New-York Tribune

SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 1912.

Owned and published daily by the Tribune Association, a New York corporation; Ogden M. Reid, President; Condé Hamlin, Secretary; James M. Barrett, Treasurer. Address, Tribune Building, No. 154 Nassau street, New York.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.—By Mail, Postage Paid, outside of Greater New York.

Daily and Sunday, one month	$.70
Daily and Sunday, six months	4.00
Daily and Sunday, one year	8.00
Daily only, one month	.50
Daily only, six months	3.00
Daily only, one year	6.00
Sunday only, six months	1.25
Sunday only, one year	2.50

Foreign subscriptions to all countries in the Universal Postal Union, including postage.

DAILY AND SUNDAY:	
One month $1.50 One year	$17.90
SUNDAY ONLY:	
Six months $3.07 One year	$6.14
DAILY ONLY:	
One month $1.02 One year	$12.26
CANADIAN RATES.	
DAILY AND SUNDAY:	
One month $.90 One year	$10.08
DAILY ONLY:	
One month $.50 One year	$6.00
SUNDAY ONLY:	
One month $.70 One year	$4.58

Entered at the Postoffice at New York as Second Class Mail Matter.

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THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

CITY.—Most stocks closed at net gains. ==== Justice Duell suggested changes in the primary law, including one which would place elections in charge of a board appointed by the Supreme Court for each election. ==== A fist fight between counsel after one called the other a liar marked the case of Sullivan vs. Ryan in the Supreme Court. ==== Both sides summed up in the sugar trial. ==== Paul Morton left an estate of $1,445,403 to his wife, according to the tax appraisal. ==== A man found guilty of grand larceny was rewarded with a suspension of judgment for his conduct of silence at his trial for the sake of shielding a woman. ==== Andrew Carnegie brought suit against Samuel H. Kress, former director of the Carnegie Trust Company, for $2,225,000. ==== The Tenderloin police raided an alleged burglars' den in 37th street.

DOMESTIC.—Formal orders for a suspension of all operations in the anthracite mines beginning April 1 were issued by the United Mine Workers at Cleveland. ==== Colonel Roosevelt made short speeches to crowds in Iowa and Minnesota, concluding with addresses in St. Paul and Minneapolis, where he dwelt on conservation and the general principles of the Progressives. ==== The New York State Legislature adjourned sine die at Albany. ==== The Senate, by a vote of 28 to 21, received the report of the Albany legislative investigating committee, having first expunged the part criticising the professional conduct of Senator Brackett as counsel for William Barnes, jr., chairman of the Republican State Committee. ==== The Murray woman suffrage bill passed the Assembly by a vote of 76 to 67; the vote was later reconsidered by a vote of 69 to 67. ==== Governor Dix sent to the Senate for confirmation the nomination of G. V. S. Williams, of Brooklyn, as Public Service Commissioner, 1st District; the nomination was confirmed. ==== Samuel Gompers, in a speech in Philadelphia, said the Steel Corporation might face a strike sooner than it expected. ==== Friel Allen, seventeen, youngest of the outlaw band, was captured near Hillsville, Va.

CONGRESS.—Senate: The Sherwood pension bill was beaten and the Smoot substitute measure, adding $20,000,000 to rolls, was passed. ==== House: Representative Underwood attacked the tariff bill in debate on the wool bill; the Elections Committee voted to unseat Representative Bowman, of Pennsylvania.

FOREIGN.—The minimum wage bill received the royal assent, and British miners began balloting on the question whether they would resume work under its terms. ==== Mrs. Despard, a British suffragette, proposed as retaliation for the loss of the conciliation bill in Parliament that suffragettes should cease to buy hats, boycott seaside resorts returning anti-suffragist M. Ps., refuse to contribute to church maintenance, and invest only in non-British stocks. ==== Premier Tang Shao-yi, acting as Yuan Shih-kai's representative in Nanking, received the Presidential seal from Dr. Sun Yat-sen; the members of the new government were officially announced. ==== A riot took place in Mexico City, owing to copies of the "Heraldo," ordered suppressed by the government, being thrown from the windows of its offices; firemen played hose on hundreds who attempted to secure copies of the proscribed newspaper. ==== General Aubert's force, eight hundred strong, was reported on its way south from Jiminez, Mexico, to join General Huerta's column, with rebel cavalry in pursuit. ==== Premier McBride's Conservative government in British Columbia was indorsed by the return to the Parliament at Victoria of forty out of a total membership of forty-two.

THE WEATHER.—Indications for to-day: Fair. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 65 degrees; lowest, 44.

CANAL ZONE LANDS.

The difference of opinion and of recommendation between the departments of War and Agriculture concerning the use of the lands in the Canal Zone is not altogether unnatural or surprising. Each department regards the subject from its own point of view, and each from its exclusive point of view is right. There is, however, a vast and decisive difference in authority between the points of view, and as the Canal Zone is under the jurisdiction of the War Department, for purposes which that department must fulfil, it is reasonable to assume that its views and desires will prevail.

