New-York Tribune.

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THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

CONGRESS.—Senate: The nomination of Mahlon Pitney for the Supreme Court was confirmed and reconsidered. House: A determined filibuster against private pension legislation was conducted by Mr. Roddenbery, of Georgia.

FOREIGN.—Captain Roald Amundsen gave further confirmation of his discovery of the South Pole; he denied knowledge of the British expedition under Captain Scott. The British government invited both sides in the coal dispute to a joint conference next week; the miners were disinclined to accept unless the principle of minimum scale of wages were barred from discussion. Secretary Knox arrived at Amapala, Honduras, and was entertained by the members of the Cabinet. The Chinese republican Cabinet decided to meet at Nanking, despite the fact that the presence of Yuan Shih-kai, President-elect, would have to be dispensed with. Manchu soldiers in Peking were reported to be again wearing their queues, this being considered a disquietingly reactionary sign. Sixty big ships and forty cruisers were provided for in the new German naval bill, two extra armored cruisers to be detailed for service abroad.

DOMESTIC.—President Taft spoke at Toledo in opposition to the recall of judicial decisions, advocated by Mr. Roosevelt. Roosevelt men in Louisiana will hold a primary, despite the refusal of the state committee to sanction one, and may send a rival delegation to Chicago. The Michigan Senate adopted a Presidential preference primary bill. Theodore Douglas Robinson, a nephew of Theodore Roosevelt, introduced in the Assembly at Albany a bill which provides for the leaving of a blank space at the bottom of the primary ballot for the expression of choice on Presidential candidates. It was said at Albany that Charles F. Murphy, of Tammany Hall, was facing a revolt of upstate Democrats because of his determined refusal to accept Herbert P. Bissell, of Buffalo, as Public Service Commissioner.

CITY.—Stocks generally were higher. Mrs. Harriet Wells Smith, an aged widow, who has a life interest in a $500,000 estate, caused the arrest of her niece and her niece's son on charges of grand larceny. Theodore Roosevelt, informed that the New York County petition for delegates favoring his nomination had been completed, assailed the primary law, and said he had never seen a contest in which "patronage has been used more barefacedly." A letter was received telling of the desertion in the Barren Lands of Canada of Harry J. Radford, an explorer, and a white companion by two Indian guides. The filing of the appraisal tax revealed that Benjamin Hart, who began his career as a pedler, left an estate of more than a million dollars. The legality of the reinstatement of a medical inspector over Health Commissioner Lederle's protest was questioned, and the matter is in the hands of the Municipal Civil Service Commission. Five important car lines, including the Broadway and Lexington avenue lines, were stalled for two hours by a short circuit. Magistrate Kernochan rebuked policemen who gave conflicting testimony, and said Commissioner Waldo's criticism of the courts should be applied to the police.

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

A GOOD EXAMPLE.

The people of Seattle, Wash., are going to set an admirable example of self-help in fitting out their port to handle the commerce of the North Pacific. They are not going to sit back and depend solely on Congress to make harbor improvements. They realize that they have a large stake in the development of their shipping facilities and are willing to put some of their own money into harbor work which will bring them ample returns in the future.

The chairman of the Seattle Port Commission, Brigadier General H. H. Chittenden, U. S. A. (retired), reports that $20,000,000 will be spent in port enlargement work in the next five years, of which sum $13,500,000 will be public funds and $6,500,000 will come from private sources. Of the public funds the federal government will contribute only $2,275,000. The State of Washington has voted $250,000 and the city of Seattle and county of Pierce will furnish $10,975,000. Providence helps those who help themselves, and Congress ought to observe the same rule in providing money for river and harbor improvements. If the people of a state and city are willing to do their share—or more than their share—in assuming the cost of an improvement, it is *prima facie* evidence that government funds will not be misplaced in aiding that improvement in view of the general advantage resulting therefrom to any given section or to the nation.

Philadelphia and Pennsylvania have for many years past contributed liberally to the deepening of the channel of the Delaware River. Houston, Tex., has raised large sums to complete its ship canal to the Gulf, in the construction of which the government has cooperated. The Legislature of Connecticut voted $1,000,000 last year to be spent on the improvement of the harbor of New London. These exhibitions of a spirit of self-dependence, taken together with that now given by Seattle and the State of Washington, encourage the hope that state and local assistance in river and harbor work will become the rule instead of the exception. It would lift a great burden of doubtful expenditure from the shoulders of the government if river and harbor appropriations should be withheld in large part from communities which will not risk any of their own money in enterprises from which they expect to profit. A definite standard of merit could thus be set up and Senators and Representatives would be relieved from the necessity of laboring for appropriations which would not be welcomed if they entailed local expenditure. One way to keep down our excessive river and harbor outlay would be to give the preference to states and cities which are willing to be partners instead of deadheads in a suggested enterprise.

