Plumbing Trust, charging that it has conspired to restrain trade and interstate commerce. ═══ Ten years in the federal prison at Atlanta was the sentence imposed at Portland, Me., on the Rev. Frank W. Sandford, leader of the Holy Ghost and Us Society of Shiloh, for causing the death of a follower on the yacht Coronet; the other five counts were continued.

CITY.—Stocks were weak. ═══ Mayor Gaynor, in a speech to Methodist clergymen, advised them to read the proposed city charter and to avoid "little politics." ═══ William J. Cummins, released from the Tombs, was served with a subpœna in the Hyde case, and went to his suite in the Ansonia, saying he expected to satisfy all claims against the Carnegie Trust Company. ═══ The trial of Martin W. Garvey for the murder of Adolph Stern, a jeweller's clerk, began in the Supreme Court. ═══ The French liner Rochambeau arrived in port after a tempestuous voyage in which one passenger was hurt and nearly all the cockery on board was broken. ═══ Counsel for the proprietors of the Triangle Waist Company, outlining their defence, said many witnesses would testify the Washington Place door was unlocked at the time of the fire. ═══ The Interborough will give a $5 gold piece as a Christmas present to each of the eight thousand employes who receives less than $110 a month.

THE WEATHER.—Indications for to-day: Fair. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 38 degrees; lowest, 31.

CURRENCY REFORM.

The Secretary of the Treasury makes one suggestion the acceptance of which would improve the prospect for an early enactment of a currency and banking reform law when he says that the Monetary Commission's plan should forbid the ownership by banks in the Reserve Association of stock in other banks. This prohibition, he urges, should be so explicit and effective that its spirit as well as its letter could be enforced, for the tendency to concentration is so inevitable in the mere processes of financial evolution that only a drastic law will prevent its resulting in the control of the banking power of the country by the few. The tendency toward concentration which has developed to such a marked extent in industry has only recently begun to show itself in banking. If the Monetary Commission's plan promises to afford a means of stopping it that fact will give the plan additional strength with the public and increase the chance of its prompt acceptance by Congress and the country.

But while such a prohibition as Mr. MacVeagh advocates would no doubt strengthen the Aldrich plan with the public, the danger that a "money trust" will obtain control of the supply of capital in this country is easily exaggerated. The fear of it springs from the supposition that something analogous to what has taken place in certain industries will take place in banking. Conditions in banking and in industry are not analogous. Banks cannot establish branches, nor can they crush out local competitors as they spring up by any such means as have been employed to crush out local industrial competition. Consequently, local and independent banks will constantly be organized in such numbers that their regular absorption by the "money trust" will be inconceivable. Moreover, in the Aldrich plan the part which the little banks in the localities where capital is concentrated play is calculated to keep the Central Reserve Association free from the control of any single interest. The representation of the great money centres is to be restricted, nor does large banking capital carry its proportionate weight and influence. The rights of the little banks are safeguarded with somewhat the same jealousy as are the rights of the little states in the United States Senate.

Moreover, unless the "Wall Street interests," as they are commonly called, get control of the Reserve Association, which seems to be virtually impossible, the smaller banks outside of the financial centre will be made more independent of the big banks by the adoption of the Aldrich plan than they are now. They will not have to look to the latter for the favors which they now require, and with the creation of a national discount market and the enlargement of their opportunities for local loans and investments they will be able to dispose of their own funds with less recourse than now to the money centres. The Aldrich plan, if it is adopted substantially as it is, will thus foster and preserve the independence of the country's banks. The public demand for its adoption may be further stimulated by making prohibition of combination in banking a feature of it. But public sentiment is already so favorable to it that Mr. MacVeagh does not exaggerate when he says that "the persistent difficulties of monetary reform have almost completely disappeared" and that "Congress can now go forward without delay." Congress should do so.

ABROGATING THE TREATY.

The real question at Washington, which the President has taken in hand to answer in a manner befitting the interests and dignity of a great nation, has been whether we wanted relief from an unacceptable situation or indulgence in rodomontade. There was general agreement that the treaty relations between this country and Russia are unsatisfactory. Were we to set ourselves in a practical and efficient manner to the task of correcting them, perhaps to the extent of negotiating a new treaty, or to make a show of the nation in the eyes of the world by putting ourselves in a position from which we should before long wish to be extricated?

