

Owned and published daily by the Tribune Association, a New York corporation; Ogdon M. Reid, President; Conde Hamilton, 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, \$3.70
Daily and Sunday, six months, \$20.00
Daily and Sunday, one year, \$35.00
Daily only, one month, \$1.25
Daily only, six months, \$7.50
Daily only, one year, \$12.50
Sunday only, one month, \$1.25
Sunday only, six months, \$7.50
Sunday only, one year, \$12.50

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DAILY AND SUNDAY: One month, \$4.50; six months, \$27.00; one year, \$45.00.
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DAILY ONLY: One month, \$3.25; six months, \$19.50; one year, \$32.50.

Entered at the Post Office at New York as Second Class Matter.
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"HOPES OF A GENERATION."

The hopes of a generation are realized in the birth of the new party, grandiloquently about the Third Termers at the beginning of their state platform. How blind, then, have been the leaders of the party to this need and hope. How happens it that while humanity was struggling on in the face of hope deferred they have so long been steadily defending the old parties?
It is easy to imagine the scorn which Mr. Roosevelt as a practical man would have shown to anybody who suggested that the birth of a new party was the hope of a generation while he was in the White House. Some will remember how he treated that hope when the idealists named him for Governor in 1898, fully understanding that he would run on their ticket as well as on "Boss" Platt's. While the hopes of a generation for the birth of a new party were clamoring for realization Mr. Roosevelt was keeping his present dearest foe, Mr. Barnes, in a federal office. Mr. Filim, of Pittsburgh, was seeking to make a deal with Senator Quay for the control of patronage and legislation, perhaps the most shocking and cynical ever put in writing by an American politician. Mr. Woodruff, of Brooklyn, was intemperate against reform within the Republican party and fighting direct nominations. Mr. Prendergast was using the patronage of the Controller's office frankly to reward the workers of a political machine and avowing that the demand of civil service reformers that all considerations of politics be put aside in making appointments, was hypocrisy. Mr. Hotchkiss was busy at Chicago, perfectly ready to condone "robbery" and kill the new party while yet unborn if the Republican factions could unite on a third candidate. With equal blindness Mr. Bourke Cockran was lending himself now to Murphy, now to Platt. Mr. John Palmeri, the new hope's candidate for Attorney General, was congenitally engaged in delivering Italian votes to Governor Odell until the Bar Association refused to acknowledge his fitness for judicial position. Mr. Oscar S. Straus was filling a high office under the administration of President Taft, all unwitting that for a generation the people's hope had been pinned on that party's destruction.

It must indeed be that "new birth" which Mr. Hotchkiss talks about which brings this sudden conviction to the leaders that what they have been doing for a generation was fighting the light. Yet, curiously enough, every one of them, especially their chief, would valiantly defend his former policy and thereby prove that there was no need of the new party till it suited their purposes to form one. So much for the "hopes of a generation."

MR. TAFT'S ECONOMIES.

Chairman Hill is right in saying that a public official usually finds that he has performed a thankless task when he imposes a check on the increase of expenditures. If he does not impose such a check opposition orators will ring the changes denouncing extravagance. But if he does they will ignore the subject, and the affirmative record of economies even when presented does not appeal to the imagination. Nevertheless we believe with Mr. Hill that President Taft's record of administrative efficiency and reform is one which sober minded citizens will come to appreciate in an increasing degree.

From 1882 to 1892 the ordinary expenses of the federal government increased at the rate of about 3 per cent a year. In the succeeding decennial period they increased about 4 per cent a year. Under the Presidency of Mr. Roosevelt the annual increase was almost 6 per cent. Mr. Taft has not only stopped this annual increase, which had so long seemed inevitable, but has actually brought about a decrease. Under Mr. Roosevelt the ordinary annual expenses of the government grew from about \$471,000,000 to \$682,000,000, an increase of \$191,000,000 in seven years. Mr. Taft has reduced them from \$682,000,000 to \$654,000,000.