FACTION DEFORMING DIPLOMACY.

The fact of the defeat of the peace treaties is to be regretted. It is, however, to be regarded as merely temporary and remediable. We cannot tolerate the suggestion that the United States, after having conspicuously taken the lead of the world in the movement for international justice and peace, will now fall to the rear and refuse to do so much as to keep in line with other enlightened nations. It would be monstrous to assume that when France and Germany and Great Britain and Japan and other powers were willing and eager to form a league for the substitution of justice for brute force the United States alone would demur and defeat the benevolent design. To regard such a thing as possible would be very greatly to mistake the disposition of the American people. We have confidence, therefore, that in the not distant future the ill-advised marplotry of Thursday last will be undone and that the great conventions for the promotion of justice and peace among the nations will be ratified in an effective and acceptable form.

Immeasurably worse, however, than the fact was the manner in which the defeat of the treaties was effected. It was done not on any basis of principle but through sheer partisanship and factional spite. It was not to protect the nation from what was intelligently and sincerely regarded as an error of policy, but rather to deny to the administration the credit and honor of so noble an achievement. It was not to serve the country that Democrats and insurgents voted to deform the treaties, but simply to "put the administration in a hole." In a single episode that is mischievous and discreditable. As a fixed course of action it would be unspeakably ominous of evil to the Republic. It would mean the dominance of domestic factionalism in the foreign policy and relations of the country, and that in turn would make our diplomacy futile and contemptible and forfeit our title to confidence and respect in international councils. What government would care to enter into important conventions with this country if the ratification and permanent observance of them were known to depend upon the exigencies of party politics?

Such conduct, while discrediting the nation in the eyes of the world, would not have so much as the poor justification of success in domestic politics. When it was directed against John Quincy Adams, in the hope of destroying his prospects of becoming President, it completely failed of that purpose, for he became President in spite of it, while it did entail upon the nation the cost of years of tribulation and the waging of the least honorable of its wars. In the present case, while there is probably no danger of the factionism promoting foreign war, there is every prospect of its failing as before in its spiteful domestic purpose. This "slap at the President" will do him no harm. On the contrary, it is much more likely to react against those who have sought to inflict it upon him and to strengthen his administration and his progressive and enlightened foreign policy in the confidence and esteem of the nation.

PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARIES HERE.

The Presidential primary bill which Assemblyman Robinson, Colonel Roosevelt's nephew, has just introduced at Albany may be taken as illustrating the difficulties in the way of changing to that system at this late date. Here conditions are more favorable to making such a change than in most other states, for the Legislature is in session. But the session is nearly ended. Mr. Robinson's bill could not be got through, except with an emergency message from the Governor and with the co-operation of both parties. And there is no reason to suppose that the Governor or the Democratic majority in the Senate will make the extraordinary efforts necessary to get the bill through, even if they are not strongly opposed to it.

And this state furnishes a good illustration of how little public demand there is for a Presidential primary. New York has just got through several years of agitation for direct primaries. In the course of that agitation the subject was discussed from every point of view, and yet no demand for the Presidential primary developed. Nor are there any signs of any public demand for it now. The only request for it comes from Colonel Roosevelt and his campaign managers.

THE CONSTITUTION AND THE PREFERENCE.

If the courts should decide that the preferential payments called for by the agreements with both the Interborough and the Brooklyn Rapid Transit companies were unconstitutional the subway problem would be more confused than ever, for no offer has been received for the routes now contemplated or already building which did not call for some preference to the operator. Nor is any likely to be received. The length of the ride to be furnished for a nickel and the other stringent conditions make that certain. If a preferential payment is barred, then it is likely that there must be either city operation or another constitutional amendment making possible the bargain which all would-be operators require.

The question is a close one, about which good lawyers have differed, but it is not unreasonable to hope that the courts will regard the preferential payment not as the result of a loan of the city's credit to the transit companies, but rather as a payment by the city for services rendered. The Brooklyn company will receive the preference of about $3,000,000 a year, because it is going to throw its own property, its elevated lines, into the new rapid transit system. The payment will be proportioned to the service rendered, because the amount is about what the elevated lines now earn and are likely to continue to earn. There is no reason to doubt that the city could lease those lines, and the transaction actually arranged for in the agreement does not differ practically from a lease.