The Russian Ambassador put the case rather too strongly in saying that the passage of the Sulzer resolution in its present form would be regarded as an unfriendly act, or at any rate his words are susceptible of too strong a meaning; for the phrase quoted is commonly used to describe a *casus belli*. Nevertheless, we must remember that the words of the resolution closely and essentially resemble those of its chief precedent, the resolution of July 7, 1798, whereby Congress abrogated the treaties with France and forthwith brought on a war with that country which was none the less real and serious because it was never formally declared. Mr. Sulzer and his colleagues certainly did not intend or desire to proceed to such an extremity.

The truth is that the resolution as it passed the House was needlessly offensive in tone and likely to irritate and antagonize Russia rather than to promote a speedy and honorable settlement of the controversy. More than that, it was framed in a way which might cause embarrassment and humiliation to this country. There are many who think that Russia has violated the provisions of the treaty of 1832. But it is much easier to think and say that than to prove it to the satisfaction of an international tribunal. There are certainly many, including some of the best authorities and those who most earnestly disapprove Russia's treatment of certain American citizens, who realize that it would be exceedingly difficult to establish convincingly the premise of the resolution.

The rational view of the case is this: That the treaty of 1832 was made at a time when the conditions which now exist had not only not come into existence but were not even remotely foreseen, and that there has now arisen a radical difference of opinion between the two governments concerning the manner in which the terms of the treaty ought to be applied to these new and unexpected conditions. With the view of our own government we must, of course, fully and strongly sympathize. It seems to us to be the only interpretation of the treaty which accords with American principles of equality. Yet it would be unreasonable not to concede a certain ground for the Russian point of view, especially since Russia is not discriminating against us in this matter, but is treating us precisely as she treats other powers, with their acquiescence. Obviously such a situation prescribes reasoning rather than rodomontade.

It is gratifying, therefore, to know that the President took the initiative several days ago in a grave and decorous manner, though with sufficient firmness, causing the Russian government to be informed of the purpose to abrogate the treaty at the end of the period which its terms prescribe; and to learn that the Senate is ready to ratify his action by means of a dignified and temperate resolution, in which the House is expected promptly to concur. Thus there is reason to hope that the amenities of international intercourse will be preserved and the way prepared for the negotiation of a new treaty which will fit changed conditions, and, without a strain on the self-respect of either nation, accomplish the object that the people of the United States generally and rightly regard as indispensable.

CRIME OR "WAR"?

The Tribune does not see that the sentimentalism in which the Rev. John Haynes Holmes indulges when he speaks of the McNamaras as "unselfish soldiers of a cause" gets us anywhere, unless on the road toward more bloodshed. Whether what the McNamaras did is called "murder," as Colonel Roosevelt calls it, or "war," as the Rev. Mr. Holmes prefers to call it, it is equally intolerable in organized society. A state can no more permit its individual members to carry on private wars than it can permit them to gratify their lust for bloodshed by such slaying as no sentimentalist would now call "war." Taking the law into their own hands is a crime against society on the part of those who do it, whether their object is individual vengeance or group vengeance. The only organization with the right to wage war is the state. If it tolerates such anarchy as the Rev. Mr. Holmes glozes over it confesses itself a failure and had better go out of business as a state. It has failed of its main purpose, to maintain order and insure safety to the lives and property of its citizens, and it has admitted its failure if it permits labor and capital or any other antagonistic interests to resort to bombs and mutual destruction while it stands by, condoning the bloodshed on the ground that it is "war."

But it is not enough to say that, whatever the slaughter by the McNamaras is called, it is a crime which the state is bound to prevent by the employment of every resource within its power and to punish when it is committed with a sufficient deterrent penalty to keep organized society from falling apart by its very futility. The misuse of the word "war" must also be protested against energetically. Euphemisms dull the sense of realities. Why do the Rev. Mr. Holmes and those who think as he does call the blowing up of innocent printers in Los Angeles "war"? Because, says the Rev. Mr. Holmes, the McNamaras feared that their union would be crushed by a capitalistic combination and because there was no way to prevent this except by using dynamite. "Human nature being human nature, dynamite was inevitable." But does anybody except an insane man ever commit murder without a reason? When the criminal commits murder in order to rob isn't that "war"? He, too, perhaps feels the crushing force of an unfair social organization. He has "never had a chance," so he says to himself. Accordingly he "wars" upon the cruel social order that has made him a thief and an outcast! The knife, the pistol, dynamite, or whatever it is in his case, is "inevitable."