The Agricultural Department is doubtless right in reporting that the isthmian lands are capable of rich production. Farming, gardening, fruit growing and cattle raising could all be conducted there with profit. Beyond doubt, also, a large demand for such products will arise when the canal is opened and vessels traversing it seek supplies of fresh food. It is probable that the hint will be taken in the adjacent regions of Panama and that the fine possibilities of its soil will be realized. But it is still more probable that the suggestions of such enterprises in the Canal Zone will not be fulfilled.

The Canal Zone was not acquired for purposes of agriculture or colonization, but for others with which these would not be compatible. It was acquired solely for the purpose of constructing, operating and defending the canal, and all other considerations must be subordinated to the best possible attainment of those ends. It must be obvious that the thronging of the zone with settlers from this and other countries would greatly increase the difficulty of controlling and governing the strip, and also, on occasion, of safeguarding the canal itself from possible injury. It would be folly to jeopard the canal or embarrass in any way those charged with its custody and management just for the sake of the little farming which might be done in the zone.

For, after all, agricultural possibilities there, however rich, must always be restricted. The zone is only ten miles wide and about forty long. The whole four hundred square miles would not be sufficient to cut an appreciable figure in the world's agriculture. But of course the canal and the railroad occupy considerable strips and the artificial lake which is being formed will flood a large part of it. Many other miles are so hilly as not to be available for cultivation; and still others are hopelessly swampy. The area actually available, therefore, for cultivation is insignificant; though it would be large enough to contain a sufficient population to cause the evils which have been suggested. In other words, the opening of the zone to agricultural settlement and exploitation would do little good at best and might at worst do much harm.

A RESTFUL SESSION.

The session of the Legislature has been mercifully short. With the Democrats in control of the Senate and the Assembly in the hands of the Republicans, no legislation of a partisan character was possible, and only necessary, routine and uncontroversial bills were passed. The Republican Assembly acted as the check which the people intended it to be upon the Tammany raid on the state which excited such indignation last year. This session had no more Levy bills Tammanyizing the election system, and no more grabs of state offices like the Court of Claims law and the State Highway law last year.

As a consequence the session has caused less public excitement than any in recent years. Newspapers have not felt called upon to exert their influence to prevent scandalously bad legislation, like the proposed city charter last year, or to bring the pressure of public opinion to bear in favor of any strongly desired legislation, like the Public Service Commission bills and the anti-gambling bills of Governor Hughes's time. If the Legislature, like the human stomach, may be said to be performing its functions well when you are most unconscious of it, this has been a good session. At any rate, so restful a session is a good thing once in a while, for the public conscience ought not to be always kept at work and public opinion ought to have a respite occasionally; otherwise communities are likely to suffer from a "moral overstrain." This session has given the state almost a rest cure.

The legislation passed being of the indisputable, non-contentious character, it is impossible to indulge in superlatives regarding it. Some of it, however, was useful if not exactly memorable, such as the bills for making work in factories safer, the resolution for the amendment to the constitution opening the way to the adoption of a workmen's compensation law, the rapid transit law amendments enabling the city to make the proposed agreements with the subway operating companies, and the bill providing for the consolidation of the New York charter. The Legislature also made some amendments to the direct primary law, correcting its most glaring defect. This action left a good deal to be desired. The grist was small. The majority leader, Senator Wagner, in order to make it impressive had to extend his review over 1911 as well as 1912.

CONDEMNED BY HIS FRIENDS.

It is gratifying to find that our esteemed neighbor "The World" does not approve the Underwood policy of running away from the findings of the Tariff Board. Mr. Underwood sees that the Tariff Board stands in the way of a perpetuation of the abuses of the old guesswork system of tariff revision, because its work will enable the public to scrutinize intelligently bills which have hitherto been passed by legislators talking and voting in a fog. In order to protect himself and his associates against criticism based on authentic information Mr. Underwood wants to discredit the Tariff Board and, if possible, to starve it to death.

Such a policy is too Bourbonish for "The World," which recognizes the value of the board's functions and admits that it has "already opened the way for large practical results." Our neighbor believes that the public is tired of seeing leaders like Mr. Underwood play politics with the schedules, instead of trying to secure such reductions as a Republican Senate and a Republican President, influenced by the findings of the Tariff Board, are willing to approve. Therefore "The World" condemns as freely as The Tribune has done the tricky attitude of Mr. Underwood, and declares that "it is no time for the Democrats of the House to raise an issue of erroneous theory in the Tariff Board's "inquiries," in order to escape the necessity of acting with the Republicans to abolish unnecessary duties.