As for the preferences which the Interborough company will receive, they may be regarded as payments for the service of operating the city's subway system, for contributing a large sum toward the construction of that system, for pooling the earnings of the present system with the one to be built and furnishing a ride over both for a single fare, for surrendering a part of the lease of the present system and for other services. It would surely be perfectly legitimate for the city to agree to pay the Interborough company a lump sum annually for these services. But the agreement to pay a certain percentage of a certain sum does not differ in principle from paying a lump sum. In either case the city would have to wait until after it had paid its operator for money to meet the interest on its own bonds. Yet if the city were paying an operator for his services in operating its subway system and for other services a lump sum yearly no one would contend that the city was loaning him its credit.

AMUNDSEN AND SCOTT.

The misunderstanding over the news of the discovery of the South Pole is annoying, and may be embarrassing to somebody, but there is probably no danger of its leading to anything like the discreditable imposture and reviling which marred the corresponding Arctic exploit. It will be interesting to have those who were responsible for the original report explain upon what authority they announced that Captain Amundsen had given the credit to Captain Scott. There is no perceptible warrant for any such announcement in the published dispatches of the Norwegian explorer. Happily, there is also no trace of anything like a dispute or of grounds for one. Captain Amundsen has returned to civilization and reported the date of his discovery of the pole. That is all. He makes no mention of any other expedition, and there is of course no reason why he should if he did not meet one. Of course, he will at the earliest opportunity give to the world his scientific proofs. Meantime, it is comforting to observe that nobody shows any inclination to doubt his word or to question the good faith and accuracy of his brief bulletin of victory.

The friends of Captain Scott will of course be disappointed, unless, as Sir Ernest Shackleton suggests, it may turn out that he, too, reached the pole in such circumstances as to share the honors with Captain Amundsen—though this seems decidedly improbable. But there will be no bitterness or heartburnings. From the beginning it was recognized that of all the expeditions which were simultaneously operating in the Antarctic regions those of Scott and Amundsen were in a class of their own, far surpassing all the rest in the likelihood of their reaching the pole. It was the intention of each of them to seek the pole directly rather than to do general exploratory work, and the starting points selected and the routes chosen by them were recognized as the best for just that end. Yet between the two the rivalry was of the friendliest description. At one time, it is true, some zealous partisans of the British expedition suggested that the Norwegians had intruded upon a field pre-empted by Captain Scott, but that intimation had little support and was long ago abandoned, and it was recognized that the two rivals had a fair field before them.

We must await fuller reports before any estimate of the scientific results of the achievement can be made. It is no light thing just to have reached the pole and thus to have demonstrated that there is no spot upon the surface of the globe effectively barred against the daring and perseverance of man. But we shall expect to find, even in the annals of a direct dash to the pole and back again, with no attempt at general exploration or study of conditions, much that will be of profit to students of geography and meteorology. The mere comparison of extreme Antarctic with extreme Arctic conditions will be of much interest. There may also be some light thrown upon the theory, which was recently noted and discussed in these columns, that the earth instead of being a symmetrical oblate spheroid is really pear-shaped.

In any case there will be cause for sincere rejoicings over the fact that the great exploits of Captain Cook and Ross and Wilkes have now been followed with complete success and that the centre of each polar map of the world must henceforth bear some other inscription than that of "Unexplored."

CHAOTIC CHINA.

The good promises of a few days ago in China seem not to have been fulfilled. The encouraging announcement was made that Dr. Sun Yat-sen and the whole republican provisional government would promptly remove from Nanking to Peking. This was encouraging not because it indicated that the republicans had abandoned their former predilection for Nanking and their objections to recognizing Peking as the national capital, but because it showed a self-denying determination on the part of the best men in China to get together for the restoration of order and the secure establishment of the new form of government. The foremost men in China to-day are Yuan Shih-kai and Sun Yat-sen. So long as the one was at Peking and the other at Nanking the nation was divided in interest and authority. If they came together in either of those capital cities there would be a hopeful measure of unity.

Now, however, there is an intimation that even such a junction of forces, if it can still be effected, may be too late. We are told that Yuan Shih-kai has lost authority and power and is in a desperate plight, while there is no indication that Sun Yat-sen has correspondingly gained. Instead, China has lapsed toward chaos. It is true that thus far there is no assured appearance of any serious or general political motive in the current disturbances; no hint at a revolution, either forward or backward. It is not even known, so far as the dispatches show, what are the political affiliations of the brawlers, if they have any. They are simply taking advantage of what seems to them a good opportunity for looting. A significant hint of this is conveyed in a current dispatch, which tells of the mustering out as untrustworthy of 3,000 troops "who were formerly pirates," and who now, following their dismissal from the army, "will probably "form themselves into roving bands of "desperadoes." Empire or republic, it is all the same to them. Their one idea is pillage.