Are we not already beginning to suffer in our capacity as an organized society to protect ourselves against criminals from the sentimental dwelling upon that "inevitable" of the Rev. Mr. Holmes? The thief, the murderer, the robber can't help it. He is the victim of society. His environment, we are told, is responsible. Crime is a disease. How soon will it be, if we tolerate the idea of private "wars," before we are told that crime, too, is a "war" upon society, that the criminal is only taking a just revenge because society did not feed him sufficiently, educate him properly, select a proper father for him or failed in some other respect? Only utter moral confusion can spring from letting the word war be used to describe private vengeance.

THE DEFICIT MAKERS.

In "The New York Sun" yesterday Mr. Underwood was reported as saying: "I "am against a deficit and I think the "House will be." What reasons the chairman of the Ways and Means Committee may have for thinking that the majority party in the House is against a deficit were not divulged. In view of the passage of the Sherwood pension bill and the reporting of a padded public buildings bill, both of which Mr. Underwood opposed, his capacity for interpreting the purposes of the House may be seriously questioned. But if the House is against a deficit the only rational thing for it to do is to recall the pension measure which it approved last week in a spasm of recklessness. The passage of that act committed the majority in the House to a deficit in the revenues both for 1911-'12 and 1912-'13 unless $50,000,000 or $60,000,000 is to be raised at once by new taxes.

In Secretary MacVeagh's annual report to the House of Representatives, submitted yesterday, it was estimated that there would be an excess of ordinary receipts over ordinary expenditures for 1911-'12 of $10,225,000 and for 1912-'13 of $29,079,000. But if a law is passed at this session increasing the outlay for pensions by $75,000,000 it is evident that the surplus of $10,225,000 now expected on June 30 next will be swallowed up and that the surplus of $29,079,000 expected on June 30, 1913, will be turned into a losing balance of about $40,000,000.

In the six months left of the present fiscal year only a portion of the pension claims filed could be adjusted, so that the Treasury would not feel at once the full force of the blow struck at its resources. But Mr. Fitzgerald, the chairman of the Appropriations Committee, truly says that if the Democratic majority in the House is consistent it will have to provide a larger adjusting force in the Pension Bureau. Early in the year 1912-'13, therefore, the outlay will swiftly increase and the Treasury will find itself paying out pensions at the rate of $200,000,000 to $225,000,000 a year—a staggering burden for the nation to be carrying forty-eight years after the close of the war in which the liability represented by about 90 per cent of that vast expenditure was incurred.

If the Democratic House of Representatives has its way the country is in, not for reduced expenditures and moderated customs duties, but for chronic Treasury deficits and new schemes of taxation.

THE INDIAN CAPITAL.

The changing of the capital city of one of the world's greatest empires is an incident of geographical and historical importance. In the present case it is also invested with peculiar sentimental interest, and may be expected to exercise no little political and social influence. Indeed, we may suppose that it was largely because of this last consideration that the change was made. In some respects Calcutta, Macaulay's "city of palaces," is much more desirable than Delhi as the seat of British Indian government. It is five or six times larger, more accessible and defensible and incomparably more important as a commercial centre.

The radical difference between the two cities in their significance in Indian history, politics and sociology, however, is that Calcutta is essentially modern and is inseparably and exclusively associated with British domination, while Delhi is in a surpassing degree associated with the ancient glories of native India. In the days of Akbar Calcutta was an insignificant village. As a place of any real importance it was founded by Job Charnock, of the British East India Company, as late as 1690, and the present city dates from 1757. It was not a seat of even provincial government until 1707, and did not become the capital until 1834. Delhi, on the other hand, dates from prehistoric times, while the present existing city harks back at least as far as the eleventh century. Two Hindu dynasties held sway there before the Mahometan conquest, and it was there that the first Mahometan ruler established his court and capital. Thereafter the place had a varied career, being sometimes abandoned as a capital in favor of Agra and Lahore. But it was the capital of the Moguls in the most splendid era of their empire, from Akbar and Jehan to Aurungzebe, and in the days of the Persian invasion, the Mahratta wars and the Mutiny it was the most conspicuous of Indian cities.

To the romantic and imaginative Indian mind, therefore, we may suppose that this change will signify in a measure the ending of the purely modern and alien rule of "John Company" and its successors and the re-establishment of the old regime. It is true that the dynasty is alien and not native. But so were its chief predecessors, the Mahometan, the Afghan and the Mogul. Indian princes and people will no longer be reminded of Clive and Hastings, but of Tughlak and Akbar and Aurungzebe. If they are also reminded of Nicholson and Hodson and Campbell and Lawrence, that fact may be more salutary than offensive. At any rate, the British dynasty is now identified with the capital of its predecessors for more than eight centuries, and on grounds of sentiment and of history may claim, therefore, to be not only British but also truly Indian.