If the Democrats in the House and Senate were sincere in their profession of a desire to lower duties in the woollen and cotton schedules, they would easily find a way to co-operate with Republicans who also favor reductions and thus give the public some immediate relief. But zeal in the public interest does not appeal to Mr. Underwood as much as does his desire to nurse the tariff issue along as a Democratic asset. It is comforting to know that even newspapers of his own party are alive to his disingenuous leadership and his programme of legislative deadlock.

NORTH DAKOTA NO MODEL.

A great many persons have evidently been misled by what happened in North Dakota on March 19 into overestimating the scope and uses of a so-called "Presidential preference primary." Because the election in North Dakota was statewide the inference has been drawn that any other state may put a similar primary into operation, the verdict of the voters to control the action of the entire state delegation. But that could not be the case except in the few states which are not divided into Congress districts.

North Dakota's representation in the lower branch of Congress was increased from one to two under the apportionment of 1901, but the Legislature failed to create two Congress districts, the two Representatives being regularly elected at-large. Under the apportionment of 1911 North Dakota gained another member, and next fall three Representatives are to be elected at-large. The boundaries of the Congress district being coterminous with those of the state, the whole delegation of ten could be chosen this spring by a state-wide vote. But if the state had been cut into districts only the delegates-at-large could have been elected in that manner, for the call for the national convention says: "In "no state shall an election be so held as "to prevent the delegates from any Congressional district being selected by "the Republican electors of that district."

To give a majority or plurality of the voters of a state the power to control or instruct the entire delegation would simply be to revive the obnoxious unit rule which the Republican party long ago repudiated. Some of Colonel Roosevelt's managers talk as if they believed that a primary similar to that in North Dakota could be ordered off-hand in every other state. But it would be utterly impracticable to try to hold such primaries in states in which no machinery exists for eliciting an expression of opinion, and in most states only the four delegates-at-large could be chosen in that manner. Every existing Congress district is entitled to preserve its independence and its rights of self-government, which would soon be as seriously threatened by the sort of primary held this year in North Dakota as they were in the days of Conkling, Cameron and Logan by an attempted application of the unit rule through the mandate of a state convention. Until Republican policy is revolutionized state-wide primaries can have only a limited use, since under present party rules about nine-tenths of the delegates to a national convention have to be chosen through the independent action of the Congress districts.

CLEARED UP.

The action of the grand jury ought to dispose finally of the Brandt case and satisfy the public that whatever error of justice may have been committed it was not the result of a conspiracy or of the use of improper influence. The grand jury has given the case a thorough and painstaking investigation, and its conclusion corresponds with that of the public, which appears to have been put in possession of substantially all the evidence. After Mr. Schiff had publicly told his side of the story the charge that the processes of justice had been misused by plotters had few believers left.

The whole incident shows the need of keeping the courts and their work entirely above suspicion. All this scandal grew from the fact that a prisoner who had offended against a man of wealth and influence had received an extraordinarily long sentence under circumstances which indicated laxity at least, for the public prosecutor allowed a lawyer in private practice to usurp his functions and the court did not take care to determine whether or not the facts justified the charge of burglary. These loose methods should be stopped. District attorneys should not show the complaisance which Mr. Jerome showed to Mr. Gans, and the police should not furnish criminal records to be used in court except on the request of proper public officials. Without irregularities no such bubble as this Brandt case could have been blown.

THE ASSEMBLY AND THE WOMEN.

The Assembly's passage of the woman suffrage resolution appears to have been a kind of compliment to women, for the favorable action was promptly reconsidered and reversed. Still, allowing for the votes that were not cast in good faith, the suffrage amendment to the constitution was treated with a seriousness that it has never commanded at Albany before, and undoubtedly its real strength was greater than in past years. A comparison of the figures by which it was rejected yesterday with those of 1911 causes surprise. The Assembly this year, after passing the resolution by a vote of 76 to 67, adopted a motion to reconsider by 69 to 67. Last year the Assembly rejected the resolution by a vote of 90 to 38.

The change in the Senate vote is naturally less, the membership of the Senate being virtually the same. The Senate gave a majority for the resolution in both years, the vote of 1911 being 19 to 15 and that of 1912 being 21 to 19. Twenty-six votes are required to pass. How many of the twenty-one Senators who this year voted for woman suffrage would have opposed it if they had not felt assured that it would lack the required twenty-six votes it is impossible to say. Probably there are several, just as there are doubtless some Assemblymen who thought it politic to be recorded in favor of the measure who would have opposed it if they had thought it had any chance of passage. Still, the fact that politicians no longer treat it as a joke is, like the other fact that six states will this year submit to their voters constitutional amendments permitting woman suffrage, significant of the progress that the movement is making in spite, apparently, of the total indifference or the hostility of the majority of American women.

The passage by the House of Representatives of the white phosphorus match bill is a tardy response to the public demand that the sacrifices due to the manufacture of that poisonous commodity be ended. It is to be hoped that the Senate will concur in stamping out an odious and unnecessary feature of the match making industry.