It will not escape notice, either, that the immemorial social constitution of the Chinese Empire facilitates precisely such troubles as are now afflicting the republic. It has often been remarked that the Chinese are one of the most democratic peoples in the world. Nowhere is local autonomy more complete, and nowhere is fear of or respect for any central government less observable than in China. That spirit of individualism and of communal independence is admirable when exercised for the development of republican institutions; but it is mischievous when it is distorted into a disregard for all law and all authority. The harmonious co-operation of the two great leaders might so impress the public mind as to prevent further lapses into anarchy and mean the organization of a sufficient force to quell the existing disorders. But such action, if it is to be efficient, must be taken quickly, or what started as a campaign for private loot may soon be developed into a real revolution.

According to the Senate's theory, the only good arbitration treaties are the dead or denatured ones.

The Hon. Norman Mack's magazine is publishing articles describing "Beautiful Baltimore." The lofty hotel rates which convention visitors are expected to pay are naturally not listed as a scenic attraction.

When the progressive insurgent isn't insurging against the wicked "standpatter" he has to take a whack at his own leader, just to keep his hand in. As we remember it, Colonel Roosevelt was quite willing to see the peace treaties ratified with the adoption of the Lodge amendment. But here are his merry men throwing that amendment into the waste basket as rubbish and then chopping the treaties into hash. Can it be that the colonel cannot control his own insurgents? Or did he mean that he approved the Lodge amendment just at that time, but not necessarily a few weeks afterward?

"Buy a brick! Buy a brick! Help the cause!" No, that is not from a suffragette campaign song, but from a song of the Barnard College girls, who want the bricks used in the commendable enterprise of adding to the college facilities.

"Let the cats howl," writes the Mayor. There is a true believer in personal liberty.

That's a fine scheme to prevent eavesdropping on party line telephones, though it will greatly lessen the joys of life to many gossips in the truly rural regions. But what we most want is something which will prevent our being connected with one number when we are anxiously calling for another.

In the United States Senate party politics does not stop at the national boundary line.

Mr. De la Barra is doubtless right in saying that the people of Mexico are capable of supporting and enjoying a healthy, strong democracy. But, then, why don't they do it?

It may be all right to refuse to burden the state with another costly commission, but there can be no doubt that there is and will increasingly be need of some definite authority for the control of aviation.

President Arosemena has chosen the part of dignity and patriotism in resuming the Presidency of Panama, and thus excluding himself from the succession to that office. Technically he might have qualified himself for re-election by remaining on vacation, but that subterfuge would have been a violation of the spirit of the constitution, and would have been unworthy of a statesman of his distinguished and honorable career.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt, looking very fresh and young, a red carnation in the buttonhole of his morning coat, was talking to a reporter about an unsuccessful competitor at the Madison Square Garden Horse Show.

"He failed," said Mr. Vanderbilt, "and he deserved to fail. His ignorance of horses was incredible. It reminded me of an old farmer on my brother's farm.

"This old farmer, throwing down an agricultural journal, once said to me with an oath:

"'I don't believe, Mr. Vanderbilt, that the editor of this here journal knows enough about farmin' to plant his feet in the road and raise a cloud of dust.'"

THE VITAL ISSUE.

Not tariff revision or party division
Our troubled reflections engage;
Nor yet conservation nor business stagnation,
High prices nor average wage.
The "stand-pat" and Progressive may each be aggressive,
For all that (at present) we care;
But what does perplex us and worry and vex us
Is—what is she going to wear?
Will she hop? Will she hobble or wiggle or wabble?
Glide, float, dip or writhe on her way?
Will she be wide or narrow? Curved or straight as an arrow
That only Dame Fashion can say.
The way that God made her, when Fashion's arrayed her,
Cannot be discerned anywhere;
And at what she'll resemble next season, we tremble—
Oh! what is she going to wear?
—Sonwood Notes, White Plains, N. Y.

Mrs. Greig—What are you burning, my dear?
Mr. Greig—The letters I wrote you before we were married.
Mrs. Greig—You heartless wretch! Have you no sentiment, no—
Mr. Greig—Please be quiet. I'm doing this for your sake. I'm trying to fix things so that if I die nobody can dispute my will on the ground of insanity.—Tit-Bits.

The owner of a clever cat writes to "Our Dumb Animals" that the pet, "a great, fat, lazy, good-natured fellow," has a fondness for eggs. Sir Tom was detected in the kitchen recently on a table watching an unopened bag of eggs. "Stepping back noiselessly," writes the owner, "we saw him cautiously tear the bag with his teeth and claws, stopping every little bit to listen. Finally the opening was large enough for him to get out an egg by gentle little pats. He held the egg in his mouth, jumped to the floor, rolled his prize about gently until he got it into position, and then bumped it against the table leg until it broke. Then he enjoyed his feast." The writer wonders where Tom got the taste, as he is and "his ancestors for generations back were city-bred."