OPPRESSIVE POSTAL RATES.

The activities of the Christmas season have once more brought into unpleasant relief the deficiencies and unjust discriminations of the government's parcels post service. Hundreds of thousands of Christmas givers who wish to send packages to a distance turn to the postoffice to escape the exactions of the express companies. But unless they want to dispatch parcels to Europe, Asia, Africa or South America, instead of to some less remote point of delivery within the borders of the Union, they are met with an exorbitant rate and an unreasonable limitation on the weight of the package. Not only does the United States charge its own citizens much more for a natural governmental service than foreign governments charge theirs, but it makes concessions in carrying mail to and from foreign countries which it denies to persons using the postal service within its own boundaries.

The postal authorities will carry to or from a foreign country packages weighing as much as eleven pounds. But the American who sends a Christmas present from one state to another or from one town to another is confronted with a four-pound weight limit. Moreover, he finds that he is required to pay 16 cents a pound for the transportation of a package which may travel a few miles or a few blocks, while the government is willing to provide for the carrying of an eleven-pound package all the way from San Francisco to St. Petersburg for 12 cents a pound. The illogical quality of such an arrangement is enough to cause peevishness and irritation, even in the midst of the season of universal good cheer.

The domestic charge of 16 cents a pound for parcels is the highest in the world. In Germany, Austria, Italy and the United Kingdom domestic four-pound packages are carried for a total charge of 12 cents. France charges 11 cents, Belgium 10, Japan 8 and Switzerland 5. Mexico charges 24 and Russia from 23 to 44. It is left to the United States to exact 64 cents—more than five times as much as is held to be reasonable by the postal authorities of other leading nations. The Christmas mail users have a right to feel that they are being made a sport of by the discriminations of the domestic parcels post law.

Congress never is but always to be economical.

The Georgia woman who was drowned while trying to demonstrate her power to walk on the water should have taken a leaf from the book of Jemima Wilkinson. That prophetess took her followers to the shore of Seneca Lake for a similar miracle. When about to walk out she turned and asked if they had faith in her power. They shouted "Yes!" Then she said she had no need to prove it, and saved her miracles for the conversion of the unbelieving.

Kentucky bestowed the governorship this year on a candidate who had left that office thirty-two years before. What picturesque readjustments in politics would result were a majority of the states to try to recall the executives who had served them a full generation ago!

Kansas has more wealth per capita than any other state in the Union. Next to the Five Civilized Tribes the Jayhawkers are our greatest plutocrats. The only thing that Kansans have to worry about nowadays is how to keep their cash and collateral out of the clutches of envious Wall Street.

The Rev. Mr. Henson divides mankind into four types, the lionlike, the oxlike, the manlike and eaglelike. Didn't he slip a cog in failing to take account of the asslike?

The Commercial Travellers' League has served notice on the hotel men that its members will pay no more tips after January 1. May this virtuous ultimatum never be withdrawn! The tipless hotel and restaurant may be 1912's best gifts to the travelling and dining out public.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

A large crowd which collected on Broadway attracted the attention of two commercial travellers just back in New York. Joining it, they discovered that a safe was being raised to the fifteenth floor of a building and that the crowd was careful to stand outside the roped fence. "That's a good advertisement for my business," remarked one of the drummers, who is interested in the sale of airships. His companion admitted he didn't see the point. "Well, look at the sign, 'Danger below!' Then look up in the air. Danger below, safe above. Moral, take an airship."

"You know Kibble?"

"Yes."

"Perhaps you know that when you hold out a bunch of cigars to him he is pretty sure to take them all?"

"I've heard so."

"Well, I had a lot of bad cigars in my desk and this morning I held them out to Kibble."

"Yes?"

"He said he'd quit smoking."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

PREMATURE.

[A Boston lecturer urges the proposal of marriage by woman.—News item.]

Why all this haste? It is a waste
Of words and time to urge
That woman be allowed to plead
For matrimonial merge;
Just wait a fortnight, if you'd cheer—
Nineteen and twelve is woman's year.

In two weeks' time 'twill be a crime
For man to bend his knee,
And speak his choice, with husky voice,
The victim he must be
Of woman's wiles as they appear—
Nineteen and twelve is woman's year.

Let, while he may, the mere man say
Whom he would wish to wed;
Don't take from him this honor dim
Until two weeks have fled;
For then to him will come grim fear—
Nineteen and twelve is woman's year.

