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Our Distinguished Visitor.

Dr. Lauro Muller, the foreign minister of Brazil, who is in the United States on a visit of friendship and diplomacy, ranks as one of the foremost constructive statesmen, not only of Latin America, but of all nations.

Dr. Muller is due in this city June 10, and it is the opinion of John Barrett, director of the Pan-American Union, that the significance of the visit cannot be overestimated.

Representatives of the President, the State, War, and Navy Departments, and the Pan-American Union will receive him at Norfolk and escort him to Washington.

Dr. Muller helped to abolish slavery in Brazil, to establish the republic, and he was one of the signers of the constitution of that republic.

They Repent at Leisure.

Seattle, Tacoma, and Spokane, the three flourishing cities of Washington, have had some strenuous experiences with the recall.

I have no fear of a recall election should I be compelled to face one; but if there are 5,000 or 6,000 voters in this city who will ask a public official to stand for re-election because he did what he deemed to be his duty, then I am ready to step down.

The Oregonian states that the recall is to be invoked in Spokane because the Mayor "reduced" the wages of the city teamsters, while in Tacoma a referendum is under way to "raise" the teamster's wages.

It looks as if Attorney General McReynolds is about to overrule the Supreme Court, which said the Standard Oil Company had been dissolved.

Haiti has been improving her navy. The smokestack has been patched and has been given a much-needed coat of paint.

The Mikado of Japan has recovered, although he had eight doctors in attendance.

We have an idea that with some church members the most popular pastor is the one who takes the longest vacation.

The German paper which said that King George and the Czar look like twins was probably trying to stir up a war between Russia and Great Britain.

How would it do to convert the Atlanta Federal prison into a sanatorium? Look what it did for C. W. Morse.

Reform suffers when two reformers demand the same job.

How splendid it will be to have a whole year without any news of Jack Johnson.

Everybody is rapping the unwrapped bread.

Just one or two more, and Nat Goodwin's matrimonial affairs will be at sixes and sevens.

Sometimes beauty isn't even skin deep. We have known it to blow off in a strong wind.

The outlook of making good the shortage by increased domestic production does not seem bright, and in-

evitably we shall have to draw on foreign sources. The imports of beef cattle from Canada last year amounted to 325,717 head, an increase of 25 per cent over the previous year, and the total was but little more than the number received at Denver, the tenth in rank of our more important interior markets.

A Prejudiced School Board.

They surge have strange ideas on the New York school board, and it would be quite interesting to know how the superintendent of the public school system of that great city means to defend his declination to appoint a woman to be the principal of a high school for girls.

In selecting men to head the new high schools for girls in New York the board has simply ignored the claims of six women who applied for the work and were recommended as fit for the job.

The old preference for male principals was decisive, because men are believed by their very sternness to command more ready obedience.

A Point in Japan's Favor.

In view of the declaration of the Japanese minister of foreign affairs that no legal action would be instituted by Japan in connection with the California alien land legislation until the end of August, when the new law becomes effective, public opinion in this country was unprepared for the declination of the Japanese government, as expressed in its latest note, to initiate a test in our own courts of the constitutionality of the anti-alien statute.

Japan, however, is within her rights in insisting that it is not for her to enter into our courts to determine the limitations of sovereignty inherent in the several States or to compel a performance of our treaty obligations.

The emphasis of the Japanese note, like that of the original protest, is placed on the racial questions involved in the right of international equality. Presumably, Japan is of the same mind as Germany, Italy, and other European countries in regard to the privilege of a subject to abjure allegiance to his sovereign.

The inconsistency is between our naturalization laws and the declared fundamental principles of the republic.

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STATESMEN, REAL AND NEAR

By FRED C. KELLY.

Senator Chilton is a great friend of the page boys about the Senate chamber. Some time ago he inquired of a bright-looking little chap how he put in his spare time.

"Well, now, there's some sense in that," commended Chilton. "A boy who reads so much is certain to get ahead in the world. That's splendid!"

And he was about to give the lad a special talk about the value of good books when they were interrupted.

"Indeed, sir," the boy always replied, "I devote every spare moment I have to reading."

"Chilton told some of his colleagues about this, and all agreed that the youngster had a bright future before him.

"And by the way," Chilton chanced to inquire one day, "what books do you read mostly?"

"Oh, I don't read books at all," replied the boy, "I never get time for that, sir. You see, sir, where I board they take three different Sunday papers, and I take up all week to get those read through."

Eugene Wood, the writer, used to work on the Chicago News, years ago, when "Butch" White was the city editor.

"Well, congratulations!" "On what?" asked White, looking up and starting at him.

"I was married last night," announced Wood, still beaming.

"Congratulations!" repeated White. "You're getting married on your salary? Congratulations, you nothing. I'll fire you, that's what I'll do. You're discharged!"