This has been done in spite of the steady growth of the country and the necessary extension of governmental activities. Mr. Taft has maintained the departments in a high state of efficiency and has saved money not by cutting down or neglecting work, but by introducing business methods into its performance. Antiquated and loose systems have been revised, wastes eliminated, economies worked out in detail and executive ability brought to the dull routine of public office, as critics of government are always demanding in general terms that it should be. Candidates for office regularly promise to bring into administration those virtues of system and economy which are supposed to characterize

ize successful private business, but in power they too commonly forget such uninteresting details in the strife for more popular and spectacular achievements.
Political economists here and in other countries have long looked on the increase in cost of government, which has seemed to know no limit, as one of the great dangers of modern states. And it has appeared to be an unescapable danger, with the ever enlarging demands on government. Mr. Taft has actually stemmed the tide, met enlarging demands and more than saved the money to do it by persistent and patient fighting of the hoary notion that government work has to be carelessly and wastefully done. Possibly the American people are so rich that they do not care for such savings, but to judge from the loud lamentations of Mr. Taft's opponents over the economic burdens placed upon them we should not think so.

THE MAYOR REFUSES.

By refusing to appear before the aldermanic investigating committee voluntarily and aid in the investigation of the police graft Mayor Gaynor has thrown down the mask which he has lately assumed of willingness to co-operate with those who are seeking to expose and cure the evil. He is back now in the position where he was when he declined to permit the suspension of Becker until Becker was actually under arrest. He is an obstacle to reform, to the discovery of the truth and the scourging of the corrupt; though not perhaps a serious obstacle, because his course throughout this police scandal has deprived him of the confidence of the public.
The Mayor's excuses for not being willing to co-operate with the aldermanic committee will deceive no one. He refuses, not because he is averse to the aldermen, but because he is averse to an investigation. He behaves very much like a man who is afraid of the results of any and every inquiry that is being made into the relations between the criminal and the vicious and the police during his "personal liberty" administration of the Police Department. He treats every attack upon evil as an attack upon himself. He has refused to co-operate with the District Attorney, just as he has refused to co-operate with the aldermen, and he has done his best to undermine the District Attorney by charge and innuendo. But he has failed. Just as he will fail to shake confidence in the integrity of the aldermanic inquiry.

New York never had greater occasion to be ashamed of a Mayor than it has now, when its executive puts himself on the side of those who wish to keep graft hidden, by refusing to appear voluntarily before the investigators and by attacking the investigators.

UNCOVERING HIMSELF.

Governor Wilson showed a lamentable lack of political finesse in attacking ex-Senator "Jim" Smith's tariff record. It was all right to denounce Mr. Smith as an ex-boss and a typical machine politician. The Governor had already found playing that card profitable and popular. But he laid himself open to a crushing rejoinder when he abused Mr. Smith for practicing with a great deal of courage in the Senate in 1894 exactly the policy which the present Democratic candidate for President has been propounding in 1912.

If Mr. Wilson had not been slogging around recently at Buffalo and in this city, trying to give workmen in the manufacturing industries the impression that he is opposed to the sort of tariff reduction which will hurt anybody, and arguing that as Democrats are interested in all the industrial enterprises now conducted on a protective basis it is absurd to think that they would be willing to "injure themselves economically," there might be some excuse for his taking this high and mighty tone with Mr. Smith.

It is of particularly sinister import that Mr. Smith should seek to return to the Senate of the United States at this time. He was sent to the Senate once before when the tariff had been the chief issue of the national campaign and when the Democrats had for one in a generation an opportunity to relieve the people of intolerable burdens and the industry of the country of the trammels which bound it like a strait-jacket. Mr. Smith was one of a small group of Senators calling themselves Democrats who at that critical and hopeful juncture in our politics utterly defeated the programme of the party. His election now might bring the party face to face with a similar disaster and disgrace and would unquestionably render the satisfactory administration of the federal functions in New Jersey all but impossible for a Democratic President.