A. W. U.

"So you favor the prohibition movement?"

"Yes, sir," replied Colonel Stillwell. "Anything that cuts down the indiscriminate consumption of alcoholic beverages will operate toward rendering it less expensive to connoisseurs."—Washington Star.

Dillon Wallace in "Outing" voices the belief that at the present rate of increase in prices the low salaried man will eventually have to face a meatless diet. He says: "The objection is raised against the domestication of additional species of animals, that civilized man already has a variety quite sufficient for his needs. But there is good reason to believe that this will not long continue to be the case. A steadily growing population is constantly increasing its demands for animal food. The ranges upon which our present domestic food animals may be profitably raised at moderate cost are steadily diminishing in extent because of the advance of population. The price of beef, mutton and pork is advancing. Unless some steps are taken to equalize supply and demand the time is not far distant when people of small means will be compelled to forego daily indulgence in animal food."

Large Policeman (who likes the credit of a fight and has made too easy a capture)—Call yourself a burglar! Can't you do nothin' desprit? Ain't you got no pride? Lumme, give us a charnst; lay dahn and kick or somefink!—Punch.

THAT LONELY MAN'S CHRISTMAS

How One Woman Would Solve His Problem.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Please convey this reply to Mr. Black, whose letter asking how to spend Christmas you have published:

My husband and I were interested in your letter, and if it were not for the fact that we ourselves leave home for Christmas to spend it with my parents we should have asked you to our house for Christmas Day. As this is not possible, we at least desire to show our feeling and understanding by sending you a few suggestions, as you ask. Doubtless you will receive many such—because there are thousands of warm hearted people among the inhabitants of every city—as we all know, and particularly at Christmas time the spirit of giving is alive within most of us.

You must realize, of course, that there are hundreds of people situated just as you are, and with precisely your feelings; only they haven't had the inspiration that came to you when you wrote to The Tribune. Well, then, why not have some of them join you? It seemed to us that you could, by writing a letter to the newspapers, reach a good many men who would be glad to join you on Christmas Day for a few hours. Why not—each man contributing his share to the fund for the dinner and possibly a play afterward? If you had six or a dozen about you—what an interesting experience! Choose a good hotel, join forces and give each other as good a time as you know how. Make up your mind to give of yourself to some one else—it is the secret of happiness.

Or, if this plan be not to your liking, how would you like to play Santa Claus to a couple of newsboys or waifs and give them a dinner, playing the host yourself? Then you might take them to the Hippodrome. Just think what perfect bliss it would be to the little chaps—you couldn't help having a charming time yourself, and the knowledge of giving some one else a couple of perfectly happy hours would make you happy, I'm sure. The main thing about Christmas is having somebody to give things to and to please—it's half the charm of the whole.

If you try the first suggestion and get a few men interested, you could doubtless arrange for a private dining room, have a little Christmas tree on the table; possibly some of you would be musically inclined, and others could tell stories of their most interesting experiences or travels. You might find some one who would become a sincere friend among them, and then the effort of planning and arranging the affair would have been indeed worth while.

We should be interested to hear how you solve the problem, and meanwhile please accept our sincere wishes for a Merry Christmas. X. Y. Z.

New York, Dec. 17, 1911.

ANOTHER WOMAN'S PLAN.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: In The Tribune to-day on the editorial page is a communication signed Douglas D. Black, asking how to spend an enjoyable Christmas at a moderate expenditure.

The best investment for the least money for that day that I can think of is to borrow a child for the day and enter into its happiness. I have lived with my own children and other people's long enough to know that it takes very little to make a child happy in the way of toys, the real fun being in having some one to play with and enjoy the new things.

It was not long after the first rapture of receiving the gifts was over till I was sure to hear, "Oh, come on, mother, play with us," and my happiest memories are those connected with the days when two little boys wanted me for a playfellow. Some very inexpensive toys, only one, perhaps, with you for a playfellow, will change your day from a lonely one to a happy one you will love to remember.

Single out some child and make him or her your comrade for the day; go somewhere that you can march his soldiers with him or have a battle with them. Or use your pocket knife to fashion something for him while he tries the new jackknife.

A crowd of children on that day will make you lonely and bring back memories to make your heart ache, but one child to play with, to talk to and make happy will bring you nearer the manger at Bethlehem. MOTHER HUBBARD.

Catskill, N. Y., Dec. 17, 1911.