The phrase "Not worth a tinker's dam" comes from the fact that a tinker builds a dam of soft clay around a place to be flooded with solder. The dam is worthless after being once used.—Milwaukee Journal.

Uncle Sam's consul at Zurich contributes a short "story," as newspaper men say, to "Daily Consular and Trade Reports" that will probably interest New York City taxpayers and those of other big cities. He writes: "The Swiss budget for 1912 shows estimated total receipts of $17,903,000, and provides expenditures for $18,640,000. The deficit of $737,000 (against $348,000 in 1911) is due to greater expenditures in different departments, particularly the Interior, which is allowed $3,390,000, an increase of $513,000 over 1911. This is destined chiefly for subventions to public works in the various cantons, forestry and commercial and industrial improvements. An increase of $247,000 for the construction of state buildings has also been allowed."

Bill—I see that each German regiment has attached to it a chiropodist.
Jill—In case of a retreat, I suppose those fellows could do some pretty good footwork.—Yonkers Statesman.

A catch query is going the rounds, the answer to which is puzzling a great many persons. To lend this small addition to the merriment of the nation, one man approaches another—a friend, of course—and says: "Now, with politics flying through the air and with every phase of the question being taken up, I'll wager you can't tell me what our President's name was in 1865." The customary procedure is for the questioned man to ponder a moment or two and then finally to admit ignorance. "Try it on your friends," is suggested, "and then tell them that his name in 1865 was the same as it is now—William Howard Taft."

"I notices," said Uncle Eben, "dat in football, same as in a lot o' things, de biggest celebratin' is done by folks dat wasn't takin' no active part in de game."—Washington Star.

CRITICISM, NOT ATTACK

Colonel Roosevelt's Policies as Seen by a Tribune Reader.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: In an editorial of yesterday The Tribune states that it has been charged by a reader with attacking Mr. Roosevelt, and it then proceeds to refute that charge.

I entirely agree that The Tribune has not attacked and is not attacking Mr. Roosevelt, but at the most is merely criticising, as it is fully entitled to do, his most recent utterances and generally his uncalled for entrance into the campaign. And in so doing The Tribune displays that sobriety of judgment, moderation and good taste in language which characterize everything that appears in its columns.

During his two terms of office The Tribune consistently and loyally supported Mr. Roosevelt. And with equal consistency and loyalty it is now supporting President Taft and advocating for him a second term. I fully concur with The Tribune in its estimate of the great services which the former President rendered to the country, but equally I believe that in the present circumstances the hand of President Taft can better guide the reins of government than can that of his predecessor.

If ever a President deserved a second term it is Mr. Taft. During his three years of office he has been opposed and thwarted at nearly every step by a more or less hostile Congress, and he has achieved his ends only when they have been achieved by his inexhaustible patience and his undying determination. He has also corrected some initial errors; he has shown himself amenable to public opinion and progressive as the times demand, steering a safe middle course between the reactionaries on the one hand and the too advanced radicals on the other.

All his acts and speeches have demonstrated that he is dominated by a singleness of purpose for the public welfare as he sees it, and that he has invariably disregarded his political fortunes when they seemed to him opposed to the general weal. In a word, he is not a politician but a statesman.

Now, I am not a Republican, though only giving nominal allegiance to the Democratic party; also I am bitterly opposed to the tariff, yet I entirely approve of the President's action in vetoing the popgun tariff bills sent to him by Congress. Every one knows that they were begotten of trickery and intended to be stillborn. It would not take much more of the combined hypocrisy and stupidity of the Democratic party in Congress to drive me entirely out of their ranks.

I believe that President Taft is prepared to give relief from the oppression of the tariff without any unjust interference with legitimate business. R. W. MACKRETH.

Ivy, Va., March 6, 1912.

MORNINGSIDE PARK

An Observer Believes It Could Be Rehabilitated in Three or Four Months.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: In one of your recent issues you called attention to the forlorn condition of Morningside Park, and as a resident of the neighborhood I cannot but agree that the adverse criticism is justified. It seems only a few years since this park was one of the pleasantest and most attractive spots in the city. I refer to the time it was under the supervision of the landscape gardener, N. Jonsson Rose, an energetic and painstaking public official, if ever there was one, who evidently knew his business thoroughly and apparently attended strictly to his duties. There were attempts made, then as now, to destroy lawns and trees, but such attempts were always firmly and successfully resisted and the damage caused by wear and tear promptly repaired.