A. Mitchell Palmer, the Gibsonesque, featured Pennsylvania member, who is the leading machine idol of the House, and who is supposed to have declined a place as Secretary of War in the Wilson Cabinet, on the ground that he is a Quaker and stands for peace.

He had a funny system about Congress in the district that A. Mitchell had. No one was supposed to have more than one term, and the party leaders picked their Congressmen years in advance. It was a good deal like the futurity stakes in which one bets on race horses yet unborn.

The rotation system, they called it, and as the system grew to pick the order of Congressmen ahead of time, nobody, not even little children, felt safe. If the thing went on, a boy playing marbles in a side street could have no assurance that the party leaders had not tagged him to forsake home and friends and go to Congress in D.C.

Palmer was picked long before he actually got the nomination, and by the time he entered the House, the schedule of his successors was mapped out clear up to the opening of the Panama Canal or thereabouts.

The more Palmer thought about it after he got down here, the more it seemed to him that the rotation system might work a hardship on those who had made old arrangements. Suppose, for example, that a young man had planned to devote his life to being a high grade shoe salesman, and the party leaders, not knowing this, picked him out to run for Congress. The man would have to give up his career just to satisfy a silly precedent.

It seemed to Palmer, was a man with patriotic impulses willing to forsake private ambitions and stay in Congress indefinitely. He racked his brain for the name of some good man to take the permanent job of Representative. Who should it be? All of a sudden a name flashed in his mind. A. Mitchell Palmer! The very man! It was funny he hadn't thought of him before.

So A. Mitchell went and told the leaders just to cancel the other names for the next few terms and to get their sleep nights instead of sitting up fretting over the rotation problem.

And, would you believe it, they told A. Mitchell they wouldn't think of letting him do more than his share of going to Congress—that it would simply make

ALDERMEN TO AGREE ON LIQUOR LICENSE

Board Will Pass the Bill on Tuesday Night, Is the Current Report.

NEWS NOTES OF ALEXANDRIA

Alexandria, Va., June 8.—According to a well founded report the Board of Aldermen, Tuesday night, at the regular meeting of the City Council, will pass the bill for the liquor license.

In the event the Aldermen do this they will set at rest a much-debated question which has been hanging fire for some time past, and which has caused considerable comment on both sides.

When the annual license bill was first presented to the City Council, it among other increases, carried an increase of \$100 on the liquor dealers, raising their license from \$150 to \$250. The bill first passed the lower branch of the City Council, however, when it came before the Aldermen that body amended it by restoring the liquor license to the figures prevailing last year.

Next the bill, as amended, came before the Common Council for its consideration. That body nonconcurring in the action of the Aldermen and since then nothing has been done in the matter.

One month from today, or July 8 next, the voters of this city and Alexandria County will be called upon to participate in a primary for the purpose of nominating a candidate for the State Legislature to represent this city and county in that body. The candidates seeking the nomination are J. Fred Hirsch, H. M. Marchant and Alexander J. Wedderburn, both of this city, who are opposing J. Taylor Elyson for the office of Lieutenant Governor, are also making an active fight in this city. They will shortly make the fight State-wide, it is stated.

In addition to the four criminal cases which will be presented to a grand jury in the Corporation Court tomorrow, the names of a number of merchants doing business here without paying the required license tax will also be presented to the jury for its consideration.

Examinations in Schools.

The annual examinations in the public schools of the city will begin tomorrow. This week marks the closing of the present scholastic year, as the schools will be closed beginning June 15. The Alexandria High School will hold its finals June 16, at night. Many of the private schools of the city will also close this week.

The Chamber of Commerce, at its monthly meeting tomorrow night, will consider for its agenda the question of securing for this city the proposed armor plant, as provided for in the bill introduced by Senator Ashurst of Arizona, now before Congress. Many other matters also will be considered at this meeting.

The work of erecting a club house for the Alexandria Motor Boat Club will be begun tomorrow morning by Contractor Joseph Rogers. The club house will be a two-story frame structure and will be completed within the next month or six weeks.

A large delegation of Confederate Veterans and members of the various women's auxiliaries today attended the Confederate memorial exercises at Arlington Cemetery.

The children's day exercises, held tonight by the Sunday school of the Methodist Protestant Church at that church, were largely attended and an interesting programme given.

Very Inconsiderate.

Mabelle—What makes the leading lady so grouchy?

Estelle—She had counted on making a big hit with her divorce case this season, and just as she was about to bring proceedings her husband had to go and die.

Mabelle (indignantly)—Now, isn't that just like a man?

The Husky Man's Enjoyment.

From Judge: Jackson—Where? That's some cliff! Johnson—Seems to fascinate you. Jackson—Yes. That's the way my desk will look when I get back.

Flowers on Confederate Graves.

Settle the fragrant blossom, Bathed in a people's tears, O'er the graves where heroes Sleep through the lapse of years.

Tenderly drew the roses, O'er each warrior's bed, Rows of white and crimson, O'er the southern dead.