COMPETITION THE THING

Writer Points Out That It Is Effectively Assured by the Sherman Law.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: In the vast amount of words which have been uttered on the subject of the Sherman law the most fundamental considerations are often the ones to receive the scantest attention. A large proportion of writers and speakers on the subject rush wildly about in a fog of half developed thoughts which obscures the inspiring fact that the enforcement of the Sherman law is itself a constructive and almost complete solution of the trust problem. The fundamental considerations referred to and continually emphasized by the President are as follows:

First—There are two, and only two, methods by which prices can be kept within reasonable limits. Either they must follow the laws of supply and demand, both demand and supply being competitive, or they must be regulated by the government. There is absolutely no other conceivable method. If we do not want government regulation of prices we must have competition. But—

Second—Although the Sherman law insists that there shall be competition, it does not insist that the competing units shall be small or numerous. The law is as well satisfied with real competition between two corporations, each capitalized at one billion dollars, as with competition between two thousand corporations, each capitalized at one million dollars. H. H. F.

New York, Dec. 15, 1911.

THE DEMOCRATIC HOUSE.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The Democrats are showing their usual capacity. First, Champ Clark, the Speaker of the House, insults England and Canada. Next comes William Sulzer, Tammany member of Congress, to insult Russia at a safe distance. What next?

DISGUSTED.

New York, Dec. 17, 1911.

AMBASSADORS AT PEACE DINNER.

Final preparations for the big peace dinner to be given at the Waldorf on Saturday evening, December 30, have been completed. A special car has been chartered to bring thirty-eight foreign ambassadors and representatives to this city from Washington. Word was received last night from Washington announcing that President Taft and Secretary Knox would surely be present.

$500,000 FROM RED CROSS SEALS.

From reports received from all parts of the country it is estimated that $500,000 will be raised by the sale of Red Cross seals. This money will go for the prevention of tuberculosis in the locality in which it was raised. Frank H. Mann, secretary of the committee on the prevention of tuberculosis, said yesterday morning that he hoped to raise $25,000 by the sale of Christmas seals in New York City.

People and Social Incidents

AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Dec. 18.—President Taft has practically completed his tariff message which will be sent to Congress on Wednesday.

Another engagement has been added to the President's Ohio trip, Mr. Taft having accepted an invitation to attend the dinner of the Columbus Chamber of Commerce on January 29. Other engagements are the McKinley dinner of the Tippecanoe Club, of Cleveland, January 29, and the dedication of the new federal building at Columbus, January 30.

The Lincoln Memorial Commission held a meeting in the President's office this afternoon.

Representatives Slemp and Austin urged the President to appoint Malcolm Coles, at present an attorney in the Department of Justice, Solicitor of the Navy Department, Mr. Taft promised to take the matter up with Secretary Meyer.

If the date for the celebration of the opening of the new railroad at Key West can be set for the middle of February President Taft will attend, having made this promise to the Florida delegations in the House and Senate.

As much as the President would like to accept the invitation to leave the "turmoil and turbulence of Washington life" and go 'possum hunting in Forsyth County, N. C., he was compelled to decline because of the pressure of business. The invitation came from J. M. Zemly.

The President's approval of the plan to restore the canteen to the army was solicited to-day by a committee composed of Maurice Simmons, commander in chief of the United Spanish War Veterans, of New York; Dr. Clifford S. Cox and John Lewis Smith, of Washington, and Representatives Dyer, Anderson, Crago and Stone.

The President received in the Blue Room this afternoon the Netherlands Minister, who called to pay his respects.

President Taft will leave Washington at noon to-morrow for New York for a two days' visit. His itinerary is as follows: Tuesday—7 p. m., dinner of the Economic Club at Hotel Astor; 9:15 p. m., motor trip to Brooklyn, where he will spend a short time at the New England Society dinner at the Brooklyn Academy of Music; 10 p. m., dinner of the Young Republican Club; the night will be spent at the home of the President's brother, Henry W. Taft. Wednesday—Afternoon, laying cornerstone for first settlement house for the blind in the world, at No. 111 East 59th street; 6:30 p. m., dinner of Automobile Club of America at Waldorf-Astoria; 9 p. m., dinner of Young Men's Republican Club at Hotel Astor. Mr. Taft will return here on the train leaving New York at midnight Wednesday.

Among the White House callers were the Vice-President, the Attorney General, Speaker Clark, ex-Speaker Cannon, Senators Rayner, McCumber, Cullom, Burton and Perkins, ex-Senator Money, Representatives Good, Peters, Dwight, McGuire, Foss, Prince, Burke, Young Taylor, Pray, Austin, Slemp, Wilson, Sherley, Kahn, Amsberry, Martin, Kennedy and McCall.