One of the counts in the report of the Board of Fire Underwriters on the Equitable Building fire will appeal with special force to all observant persons who ever visited the fine quarters of the Lawyers' Club. The elevator shafts opened directly into those spacious apartments, which were filled with inflammable furniture and draperies. If, therefore, a fire broke out in the building below and reached such a shaft, it was sure to be drawn up it as up a chimney and then to spread out mushroom shaped upon that floor, beyond all power to extinguish.

If our navy equips ships with 15-inch guns it will lead the world in ordnance.

Secretary Knox's visit to Santo Domingo supplies a reminder of the valuable work which is being done there and a suggestion of the similar work which might be done in other countries if only the policy of the administration were sanctioned by the Senate.

I requested to have this bill amended so as to include Mr. Mitchel, the President of the Board of Aldermen, but for some reason that amendment was not put into it. How does that happen? The salary I wanted to have him receive was $7,500.—Mayor Gaynor.

The next time Mr. Carnegie plans to build a temple of peace he will want to erect it right alongside of the City Hall, now the permanent abiding place of the brooding dove.

If the Mexicans will fight, it is better from our point of view that they should do so at Torreon than at El Paso. But then Torreon is much nearer to the Mexican capital.

The woman's club in New Orleans which is agitating for the prohibition of long hatpins is on the right track; but how is it that more general attention is not paid to equipping the protruding points of those indispensable implements with the tips which are provided for the purpose, and which serve other good purposes besid s that of making the pin point innocuous?

There is a move to restore the Manchu dynasty in China. On the theory of the second cup of coffee, perhaps.

Governor Dix would have done well to reappoint experienced and useful Public Service commissioners. But the new Commissioner, Mr. Williams, is one of the most acceptable of the various candidates suggested for the vacancy in the commission in this district.

The attitude and conduct of the British House of Lords afford an object lesson in Parliamentary relationships. In one of the great crises of the kingdom the Upper House counts for nothing and the chamber which contains a majority of the commanding statesmen of the country exerts no practical influence on the course of affairs.

Big Business is mercurial. When the Standard Oil decision was announced hands were represented as being wrung and the fate of enterprise was wept over. And now the mere failure to convict the packers is said to inspire the belief that the courts and the Sherman law are impotent.

Words are often compelled to do hard work by a conscienceless taskmaster. But when an orator in the State Senate speaks of "the strong, statesmanlike administration" of Governor Dix the limit of endurance is reached. The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Vocables ought to apply for an indictment against Senator Simon Legree Wagner.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

The manager of one of New York's fashionable restaurants was consulted as to the menu for a "coming out" dinner and dance which took place a few weeks ago. "We were to prepare the dinner and serve it at the home where the entertainment was to take place," he said, "and when I submitted the menu to the hostess she glanced at it and said it 'wouldn't do.' The various courses were right and the price was satisfactory, but the lady wanted the card in English 'without one word of French.' Of course that was easy to do, but we had to invent names for some things, and they looked much less imposing in English. Since then we have had several similar orders and many of our best customers now insist on plain English menu cards."

Cohn (reading a Canadian timetable)—Saskatchewan, Assiniboia, Portage la Prairie, Ungava, Keewatin, Moo——

O'Shaughnessy—For the luv uv Mike! Shtop saying thim Yiddish prayers, Cohn.—Satire.

LOST—THE LETTER OF LAW.

[Note—The House of Commons has defeated the present hopes of the suffragettes.]

The alphabetical army went
Straight down the line, on votes intent.
A aimed an axe, B broke with bricks,
C cracked with canes, while D
Drew dagger dark; E employed eggs,
F fought like fire, and G
Got Gatling guns; H hammered hard,
I injured eyes; J jumped
With jealous joy; K kicked and cuffed,
L lunged and lit and lumped.
M moulded mud, N nicked with nails,
O offered onions old;
P pinched and punched, Q quickly quelled,
R rumpussed, roared and rolled;
S swatted sore, T threw things, while
U used utensils which
Went flying all about the town
Among the poor and rich.
They're militant from A to U,
The reader daily notes,
Believing that the letter V
Must surely stand for Votes;
But now the female phalanx learns
V stands for Veto, too;
Their Voices sad proclaim they're Vexed—
What will the poor girls do?

A. W. U.

"What's the matter, Jorrocks? You look as blue as indigo," said Whibley, sympathetically.

"I am blue," sighed Jorrocks. "I spent $30,000 getting a divorce from my wife, and after I got it, blest if she didn't submit the question to the people, and by a majority of 537 I am still married to her!"—Harper's Weekly.