But what Mr. Smith did in 1894 is exactly what Mr. Wilson is talking about doing next year if he is elected President and a Democratic Congress is chosen to co-operate with him in revising the tariff. He has been contending, except when speaking to the farmers, that tariff revision must proceed very slowly and very cautiously. Business must not be embarrassed and tariff revisers must get it out of their heads that anything approaching free trade is possible of realization within a generation. Now, anybody who is familiar with the history of the tariff legislation of 1894 knows that, whether interestedly or disinterestedly, Mr. Smith stood for exactly those ideas in combating the crude, sweeping and destructive changes made in the tariff schedules by William L. Wilson and the House Democrats.

The critical schedule in the Wilson bill was the sugar schedule. The House made sugar free and struck down both the long established Louisiana cane industry and the promising beet sugar industry, then in its infancy. Mr. Smith stood for exactly those ideas in combating the crude, sweeping and destructive changes made in the tariff schedules by William L. Wilson and the House Democrats.
The Democratic candidate willing to say now that he favors the abolition of all duties on sugar? The House of Representatives passed a free sugar bill

last spring, calculating that it would be killed in the Senate. It was killed there, for most of the Democrats in the Senate held the same view which Mr. Smith held in 1894. They are for a high revenue duty, giving sufficient incidental protection to maintain the domestic industry. Governor Wilson has not arrayed himself with the House Democrats and against the Senate Democrats. He lacks the courage to be specific on the definite problems of tariff revision. Having not only failed to approve the House free sugar bill but also having talked about the foolishness of free trade in things now on the dutiable list, except things intended for the use of the farmer vote, he is clearly debarred from attacking Senator Smith's 1894 record.

If Governor Wilson wants to make capital out of Mr. Smith's "perfidy" he ought to produce a sufficiently contrasting record of his own. Let him say that he favors free sugar and the radical slashes all along the line of the tariff schedules which his namesake, William L. Wilson, projected and which Senators Smith, Gorman and Bruce checkmated, whether sincerely or insincerely, in the interest of political moderation and business stability.

PRACTICAL CONSERVATION.

It is a practical sort of conservation which President Taft has resorted to in withdrawing 37,000 acres of oil lands in the Elk Hills region of California for the exclusive use of the nation as a reserve supply of fuel oil for its navy. There is no room here for a quarrel about "locking up" resources or about the terms upon which they shall be developed. The oil lands will remain a property of the nation for the purposes of the national defence. They will supply oil, according to an estimate of their yield and of the rate at which fuel oil will be consumed in the navy, for twenty-five years; and in the navy oil is pretty sure to be the fuel of the future, the latest ships authorized being designed to burn it exclusively. Every one will applaud the President's foresight in rendering the navy of the country independent for a quarter of a century of the uncertainties with regard to this particular kind of fuel which will result from its extensive industrial use in the future.

This is one of the many acts of President Taft that have had the effect of putting conservation on a practical basis. The errors of the hasty withdrawals of the preceding administration, which had resulted in the reserving of land unsuited to the purposes for which it was reserved, were corrected and at the same time the domain withdrawn from exploitation by oil, mineral and forest speculators was vastly increased. Moreover, by outlining practicable plans for developing these reserved lands, while at the same time protecting the public interest in them, Mr. Taft has brought nearer the day when the present illogical system of checking enterprise will come to an end. He turned conservation from the religion of a few into a business operation of the whole people. Followers of the exclusive cult were shocked, but conservation is on a surer basis to-day than it ever was before.

THE NEW CURRENCY.