THE CABINET.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Dec. 18.—The Attorney General and Mrs. Wickersham were hosts tonight at the last dinner they will give until they return from Panama, the middle of January. Dining with them were the British Ambassador and Mrs. Bryce, the Postmaster General, the Argentine Minister and Mme. Naon, the Belgian Minister and Mme. Havenith, Senator Lippitt, Representative and Mrs. Peters, Mr. and Mrs. Henry White, the Chief of Staff and Mrs. Leonard Wood, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Francis Adams, of Boston; Mrs. William F. Draper, Miss Boardman, Mrs. Hunt Slater and Mr. Hohler, British Chargé d'Affaires in Mexico.

The Postmaster General returned this morning after an absence of several days.

The Secretary of the Interior, who is in St. Paul to-day, attended the conference held by the Western Governors, who have just completed a tour of the East, and delivered the principal address at the banquet there to-night. He will return to Washington on Wednesday.

THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Dec. 18.—The French Ambassador and Mme. Jusserand entertained at dinner to-night the German Ambassador and Countess von Bernstorff, Mr. Justice and Mrs. Oliver Wendell Holmes, Senator Lodge, Senator Burton, Senator Root, Mrs. Walter L. Fisher, the Spanish Minister and Señora de Riano, Phy Akharaj Varadhara, Siamese Chargé d'Affaires; Representative and Mrs. Longworth, Brigadier General and Mrs. Edwards, the German Counsellor, and Mme. Haniel von Haimhausen, Mrs. Slater, Mrs. Sheridan, M. Lefevre-Pontalis, French Counsellor, and the French Military Attaché and Countess de Chambrun.

The British Ambassador and Mrs. Bryce have as a guest Mr. Hohler, British Chargé d'Affaires in Mexico.

The Brazilian Ambassador gave a reception to-day for the members of the Diplomatic Corps, in accordance with the custom of new ambassadors extending an invitation to all the other members of the corps.

The Italian Ambassador and the Marchioness Cusani Confalonieri Casati will go to New York the last of the week for the performance on Saturday for the benefit of the Society for Italian Immigrants. All of the members of the embassy staff will accompany the ambassador.

Mrs. Charles Boughton Wood, who will open her Washington house after the holidays, has also taken a box for the benefit.

IN WASHINGTON SOCIETY.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Dec. 18.—A large number of dinner parties started the week propitiously from a social point of view, those entertaining to-night being Miss Laura Merriam, who entertained for Miss Margaret Draper; Miss Alice Shepard, whose dinner was for Miss Sidney Morrison, and Miss Louise Gibson and Miss Du Laney Whiting, of Baltimore, the latter two debutantes of the season. Mr. and Mrs. Christian Hemmick had several guests to dine, and there were several dinner parties for this season's buds.

Mr. and Mrs. Beekman Winthrop will go to New York on Friday to spend the Christmas holiday with Mrs. Robert Winthrop. They will return here Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard R. Rogers presented their daughter, Miss Elizabeth Rogers, to society at a tea this afternoon and followed this with a large dinner party and dance. With Mrs. Rogers and her daughter were Mrs. Alexander Magruder and Miss Maury, and assisting were Mrs. Clarence R. Edwards, Miss Ann Williams and Miss Dorothy Payne, of Baltimore; Miss Emily Beatty, Miss Eleanor Reyburn, Miss Elizabeth Noyes, Miss Estelle Crane, Miss Mary Howry, Miss Frances Hodges, Miss Doris Haywood, Miss Adelaide Heath, Miss Britton and others.

Another large debut tea was that at Studio House, when Mrs. Gillett Hill introduced her daughter, Miss Lemira Hill, to society. Mrs. John A. Logan, godmother of the bud, was with Mrs. Hill, and she had a long list of other assistants.

Colonel George R. Colton, Governor of Porto Rico, will arrive here in time to spend the Christmas season with his father and sister, Colonel Francis Colton and Miss Margery Colton.

NEW YORK SOCIETY.