"We are waiting for Dr. Cook," writes a correspondent of the "Vienna Post" from Berlin. "Whatever he may have done to earn the displeasure and the censure of the scientific world, one must admire his confidence in himself or his show of that quality. In the months of April and May he will deliver his North Pole discovery lecture in the big cities of Austria, Germany, Hungary and Switzerland, beginning with Berlin. He writes that he will continue his fight against Peary and that he will eventually conquer the good will of the world and establish his claims."

He—Before I married you I never thought of saving.

She—And now?

He—Now I'm always thinking what a lot I could have saved if I hadn't married you!—London Opinion.

"A leading lady at sixteen and on the stage of the Burg Theatre at that—wonderful!" This exclamation is the introduction to an article in a Vienna paper announcing the forthcoming appearance of Iphigenie Buchmann as Cleopatra in Bernard Shaw's "Cæsar and Cleopatra." "Of course, the character is not like the one described by Shakespeare," says the writer, "for Shaw's heroine is a child of fourteen who is enthusiastic about Marc Antony and who loves to tease the older Cæsar. She is charmed with the part for which she has been cast because there is no love scene in it. That fact could create pleasure only in the heart of an actress of sixteen or of one over sixty."

Mrs. Biffem—I don't speak to Charlie any more.

Mrs. Keepimnet—What's the trouble?

Mrs. Biffem—The young pup had the impudence to say my husband must be very happy when I told him I was far from well and did not act like myself.—Philadelphia Record.

"CHARITY."

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Would you allow me a line on "charity," especially as it is practised by some people in this city and elsewhere? I refer to the Lenten sewing classes organized to sew for "the poor" (God help them). Ten women or so get together to make garments for women and children inmates of various homes. They meet once a week for luncheon and to sew, and gossip, too, for three hours. In the seven meetings each woman has made (?) five garments—probably five dozen garments all told are made. To buy the same would not cost $40 at most. The luncheon costs each hostess on an average $20—$2 a plate—total cost, $140 for the seven meetings—sewing materials and many incidental expenses we won't count. For $40 or $50, each woman subscribing $4 or so, a goodly supply of garments could be purchased, well made and cut and put together properly, not the distorted, misshapen, badly sewed, soiled lot that is usually pushed on the institution immediately after Lent.

Just to mention another case of perverted "charity," a charitably inclined woman of my acquaintance gave away a very good-looking sealskin coat to a poor woman who earns maybe $20 a month by sewing, and the struggle the poor thing has to live up to that sealskin coat is heartrending. She would have offended the woman sorely by refusing the coat. Why didn't the giver have the common sense to sell the coat? A dealer would gladly have given $100 for it, for it is in splendid condition. A good warm, serviceable suit and dresses could be bought for $30 and the other $50 set aside for future help. Will women ever understand the meaning of the word charity?

ABNER DAVIS.

New York, March 21, 1912.

THE FUNDAMENTAL LAW

Federal Constitution Not Included in Colonel Roosevelt's Plans.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: In the "Outlook" article on "Judges and Progress" and in "The Charter of Democracy" Mr. Roosevelt has unquestionably outlined a serious situation, in reference to which there is good reason to forestall further passionate outcry and to formulate adequate remedies.

Mr. Roosevelt concedes that judicial interpretation of the Constitution by the Supreme Court has resulted in periods of expansion and periods of contraction, according as the prevailing political theories of the court were at odds or in accord with the prevailing public opinion of the time. He cites against the Supreme Court as reactionary decisions, perpetuating injustice and distorting the Constitution, the income tax case, the Knight sugar case, the bakeshop case (reversing the New York Court of Appeals), and finally, the federal workmen's compensation case, which left "the man's blood [to] forever cry aloud in vain for justice." This is the period of expansion. As to this last decision, he adds that it was "decided as I do not for one moment believe the court would now decide." In his opinion a period of contraction has set in, when the Constitution is to be held down and not allowed to interfere with human liberties. This is further emphasized by the Massachusetts labor law case, which the court sustained, and as to which Mr. Roosevelt says:

If only the principles set forth in this opinion [Justice McKenna] and in Justice Holmes's opinion in the Oklahoma bank cases could become welded into all our law, there would be no need of changing this law so as to preserve popular rights. This is what I should infinitely prefer to see done. But if this cannot be done, then I unhesitatingly champion such change of the formal expression of the fundamental law as will render it immensely easier than at present for the people to pass finally on any constitutional interpretation by the judiciary.

The Supreme Court, which, at one time, he tells us (aiding the New York court) "have thrown what at times have proved wellnigh or altogether insurmountable obstacles in the path of needed social reforms," and which in the bakeshop case "took the ground that the people of the State of New York did not have the right when they found certain conditions to be unhygienic, and so declared through the Legislature, to prevent men from working too many hours under these unhygienic conditions," has now apparently, according to Mr. Roosevelt, abandoned the "outworn and mischievous system of social and economic philosophy," and no longer "arrogate to themselves the right to upset the deliberate judgment of the people on social and governmental politicies," but are prepared "to share our views of social and economic reform" and have them "applied to the actual conditions of modern life."