Preparations for revolutionizing the appearance of the government's paper money have gone ahead quietly, and before it knows it the public will be handling the new notes. People are likely to be critical of sudden changes in style on the part of old acquaintances, and possibly the new issues will be condemned by some simply because they lack the homely familiarity to which the public eye has been long accustomed.
Modifications in the designs of our gold coins have called forth a good deal of excited protest, and Congress not long ago rescinded a change ordered by the Treasury Department. Yet the average man sees gold coins only at long intervals, while he lives on terms of daily intimacy with the greenbacks. The changes in the outward aspect of these close companions are therefore likely to excite universal comment, and in that comment it would be foolish to expect at first a general note of commendation.
Secretary MacVeagh gives two good reasons for the alterations which he has planned. The printing of the new notes will cost \$1,000,000 a year less than the printing of the old ones, and the introduction of uniform and distinctive styles for all notes of the same denomination will make it much easier to distinguish and count them. Undoubtedly when the first shock is over we shall approve the reduction in size. Our currency is unacceptably large and is overcrowded with pictures and reading matter. Simpler and cleaner notes will prove more presentable.
The Secretary thinks also that he can introduce uniformity into the issues of the national banks, thus saving the banks much expense and coordinating the bank currency and the Treasury's own notes and certificates. The currency has been too variegated, and a return to simplicity and regularity is likely to be a relief after the public gets a little accustomed to the new sizes, figures and faces. If we can't reform the currency system we can at least give its circulating tokens a more attractive outward aspect.

MANSLAUGHTER.

Comment upon cases of manslaughter in reckless and unprofitable competitions in mere speed involves frequent and tedious repetition, justification of which must be found in the salutary principle that right should be as persistent as wrong and that rebuke and condemnation should unfailingly follow misdoing. If the same offense is repeated a thousand times, it should be passed upon it a thousand times, not with diminishing but with increasing emphasis.
Not often is there so repellent and inexcusable a record of manslaughter as that which was contained in yesterday's papers, as a result of "sports" of Sunday. Giving, because of the number of victims, first place to the butchery in Newark, it must be said, even at the risk of being charged

by some sentimentalist with harshness, that those who were killed died as the fool dies. The "speed demon" who was the chief actor was engaged in a performance in the highest degree to himself and to those about him, and to be so far as good to the world was pernicious, as useless as his chief, if not its sole, attraction, and therefore the reason for giving it, was that very peril. He was therefore deliberately risking his life and the lives of others for the sake of making money by catering to morbid appetites. Nor were the spectators much less culpable. They deliberately patronized and encouraged that useless and immoral risking of life simply for the gratification of passions akin to those which possessed the spectators at the Roman arena. They went there to see men risk their lives, and the greater risk the men ran the more the spectators were pleased.

The slaughter at an aviation meeting in France was perhaps less criminal, yet it was by no means excusable. We may grant that the aeroplane is a valuable invention, deserving of experimentation and further development. The patent fact is, however, that it still is, if it must not always be, an exceedingly perilous device, which should be used with the utmost prudence and caution in a scientific manner and for scientific purposes. To "do stunts" with it as a popular spectacle, in the presence of great crowds of people, just for the sake of catering to their unwholesome love of seeing risks run and mortal peril incurred, is for both performers and spectators inexcusably foolhardy.

In Newark, we are told, the rider lost control of his motorcycle. In France the aeroplane "got out of hand." At perhaps a dozen places automobiles recklessly run killed or maimed persons using them or in their way. So the story goes on from day to day. Surely the lesson should be plain to all who are not fools. These interesting and valuable devices are not devoid of peril even when they are being used legitimately and carefully. To try to use them not legitimately and carefully but in the most dangerous manner possible, for the sake of exploiting the peril, is criminal folly; and while legislation may be unable to prevent the procreation of criminals and fools there should be sufficient authority in government to prevent the public exploitation of potential and often actual manslaughter.

The number of part time children is always to be reduced, but never is.

Alderman Curran should keep the dignity of his inquiry in mind. He should let the Mayor make the mistakes. His honor can be counted on, we fear, to make plenty of them.
That Hoosier story about flavoring watermelons while they grow is old stuff. Out in Wayback Township, New Jersey, they tell of how Zeb Turnip tried it years ago, by injecting, as he supposed, maple syrup into the melons. Next day he sold a few at the village store, and that night the patch was raided and every melon, ripe or green, was stolen. And when Zeb looked into the cupboard he discovered that instead of maple syrup he had used Jersey lightning!

I state what I believe when I say that the man in the White House will not have a single state nor a single vote in the Electoral College.—Governor Johnson at Battle Creek.