Mrs. Alfred Hennen Morris gave a luncheon at Sherry's yesterday for her debutante daughter, Miss Cora Hennen Morris. The guests, numbering about sixty, included Miss Cornelia Van Auken Chapin, Miss Lucy Dahlgren, Miss Eleanor Prentice, Miss Katherine S. Sands, Miss Helen R. Gourd, Miss Ethel Outerbridge, Miss Mary Elizabeth Kane, Miss Elizabeth Stillman Kendall, Miss Elizabeth Remsen Thompson, Miss Vieva Fisher, Miss Helena Fish, Miss Justine Ingersoll, Miss Margreta Beekman, Miss Doris Porter, Miss Charlotte Marshall, Miss Hazen Symington, Miss Priscilla and Miss Dorothy Flagg, Miss Dorothy J. Manice, Miss Charlotte Delafield, Miss Jean Morris, Miss Betty Carson, Miss Marjorie Weeks and Miss Marguerite Kennelly.

Mrs. Benjamin Nicoll will give a dance at Sherry's to-night for her niece, Miss Josephine Nicoll, the debutante daughter of Mr and Mrs. De Lancey Nicoll.

Mme. Schumann-Heink, Ricardo Martin and Boris Hambourg were among the artists at Albert Morris Bagby's musical morning yesterday at the Waldorf-Astoria. Among those seen in the audience were Mrs. Richard Stevens, Mrs. Anthony J. Drexel, jr., Mrs. Stephen H. P. Pell, Mrs. Edwin Gould, Mrs. John Clinton Gray, Mrs. H. Fairfield Osborn, Mrs. J. Allen Townsend, Miss Adeline Townsend, Mrs. Warren Delano, Mrs. Edwin H. Weatherbee, Mrs. Arthur Murray Dodge, Mrs. Charles B. Alexander, Mrs. William Everard Strong, Mrs. John R. Drexel and Miss Constance Warren.

Mrs. Charles H. Baldwin gave a dinner, followed by music, last night at her house, in West 58th street.

Mrs. Hamilton McK. Twombly and Miss Ruth Twombly will go to Canada on Tuesday of next week.

Mrs. Sidney Dillon Ripley has returned from Europe and is at her house, in East 72d street.

SOCIAL NOTES FROM NEWPORT.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Newport, Dec. 18.—Williams P. Burden has returned to New York after a short visit here.

Philip A. Clark, after inspecting his estate, has returned to New York.

Mrs. Henry Redmond and Miss Redmond have gone to New York for the remainder of the winter. Mr. Redmond will follow soon.

Mrs. Paul H. Dahlgren is recovering from a slight illness.

Mrs. Lorillard Spencer has gone to New York. She will be joined by Mr. Spencer to-morrow, and they will spend the remainder of the winter there.

Mr. and Mrs. Lorillard Spencer, jr., and Mrs. Austin L. Sands are to close their season here after the Christmas holidays.

Miss Rosa A. Grosvenor has returned from a visit with Mrs. William Grosvenor in Providence.

Daniel B. Fearing has returned from New York.

Ex-Commodore Arthur Curtiss James's yacht, the Aloha, arrived here to-day to be laid up for the winter.

GOLD PIECES FOR EMPLOYES

Interborough to Give $5 Each to Eight Thousand Men.

Eight thousand Interborough Rapid Transit Company employes will receive a $5 gold piece as a Christmas present when the pay cars make their trips this week. Each man employed in the system since December 31, 1910, at a salary of $110 or less a month, will receive the gold piece. The directors made an appropriation of $40,000 for the purpose last Wednesday, and at the same time passed a resolution thanking the employes in the following enthusiastic manner:

The management desires to express its high appreciation of the efficient and faithful manner in which the employes of this company perform their work, individually and collectively. The unparalleled accomplishment in the transportation of passengers on the subway and elevated divisions is due very largely to the unanimous and earnest desire among all classes to improve the service and add to the comfort and convenience of passengers, without other thought than the efficient performance of their duties, and this under the most trying circumstances.

President Shonts gave out a statement last night saying that on December 11 the subway carried 1,030,382 passengers, more than on any other day in its history except during the Hudson-Fulton celebration, and an increase of 80,611 passengers over the same day last year. More than 189,000 car miles were operated, an increase over the 1910 date of 73,000 miles. On the same day the elevated road carried 1,039,166 passengers, with a car mileage of 194,000. For the first sixteen days of the month the elevated road increase over 1910 was about 20,000 passengers daily; the subway's increase, 77,000.

U. OF P. CALLS WOMAN EDUCATOR.

South Hadley, Mass., Dec. 18.—Dr. Edith M. Hall has resigned her position as instructor in archæology at Mount Holyoke College, to become assistant curator in the Mediterranean section of the University of Pennsylvania