For the moment, then, Mr. Roosevelt is satisfied with the interpretation of the federal Constitution by the Supreme Court, and is willing to lay aside the heated animadversions upon its former action, even on such a recent case as the national workmen's compensation act, where the blood of the slain was "forever to cry aloud in vain for justice," and about which he added that this statement was "far less strong than the actual facts." He abandons any effort to amend the United States Constitution or to have its interpretation revised by the vote of the people, confining himself to the easier and less important subject of the state constitutions. He forgets that these constitutions may by their own terms be formally amended in less time than he has fixed as the minimum for the discussion which must precede his suggested review by vote of the people—two years. He ignores his own warning that it is the federal Constitution which imperatively demands greater facility of amendment, and seems unaware that the danger to the continued efficiency of the Supreme Court and to its supremacy in the confidence and respect and submission of the people lies in its function of interpreting the charter of our government, and applying social or economic or political theories to the changing conditions of our national life.

The exercise of this function of interpretation has, as already shown, resulted in periods of liberal interpretation or of strict construction, depending upon the agreement or disagreement of the judicial views of government with the ideas of public policy prevalent throughout the country and dominating the thought of the time; it is this which is in the main unaccountable for the freedom, not to say the virulence, of the criticism to which the court has been subjected, not only by an anonymous press, but by men in high public office and by its own members. The respect and protection with which men of English speech hedge about their judiciary in the administration of law does not extend to a body engaged in the purely political function of amending by interpretation our charter of government, nor has the minority in a political convention ever been tender in its judgment or mild in the disapproval of the triumphant majority—and an Assistant Attorney General once characterized the Supreme Court as a Constitutional Convention in continuous session. This will explain the bitter waters which Mr. Bryan and Mr. Roosevelt have both drunk from the dissenting opinions in such cases.

And yet, after all these assaults upon the so-called reactionary social injustice of the Supreme Court, the only remedy Mr. Roosevelt ventures to suggest is an appeal to the people from the constitutional decisions of the state courts, this appeal to be "subject to action by the Supreme Court of the United States," and "the decision of the people to be binding upon every citizen in the state, official or non-official, unless, of course, the Supreme Court of the nation in any given case decides otherwise."

He states clearly that "under our federal system the remedy for a wrong such as Abraham Lincoln described is difficult," and that "the remedy is not difficult in a state;" yet he leaves untouched the barriers of the federal Constitution and of the "anti-social" interpretations of the Supreme Court, and gravely proposes his novel remedy, solely with reference to state constitutions. Before his remedy could be applied "the minimum time would be two years of discussion by the people," yet surely he must know that an amendment to our state constitution in the manner duly provided by that instrument could be effected within that time, and that his proposed appeal to the people is of no possible benefit.

The danger that he has uncovered is the rigidity of the federal Constitution and the consequent necessity of putting upon the Supreme Court the political function of expanding its provisions and relaxing its restrictions in such manner as to meet the social and economic developments of the time.

Why does Mr. Roosevelt confine his subversive suggestions to state constitutions, whose orderly amendment, he tells us, offers no difficulty, and refrain from any proposal to deal with the greater danger presented by the federal Constitution and its judicial interpretation? Has he lost his nerve? Does he recoil from the logical sequence of his own denunciations? Is the proposition too vast and too perilous for his hitherto "undaunted mettle"? Or does he believe that, stating the dilemma so plainly, he still can hoodwink the beloved "people" by strident speech into believing that his remedy is really intended to cure the evil?

If Mr. Roosevelt will address himself to securing such an amendment to the federal Constitution as will provide for imperative changes in its provisions with the same readiness now offered by our state constitutions, he will render some real service to the country and will put himself in accord with Washington, whose farewell words on that subject were:

If in the opinion of the people the distribution or modification of the constitutional powers be in any particular wrong, let it be corrected by an amendment in the way in which the Constitution designates. But let there be no change by usurpation; although this in one instance may be the instrument of good, it is the customary weapon by which free governments are destroyed. The precedent must always greatly overbalance in permanent evil any partial or transient benefit which the use can at any time yield.

PAUL FULLER.

New York, March 26, 1912.

PROF. PEABODY QUITS HARVARD

With Professor Searle He Resigns from University Faculty.

Cambridge, Mass., March 29.—Professors Francis Greenwood Peabody and Arthur Searle, two of the oldest professors in point of service in Harvard University, tendered their resignations to-day.

Professor Peabody has been a teacher in the Divinity School for thirty-two years. Professor Searle has been connected with Harvard for more than forty years, and for a quarter of a century has been Phillips professor of astronomy.

CAMORRA PRISONER RELEASED.