The voice of the Bull Moose black-guard-in-ordinary who says that William H. Taft is "the most humiliating character in all American history." His prophecy is worthy of his appreciation.

Joseph Cassidy is also realizing the hope of a generation by organizing an independent party.
Perkins announces that he gets rosy reports of the Bull Moose uplift movement in the West. Meanwhile the Factory Investigation Commission continues to get far from rosy reports of the Harvester trust movement from the women who work at night in its Auburn factory under conditions which violate even the law made for their protection by the old "reactionary" parties.

When T. R. runs things they certainly do go with a bump.

Chemists say they can make a baking powder from the waste product of maple sugar. But where, oh where, is the maple sugar to furnish the waste product?

For some time to come nobody will have the courage to speak disrespectfully of the straw hat.

"Miss Margaret Valentine Kelly will resign as examiner of the mint, to 'marry an army officer.'"—News Item. From examiner to controller is a distinct advance.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

Except in the case of a serious accident it is usually a very trivial thing that upset a railway schedule. An instance of this occurred at a Harlem station of the Third avenue elevated road. A woman and a little girl were leaving the train, the new passengers coming on before the departing ones had quite reached the platform. The hanging tresses of the girl caught on a button of a coat worn by a man who was boarding the train. She yelled as her mother tried to pull her along. Then the woman began disentangling the hair from the button. It happened on the car platform and the guard fumed as he stood waiting to start the train. After much pulling the girl and most of her hair were freed. The train lost three minutes on its schedule.

Mrs. Muglins—My husband is the most unreasonable man. Mrs. Buglins—What has he done now? Mrs. Muglins—Well, I've been at him for six months to buy some new furniture for the drawing room, and what do you think? He told me last night he had just paid thousands of dollars for an old seat on the Stock Exchange.—Philadelphia Record.

Americans generally do not know of the effort in countries of the West Indies, Central America and South America to maintain social caste, sometimes as between rich and poor, and in some in-

stances between whites and negroes. Perhaps the most amusing of these efforts is in vogue in Curacao, Dutch West Indies. Curacao is surrounded by lagoons, which are spanned by toll bridges. The toll is a fractional part of an American cent. That is the usual fare, but there is an even smaller rate for those crossing the system to distinguish between the upper crust and the lower crust of society in the island and each appreciates the distinction.
Customer—I want to order a new suit for myself. Please measure my son.
Tailor—Your son?
Customer—Yes. You see, he wears my cast-off clothes, and the rascal always complains they do not fit him.—Leslie's Weekly.

"Part time!" the papers headline.
"Part time!" the teachers cry.
The architect of buildings admits it with a sigh.
"Part time!" the youngsters echo.
"Part time!" the bad boy hanks.
And hollers at the poor old guys who don't live in The Bronx.
E. N. F.

Fisherman—Here comes another dead fish. Pat: the river's full of them. What's the meaning of it?
Pat—Sure, I cannot tell at all, at all, sorr, unless it's this terrible rut and mouth disease.—Punch.

"I am no longer a believer in the unlucky Friday superstition," said a woman in an uptown drug store on that day, showing to the cashier a purse which, she said, contained "a lot of money." She had gone into the store to use the public telephone, paid five cents, and after walking several blocks returned for a glass of soda water. Then she discovered that she had lost her purse and made a rush for the booth which she had occupied and in which several people had been since then. A man was talking, "and," so ran her story, "on the ledge where it touched the man's elbow was my purse. I grabbed it so quickly the man never knew anything about it." "Whom will you reward?" asked the girl cashier.
"I don't know," she said, "but I'm glad I did not resist the desire for a phosphate drink."

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Mrs. Charles H. Berningham, of Manaroneck, N. Y., announces the engagement of her daughter, Miss Marguerite Berningham, to Philip Farrington Hall, of Boston. Miss Berningham is a daughter of the late Lieutenant Charles Lloyd Berningham U. S. N. Mr. Hall is a son of General George Franklin Hall, of Boston, and is a member of the class of '08 Harvard.

HAS HE MADE A MISTAKE?