The statement made by ex-Park Commissioner Smith that it would take five years to bring the park back to its former condition is pure nonsense. I firmly believe that a landscape gardener of Mr. Rose's ability and experience could immensely improve the park's appearance in a period of from three to four months.

What the parks of this city really need is a man at the head of the working force who knows what to do and when to do it, and who is willing and conscientious enough to attend to what needs to be done at the proper time. These qualifications Mr. Rose certainly possessed. Why not engage his services again, if they can be obtained? It would, in my opinion, be a step in the right direction toward solving the park problem, Morningside and Central parks included. OLD RESIDENT.

New York, March 8, 1912.

READY FOR DYNAMITE TRIAL

Forty-six of Fifty-four Indicted to Face Court in Indianapolis.

Indianapolis, March 8.—Labor men indicted in the alleged dynamiting conspiracy began arriving here to-day. Of the fifty-four accused, it is expected forty-six will face the court on Tuesday. A general conference of the defence will be held on Monday.

The removal of John R. Carroll and Edward Phillips, of Syracuse, has been delayed by their fight against extradition to the Indianapolis federal district, and they will not be here. John J. McCray, of Wheeling, W. Va., has not yet been arrested. The indicted men on the Pacific Coast who will not be here are E. A. Clancy and Olaf A. Tvietmoe, of San Francisco; Ortie E. McManigal, now in jail at Los Angeles, and John J. and James B. McNamara, now in San Quentin prison, in California.

BILL TO PROTECT 'WHITE WINGS'

Prohibits Removal Except on Written Charges After Hearing.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Albany, March 8.—Assemblyman Boylan introduced a bill to-day providing that no member of the clerical or uniformed force of the Street Cleaning Department of New York City shall be removed except on written charges after a hearing. The employe also has the right of review by writ of certiorari.

At present a Street Cleaning Department employe may be removed after being informed of the cause of the proposed removal.

FIRST REPUBLICAN IS DEAD

Townsend Walter, of West Chester, Penn., Was Ninety-eight.

West Chester, Penn., March 8.—Townsend Walter died at his home here this morning in his ninety-eighth year. He was the first Republican elected in this country, the election being in 1855, the office being County Treasurer. He was a member of the Friends' Society, a blacksmith by trade, a successful farmer, and one of the organizers of the Patrons of Husbandry, in which he served in many state and county offices. Four sons survive him.

OSTEOPATH LOSES APPEAL.

Albany, March 8.—The Court of Appeals to-day upheld the validity of an ordinance of New York City prescribing that a death certificate must be signed by a medical practitioner, the legality of which was attacked by Charles F. Bandell, an osteopathic physician. The lower courts held that the city board of health had acted within its powers in passing the ordinance and the Court of Appeals sustains that decision.

People and Social Incidents

AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, March 8.—Timothy L. Woodruff of New York, who was the guest of the President for several days, returned to New York this morning.

Mrs. Anderson, the sister of Mrs. Taft, will arrive at the White House to-morrow to make a short visit.

Miss Taft rejoined her mother at the White House this evening, after a short visit to Bryn Mawr.

THE CABINET.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, March 8.—The Secretary of the Treasury and Mrs. MacVeagh entertained at dinner to-night Justice and Mrs. Lamar, the Secretary of War and Mrs. Stimson, Mrs. Fisher, Senator Root, Senator Bacon, Representative McKinley, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Francis Adams, Dr. and Mrs. Wilmer, Colonel and Mrs. Archibald Hopkins, Mr. and Mrs. William Loeb, jr.; Mrs. Marshall Field, Mrs. Joseph Hobson, Mrs. Norman Williams, Mrs. Kellogg Fairbanks, of Chicago; Miss Eliza Scidmore, Miss Mabel Boardman, Surgeon General Blue, Dr. Cooper and Arthur J. Parsons.

The Secretary and Mrs. MacVeagh have as house guests the Collector of Customs at New York and Mrs. Loeb, who arrived today.

Mrs. Charles Nagel and Miss Hildegarde Nagel entertained Miss Katherine Anderson, the niece of Mrs. Taft, and a number of other young women at luncheon to-day.

THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, March 8.—The German Ambassador and Countess von Bernstorff have been kept busy to-day receiving congratulations on the birth of their first grandchild, a son, born to their son-in-law and daughter, Count and Countess Pourtales, in Berlin, where the count is attached to the Foreign Office. The marriage of Count and Countess Pourtales took place at the German Concordia Church in this city a year ago this month.

The Norwegian Minister and Mme. Bryn entertained at dinner to-night, their party including the Spanish Minister and Señora de Riano, the Netherlands Minister and Mme. Christian Hauge, Mr. and Mrs. James H. Gore, Miss Sally Lee, F. M. Schmolck, the Netherlands first secretary, and William Malthe Johannessen, first secretary, and Wilhelm Thorlief de Munthe de Morgenstierne, attaché of the Norwegian Legation.