Viterbo, March 29.—At the trial of the Camorrists to-day Vincenzo Amoroso, who, it was alleged, was at Bagnoli when the Camorrists passed sentence of death on Gennaro Cuocolo and his wife, was released from prison on the ground that he had served five years and had been punished sufficiently for his part in the crime. The defence of Enrico Alfano, better known as "Ericone," the alleged head of the Camorrists, is still proceeding.

People and Social Incidents

AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, March 29.—The President at to-day's Cabinet meeting discussed the Mexican revolution and laid before the Cabinet resolutions and petitions urging the government to intervene in the coal strike.

The White House confirmed the report that one shipment of arms was permitted to be sent into Mexico for the Madero administration and that another had been sent to properly designated Americans, to protect their homes and property. It was made clear that the United States reserved the right to send arms into Mexico for this purpose, and that under the proclamation this country also made exception of the shipment of dynamite into Mexico for the use of the mines.

President Taft to-day vetoed the joint resolution providing for a commission to investigate and report on the advisability of establishing a permanent manœuvre ground, camp of inspection and rifle and artillery ranges for troops near Anniston, Ala.

Among the White House callers were Senators Culberson, Curtis and Brown, Representatives Olmsted, Candler, Morgan, McGuire and Maguire and ex-Representative Tawney.

The President and Secretary Hilles went for a long walk this afternoon.

Mrs. Taft occupied a box at the Columbia Theatre this afternoon to hear Alice Nielson and several singers from the Boston Opera Company in a programme of songs and a scene from opera. With her were Mrs. Nathaniel Francis, Mrs. Hugh Wallis, Mrs. Buckner M. Randolph and Mrs. A. Garrison McClintock.

Miss Taft was joined at the White House this afternoon by four of her girl friends, who will remain over Sunday. Several more guests will join them at dinner to-morrow night. In the party are Miss Jean Sterling, Miss Mary Morgan, Miss Gladys Jones and Miss Marjorie Thompson, all Bryn Mawr students.

THE CABINET.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, March 29.—The Attorney General and Mrs. Wickersham entertained at dinner to-night the Secretary of War and Mrs. Stimson, the Danish Minister and Countess Moltke, the Russian naval attaché and Mme. Vassilieff, the French military attaché and Countess de Chambrun, Major von Herwarth, German military attaché; the Assistant Secretary of War and Mrs. Robert Shaw Oliver, Benjamin S. Cable, Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Labor, and his mother, Mrs. Ransom R. Cable; Mr. and Mrs. Richard Harlow, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Barrington Moore and Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Wickersham, of New York.

The Attorney General and Mrs. Wickersham, who have had as a guest for some time Mrs. Cornelius Wickersham, were joined to-day by Cornelius Wickersham, who will also be their guest over Sunday. Mrs. Wickersham will entertain a number of young people at luncheon to-morrow in honor of her guest.

Mrs. Meyer has closed her country house at Hamilton, Mass., and, accompanied by her son, George von L. Meyer, jr., has gone to Boston to remain a short time.

The Secretary of Commerce and Labor will speak before the American Cotton Association on April 2 at its meeting here.

THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, March 29.—The Austrian Ambassador has as a guest until next Wednesday Edwin V. Morgan, recently appointed Ambassador to Brazil.

The Brazilian Ambassador entertained one of the most brilliant dinner parties of the season to-night, Edwin V. Morgan and his host, the Austrian Ambassador, being of the number. Mr. Da Gama's other guests were the British Ambassador and Mrs. Bryce, the German Ambassador and Countess von Bernstorff, the Italian Ambassador and Marchioness Cusani, the Russian Ambassador and Mme. Bakhmeteff, the Postmaster General, the Spanish Minister and Señora de Riano, Justice and Mrs. Holmes, Senator and Mrs. Wetmore, Senator and Mrs. Rayner, Senator du Pont, Representative and Mrs. Nicholas Longworth, the Assistant Secretary of the Navy and Mrs. Beekman Winthrop, Mrs. Robert W. Patterson, Mrs. Robert McCormick, Mrs. Richard H. Townsend, Mrs. Marshall Field, Mrs. John Rogers, Mrs. Lloyd W. Bowers, Colonel and Mrs. Thomas W. Symons, Count de Chabanness, the Brazilian naval attaché and Mme. Marques de Azevedo and J. F. Barros Pimentel, Brazilian second secretary.

The Japanese Ambassador and Viscountess Chinda will give a reception for the diplomatic corps early next month.

The German second secretary and Mme. Albert Kienlin entertained at dinner to-night. Mme. Kienlin is suffering from an attack of grip which may bar her from social engagements for several days.

The counsellor of the German Embassy and Mme. Haniel von Haimhausen left here to-day for New York and will sail to-morrow for England, going later to Germany.

The counsellor of the Brazilian Embassy and Mme. de Lima e Silva are receiving the sympathy of their friends on account of the death of their only child, a daughter seventeen months old.