If So, Will Some Progressive Kindly Step up and Say So?

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Persons discussing apparent political differences that may exist between Taft and Mr. Roosevelt sometimes make the mistake of taking Mr. Roosevelt to task because four years ago he is said to have "selected" Mr. Taft as his successor and now opposes his reelection to the Presidency. Mr. Taft has no inherent right to a re-election, and if Mr. Roosevelt knows Mr. Taft to be incompetent or disloyal it is his duty to oppose him, and he should be commended for doing so. The Executive office is not a gift of friendship. But is Mr. Taft either incompetent or disloyal? I may have my opinion on this matter and yet treat my opponent with respect. Mr. Roosevelt's opinion is that of a man who should be especially entitled to respectful assent, but is it not possible that this opinion is not altogether a disinterested one? But let's treat him fairly.

If Mr. Roosevelt "selected" a leader of the people who is not qualified for leadership, Mr. Roosevelt made a mistake. Will either Mr. Roosevelt or his close adherents agree that he has made any mistakes in public service? But if he has made so great a blunder as the previous "selection" of Mr. Taft is represented to have been, is it not possible that his future public life may be characterized by fully as serious errors of judgment?

E. S. S.
Ocean Grove, N. J., Sept. 5, 1912.

T. R. AND DR. ANNA SHAW.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I cannot refrain from asking you to kindly allow me space in your paper to give my views of the stand that Dr. Anna Shaw has taken in regard to Colonel Roosevelt and the Progressive party's reasons for inserting in their platform a plank in favor of "Votes for Women."

I am, and have been for years, in favor of woman's suffrage, and have always considered Miss Shaw a very estimable and exceedingly intelligent woman; therefore, I am now very much surprised to read of her (to my mind) very unfair remarks as to Mr. Roosevelt's coming out for woman's suffrage. All other men with having done just what all good, thoughtful people should do, Miss Shaw only states that she is no Bull Mosser, but does not give us the satisfaction of telling us what candidate or party she does favor. If she favors the Prohibitionists, there is a shadow of a reason for condemning Mr. Roosevelt, because that party has been for years advocating woman's suffrage; she should favor the Prohibitionists. If all those who now and henceforth declare in favor of woman's suffrage are to be insulted in this way Dr. Shaw is doing her very utmost to keep people from joining the ranks of the suffragists.
M. A. W.
New York, Sept. 5, 1912.

THE DOGCART'S PEDIGREE.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Among some paragraphs under the heading of "Stories About Words" in your issue of the 4th inst. there was one giving the erroneous information that the word "dogcart" was derived from the fact that these cars were "literally drawn by dogs until prohibited, in 1833, by act of Parliament, and were the working-man's usual means of taking a run into the country."

Mr. Pennycuik had of a truth great powers of invention to fall back on when his erudition failed him. The statement about the act of Parliament I believe to be correct, but that has nothing to do with the dogcarts then and now in use in England and often seen in this country. The dogcart was not drawn by dogs, but carried them—quite a difference—in a compartment under the driver's seat. It came into fashion long before the days of batteries, when pheasants and partridges were walked up over dogs, and it was essential that the latter should arrive on the ground selected for the day's shooting in the freshest possible condition, untired by a long previous walk.

This is a very simple explanation without the fanciful remark about the working-man's country outing. I wonder if he has mixed all of this up with the London costermonger's donkey cart? They both begin with a "D" and further inquiry may have seemed superfluous.
V. DE G.
Highwood, N. J., Sept. 5, 1912.

AS USUAL.

Two couples of deaf-mutes were wed in Baltimore in the sign language, which gave the officiating reporter a great chance to say that they were quietly married.

NEW YORK SOCIETY.

Mr. and Mrs. Elbridge T. Gerry and the Misses Gerry sail to-day for Europe on board the Kronprinzessin Cecilie.

Miss Lilla Gilbert's marriage to Howard P. Renshaw, which was set for November 21, has been postponed sine die. Miss Gilbert was announced as having left town with her mother, Mrs. Bramhall Gilbert, on Thursday last for Paris to obtain her trousseau, but did not sail.