The Swiss Minister went to New York to-day to visit Robert Scharvenbach, one of his countrymen, now in New York. Several social affairs have been arranged for the minister by members of the Swiss colony in New York.

Henri Martin, secretary of the Swiss Legation, will go to New York to-morrow to visit Mr. and Mrs. Emiel Stehli until Tuesday, when he will sail for Switzerland on a leave of absence.

The counsellor of the German Embassy and Mme. Haniel von Haimhausen entertained at dinner to-night the Austrian counsellor and Mme. von Loewenthal-Linau, Mrs. J. D. McLachlan, Mme. Ekengren, Mrs. Thomas F. Richardson, Mrs. Thomas C. Dawson, Mrs. Edward Bowes, of New York; Alfred Mitchell Innes, British counsellor; A. M. Low, Captain Retzmann, Baron Hardenbroek and Mr. von Buelow, of the German Embassy.

Mme. Haniel von Haimhausen will receive formally on Thursday, March 14.

W. A. F. Ekengren, counsellor and chargé d'affaires of the Swedish Legation, left here to-day for Chicago, to attend the Swedish-American dinner, at which the President will be the guest of honor.

IN WASHINGTON SOCIETY.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, March 8.—The French Ambassador and Mme. Jusserand occupied a box at the Columbia this afternoon to hear their countryman, Felix Garziglia, in a piano recital. Among others who had boxes were Senator and Mrs. McCumber, Mrs. Champ Clark and Mrs. F. N. Barker.

Miss Alice Boutell, daughter of the Minister to Switzerland and Mrs. Henry Sherman Boutell, will arrive here in April to visit her brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Roger Sherman Boutell. Her parents will join her here later in the spring, when her marriage to John Woods Brooks Ladd, of Boston, will take place. Mrs. Roger S. Boutell has gone to Chicago to visit her father, Mr. Burley.

Mrs. Thomas C. Dawson has as a guest Mrs. Edward Bowes, of New York, and will entertain at dinner in her honor on Sunday night. Mr. Dawson has been indisposed for several days, and his physician has ordered him to take a trip South.

Miss Mary MacCauley returned to-day from a visit to her brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. O'Donnell Lee, in Philadelphia.

Mrs. Morris Croxall talked on "Old Trails" before the women of the Congressional Club this afternoon, and there was a tea later, when Mrs. Knowland and Mrs. Kent, of California, presided at the table, assisted by a number of other women.

Dr. and Mrs. Preston P. Satterwhite, of New York, who have spent some time at Palm Beach and other Southern resorts, will arrive in Washington to remain until the middle of next week as the guests of Mrs. Lloyd Bowers. Mrs. Horace Westcott will entertain at luncheon for them on Sunday, and Sunday night Mrs. Rogers will give a dinner in their honor. Mrs. Bowers will entertain guests at dinner for them on Monday and Tuesday.

NEW YORK SOCIETY.

Mrs. Bradley Martin, jr., will give a musical this evening at her house, in East 87th street. The artists will be Miss Geraldine Farrar and Edmond Clement.

Mr. and Mrs. Frederic Gallatin, jr., have returned to town from Palm Beach.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Polk have gone to Palm Beach for a short stay.

Mrs. Chester Griswold gave a dinner last night at her house, in East 54th street.

Mr. and Mrs. Jordan L. Mott gave a dinner last night at the Ritz and afterward took their guests to see "The Woman." In the party were Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt, Mr. and Mrs. Edmund L. Baylies and William Travers Jerome.

At the residence of Mrs. George Rose, No. 1041 Fifth avenue, yesterday afternoon, a bazaar was held for the benefit of the Home for Convalescent Babies at Sea Cliff, Long Island. There were useful and fancy articles on sale, and at a table in the centre of the room were live animals, consisting of white rabbits, green paroquets and canaries in cages, and there were also bowls of gold and silver fish. Mrs. Rose and Mrs. Charles B. Alexander had charge of the tea room; Mrs. H. H. Van Rensselaer Kennedy and her daughters, Miss Marian and Miss Maude Kennedy, presided at the flower table, and at the other booths were Mrs. William Jay Schieffelin, Mrs. J. Searle Barclay, Mrs. Charles Steele, Mrs. E. Henry Harriman, Mrs. Henry Parish, jr., Mrs. J. Archibald Murray, Mrs. Walter James, Miss May Eird and Mrs. Archibald Rogers.

Miss Dorothy Jean Manice will return to town to-day from Virginia, where she has been spending several weeks.