IN WASHINGTON SOCIETY.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, March 29.—There were a number of dinner parties to-night, the largest being the dinner dance at the Chevy Chase Club, when a hundred of the younger members of society, including young married persons, were the subscribers. The clubhouse was gay with yellow spring flowers, and an orchestra from the Marine Band played for the dinner and dance.

The Congressional Club gave its regular Friday afternoon entertainment to-day, Dr. C. Ford Langworthy talking about "Food and Its Value," after which tea was poured by Mrs. Nagel, wife of the Secretary of Commerce and Labor, and Mrs. James E. Martine. Other women assisting Mrs. Roberts, the president, were Mrs. Francis G. Newlands, Miss Alice Page, Mrs. Lemuel P. Padgett, Mrs. Robert N. Page, Mrs. William A. Oldfield and Mrs. William R. Green.

Major General and Mrs. Leonard Wood entertained a gay party at their quarters at Fort Myer to-day to celebrate the twelfth birthday of their daughter, Louise Wood. A number of the children of officers stationed at Fort Myer, with others from Washington, were taken to the cavalry drill and then enjoyed themselves at the home of the chief of staff and Mrs. Wood.

Mrs. Amos A. Fries and Mrs. William D. Stephens were hosts at a large tea this afternoon at the quarters of Major and Mrs. Fries at Washington Barracks, in honor of Miss Barbara Stephens. The post band played at the reception. Miss Stephens, who is a Wellesley student, is the guest of her parents, Representative and Mrs. Stephens, of California, for the Easter vacation.

Mrs. T. De Witt Talmage and Miss Rebecca Collier will go to New York to-morrow for a fortnight.

NEW YORK SOCIETY.

Albert R. Gallatin, who is to marry Miss Beatrice Arundel Octavia Quennell, daughter of Mrs. Robert G. Quennell, on April 24, in the Church of the Ascension, will have his cousin, Frederic Gallatin, jr., for his best man. His ushers will be his brother-in-law, Charles N. Welsh, of Philadelphia, Francis Dawson Gallatin, James Nicholson Gallatin, Alexander M. Hadden, C. Wheaton Vaughan, J. Prentice Kellogg and Samuel T. Skidmore. The ceremony will be followed by a reception at the Hotel Gotham.

Mrs. Jordan L. Mott, jr., gave a dinner last evening at the Ritz. Among her guests were Mrs. Vanderbilt, Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Alexander, Mrs. James A. Burden, Mrs. Lloyd Bryce, Mr. and Mrs. J. Sergeant Cram, William Travers Jerome and Nikola Tesla.

Owing to the ill health of Miss Margaret Winslow, daughter of Mrs. Francis Dana Winslow, her marriage to Gordon Williams, of Baltimore, which was to have taken place on April 11, has been postponed until the fall.

The last of the "Four Dances," organized by Miss Annabella Glyphant for girls not yet out, was held last night at No. 12 East 49th street. Dancing began about 8:30 o'clock, and lasted until 11 o'clock, when supper was served. Among those present were Miss Elizabeth S. M. Burrill, Miss Dorothy R. Chisolm, Miss Katherine Lamont, Miss Louisa Trevor, Miss Esther J. Auchincloss, John Rutherfurd, Lawrence N. Murray, Julien T. Davies, jr., Oliver C. Harriman and Livingston Parsons.

Mrs. Morris R. Volck gave a small luncheon yesterday at her residence, No. 829 Park avenue. Her guests were Mrs. Gustave F. Touchard, jr.; Miss Hazel Bache, Miss Katherine Moore, Miss Ada Bryce-Gray and Miss Josephine Green. Mrs. Volck will give luncheons on Tuesday and Friday of next week.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Palmer Knapp have returned to the city from Aiken, and are at their house, in Fifth avenue.

Mrs. Charles B. Alexander will give a dinner this evening at her house, in West 58th street, for Mr. and Mrs. Bradley Martin, who arrived from Europe yesterday on board the Mauretania.

Miss Sarah Cooper Hewitt will give a dinner to-night at her house, in Lexington avenue. Kinemacolor pictures of the Durbar will be shown to the guests, who will number about fifty.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Gordon Douglas have left town for Aiken, S. C.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Allen Townsend and the Misses Townsend have returned to the city from Panama.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Curtiss James will arrive in town to-day from the South.

Abbot A. Low, jr., who is to marry Miss Elizabeth Stewart Claflin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Claflin, on April 20, in the Church of the Ascension, will give his farewell bachelor dinner on April 13 at Delmonico's.

An Easter sale for the benefit of the Island Mission will be held on Monday afternoon, from 3 until 7 o'clock, at the house of Mrs. Cadwalader Jones, No. 21 East 11th street. There will be on sale baskets, hat stands, rugs, mats and other useful articles made by the inmates of the city hospitals and homes.

Jules S. Bache and Miss Hazel Bache are booked to sail for Europe on April 23. They will join