Mrs. H. McK. Twombly and Miss Twombly went yesterday to Manchester, Mass., to stay with Mrs. Twombly's married daughter, Mrs. William A. M. Burden.

Mrs. Adolf Ludenberg and her daughter, Miss Eugenie Ludenberg, have arrived at The Oasis, their place at Westbury, Long Island, for the fall.

Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont returned yesterday from Newport, R. I., to her country seat at Hempstead, Long Island.

Mrs. John Astor, with her son Vincent and her daughter Muriel, is now at Munich, at the Continental Hotel.

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AT NEWPORT.

(By Telegraph to The Tribune.)

Newport, Sept. 9.—Mr. and Mrs. William Goadby Loew left to-day for Roanoke, Long Island, and their children will follow later in the week. Mr. and Mrs. John Sanford left for New Amsterdam, N. Y., and Mrs. Oliver H. P. Belmont and Stanley Mortimer for New York.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Pepper Vaux, who have been season guests of Mr. and Mrs. Theodore W. Cramp, left for Philadelphia, and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph E. Widener closed their season and started for Elkton Park. Mrs. George D. Widener and P. A. B. Widener will follow on Thursday.

Mrs. Hamilton McK. Twombly has closed her season and, with her daughter, Miss Ruth Twombly, has left for New York. They will attend the Webb-Osburn wedding at Gardons, afterward going to the Twombly home at Convent, N. J.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Stevens are to close their season on Friday, when they will go to Bernardsville, N. J. Dr. and Mrs. Richard V. Mattison are to remain until the end of September, Mrs. Stilson Hutchins, Mrs. J. J. Wyson and Mrs. Benjamin Thaw until October, and Mrs. James P. Kernochan and Mr. and Mrs. William E. Glynn until November.

Mrs. Hamilton Fish Webster entertained at dinner to-night in honor of Mrs. George W. Vanderbilt, and Mrs. Richard T. Wilson was a luncheon hostess to-day. Colonel William Jay gave a luncheon at the Clam bake Club.

SEVENTY YEARS A TEACHER

Oldest Instructor Back at Desk on Eighty-eighth Birthday.

(By Telegraph to The Tribune.)

Philadelphia, Sept. 9.—Dr. Zephaniah Hopper, who has devoted more time to the profession of teaching than any other man in history, celebrated his eighty-eighth birthday to-day by teaching a class at the Boys' Central High School, in which institution he has been a professor for fifty-five years.

The venerable educator has been connected with the schools of this city for exactly seventy years. During that time he has taught thousands of boys who later became lawyers, doctors, engineers, mayors, governors and statesmen.

To-day when he mounted the platform at the Central High School he was cheered by the boys and congratulated by some of the most prominent of Philadelphia's citizens.

SKYSCRAPERS A MENACE

State Fire Marshal Wants Them Restricted to Certain N. Y. Districts.

Albany, Sept. 9.—That the height of buildings in New York City should be restricted by law, except in localities where the menace of conflagration is not continuously imminent, was the substance of a statement to-day by State Fire Marshal Albert.

"In certain streets in New York City," said Mr. Albert, "buildings of unusual height would prove a menace to structures surrounding them in case of fire."

A GOOD RULE.

From The Buffalo Express.

Chicago has an ordinance requiring automobiles to stop eight feet from a standing structure. Because of disregard of this ordinance automobiles killed one person outright and seriously injured another one day this week. The Chicago police have followed the police of Buffalo in deciding to enforce that ordinance.

HE WAS THE BIG CHIEF.

From The Washington Star.

No grater can grow so great that the shade of "Boss" Tweed will not arise to make him look like a collector of small change.

REGISTERED AT THE CASINO.

Mr. and Mrs. Preston Gibson have returned from a visit to Mr. and Mrs. Henry Draper at Manchester.

J. Pierpont Morgan made a short visit here to-day on his steam yacht, the Corsair. He arrived in the morning and sailed later in the day.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry A. C. Taylor left for New York to-day