Mrs. W. Dennison Hatch, jr., has returned to town from Cincinnati.

Mrs. Alfred Wagstaff, jr., has gone to Atlantic City, to remain for a few days.

Mrs. Franklin Mott Warner will give a dinner to-morrow evening at the Ritz.

The sewing class which works for the Loretta Mission had its regular meeting yesterday at the Gotham. The meeting next week will take place on Wednesday instead of Friday.

SOCIAL NOTES FROM NEWPORT.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.]

Newport, March 8.—Mrs. Charles A. Siegfried gave a euchre party at the Corson cottage this afternoon.

Paymaster and Mrs. Dallas B. Wainwright, jr., have returned from Washington.

Mr. and Mrs. George Gordon King were here to-day making an inspection of their estate.

KING GEORGE HOLDS COURT

Wife of Russian Ambassador Presents American Women.

London, March 8.—King George and Queen Mary held their first court at Buckingham Palace to-night. Although the period of court mourning for the late Duke of Fife has ended, their majesties are still in mourning, and Queen Mary and all the ladies within the royal circle appeared to-night attired in black. Whitelaw Reid, the American Ambassador, and Mrs. Reid were not present. Mr. Reid is recovering from a severe cold which he contracted last week.

Countess Benckendorff, wife of the Russian Ambassador, presented the Americans, among whom were Mrs. Henry H. Hough, wife of the American naval attaché at Paris and St. Petersburg; Mrs. John C. Phillips, of Boston, and Mrs. James Amory Moore, of New York. William P. Cresson, second secretary of the American Embassy here, attended court for the first time. The other members of the embassy and their wives also were present.

ELECTED TO PHI BETA KAPPA

Seven Seniors and Three Juniors Chosen at New York University.

The New York University Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa held its elections yesterday afternoon and elected ten men, seven from the senior class and three from the junior class. The seniors are Alfred R. Jayson, of Newark; John A. Woolf, of New York City; Emanuel R. Engel, of Brooklyn; George B. Zimmele, of Yonkers; John P. Phillips, of Yonkers; Frederick A. Dale, of New York City, and Orlando H. Daniels, of New York City. The juniors are Frank D. Gifford, of Elizabeth, N. J.; Finley H. Foster, of New York City, and Filbert Rosenstein, of Paterson, N. J.

There are four other men in college in the senior class who are members of the Phi Beta Kappa, having been elected last year. They are Samuel D. Stein, of New York City; Presley D. Stout, of East Orange, N. J.; Edmund N. Petersen, of Brooklyn, and Ralph R. Bruster, of Wyalusing, Penn.

ADMIRAL MARIX PRESIDENT

Army and Navy Co-operative Company Chooses New Officers.

The directors of the Army and Navy Company have elected Rear Admiral Adolph Marix (retired) judge advocate of the Maine inquiry board as president. The names of the other officers follow:

Captain Henry H. Scott, U. S. A. (retired), vice-president and general manager; E. L. Lewis, treasurer, and Captain Alexander R. Riper, U. S. A. (retired), secretary.

The new executive committee comprises Rear Admiral Marix, Colonel W. G. Bates, Major F. G. Landon, H. H. Benedict, M. H. Coggeshall and Colonel A. R. Riper.

NO ARGUMENT AGAINST IT.

From The Baltimore Sun.

It is difficult to see how Congress can fail to pass the bill changing inauguration day to some time when we are certain of better weather. The bill has been pending for nearly three years. Another inauguration is approaching. Congress should abandon March 4, with its sleet, snow and "flurbacks," and give us a beautiful spring day when the worst rain is only an April shower, when the skies are usually clear and Nature smiles with approval upon the new Chief Executive.

KNOX IN HONDURAS

Reciprocal Entertaining in Amapala and on the Maryland.

Amapala, Honduras, March 8.—Secretary of State Knox arrived here to-day on board the United States armored cruiser Maryland from Corinto, Nicaragua.

Mr. Knox came ashore at 1 o'clock and was entertained at luncheon by the members of the Cabinet. General Manuel Bonilla, President of the republic, was unable to attend the function owing to illness and sent his regrets.

This afternoon Secretary Knox entertained the Cabinet ministers on board the Maryland, and during their visit there were numerous cordial exchanges. No event is scheduled for to-night, but a large programme in honor of the visit of the American Secretary of State has been arranged for to-morrow.

OBERLIN ALUMNI MEET AGAIN

About 150 Members Attend Twenty-fifth Annual Reunion.

The twenty-fifth annual reunion, dinner and business meeting of the Oberlin Alumni Association of New York were held at the Whitehall Club, on the thirtieth floor of the Whitehall Building, last night. About one hundred and fifty members were present.

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