Who for their people's freedom Fearlessly fought and died, O'er the graves where heroes Tosses of love and pride.

Love for their grand devotion, Pride in their knightly deeds, As through a mist of glory, Severed memory leads.

And to your silent prayer, Go to your soldier's bow, But with the souls of freedom, Standing next and proud.

Revered the army rows, Scatter the roses out, Where, O'er the dead trumpet, Number the Southern dead.

—HENRY HOWARD MORTON.

Court Gossip of Interesting Events on Two Continents

(Copyright, 1913, by A. D. Jacobson.) The Civil Tribunal of the Seine has granted a divorce to Baroness Vaughan, the morganatic wife of the late King Leopold of the Belgians, who married M. Emile Durieux in August, 1910. She started divorce proceedings in 1911, but after some time withdrew her suit. Recently she lodged a new suit.

There have been strange stories of her marriage to King Leopold, one being that the King's summer palace, near Brussels, during his last illness. King Leopold supplied her with a sumptuous villa on the Riviera, and left her an enormous fortune, consisting of the most famous Congo securities and the famous Niederuldbach foundation, all of which led to protracted litigation.

The late Mr. Pierpont Morgan left among his vast collection of unique articles the only perfect copy in existence of Caxton's "Morie d'Arthur." It is one of the rarest books in the world, and fell to the late millionaire at a public sale in London for the tremendous price of \$1,500. That is to say, that every page is worth about \$50.

There is a story of the unearthing of a Caxton's "Morie d'Arthur" in a Throckmold Hall, Lincolnshire. The butler was entrusted with the work of weeding out superfluous books. A perfect copy of "Morie d'Arthur" was discovered by the butler in a bookcase. The book had been hidden behind him the record price, \$1,500. In 1813 this book had fetched \$121 1/2.

The most valuable printed book in the world is the first ever issued from the press—a Gutenberg Bible. But even in these early days there were "editions." An ordinary paper copy, with three leaves "restored" fetched \$1,500 the last time it appeared on the market, but at a recent sale a sensation was caused by the unearthing of a fine copy on vellum printed by the first printer.

I see that Mr. Winston Churchill has become an "older brother" of the Trinity House. Apparently there is no age qualification for this dignity. A young elder brother, with a restless and inquiring mind like Mr. Churchill might find some useful openings for the reforming hand in this venerable institution.

The real work of Trinity House, which consists of administering the coast beacons, licensing the pilots, and looking after certain marine charities, is carried out by the masters and few laymen officials. The small dues collected from shipowners maintain the ancient corporation, which explains the prolongation of its anomalous existence. If its revenue had to be found by a general taxation, as in the case of other analogous public services, the functions of Trinity House would have long since passed into the hands of the Board of Trade, and the last elder brother would have long since "crossed the bar."

The death of Dowager Lady Lichfield, who was the eldest child, was married in 1820 to the second Earl of Lichfield, whom she survived more than twenty years. She was a familiar figure among the elite of society during many seasons.

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ROADS CONSTRUCTION WILL SOLVE PROBLEM

Former Senator Bourne Says Construction Would Prevent Congestion of Population.

Hon. Jonathan Bourne, jr., chairman of the Joint Committee on Federal Aid in the Construction of Post Roads, yesterday gave out the following statement:

"With city population increasing three times as fast as rural population and production of food stuffs not near keeping pace with increase in population, there surely is need in make firm life more rural, and the nation more profitable. The problem is one of national importance, for congestion of population in cities is a national evil. Upon country life we depend chiefly for our moral character that make a nation great."

"In the effort to halt the drift of men and women toward the city, no public undertaking will add more than improvement of highways, for good roads destroy the isolation of country life, improve market opportunities and decrease the cost of hauling farm products to town."

"To meet the situation, I have suggested a plan of Federal aid to good roads, designed to unite the nation and to secure a rural vision of the future of \$2,000,000,000 in fifty years for road construction and maintenance."

Even the Convicts Laughed.

Here is a story the Kansas City Journal says is being checked out by Gov. Hodges:

"The first time I saw the Governor he was only State Senator. He was called to Leavenworth to inspect the penitentiary, and as an official duty for the first time. The warden, by way of giving a special treat to the prisoners, had collected 700 or 800 of them in the assembly hall, and an official was requested the Senator to address them. Mr. Hodges was as president in politics as he is now. He was plainly somewhat embarrassed and hesitated a minute.

"My fellow-convicts—"

"By that time the prisoners were smiling. Mr. Hodges frowned his formal manner and smiled, too.

"Well, I don't know exactly how to address you, boys," he amended, "but I'm mighty glad to see so many of you here."

then standing in the wings and prompting him. He helped Washington through two terms and then suggested that Adams be elected. Adams then proposed to Terrell all of Hamilton's friends in the government and during the next election, without Hamilton's help, he ran like a stone dog set in concrete. Jefferson and Burr did for the Presidency and Hamilton persuaded Congress to elect Jefferson.

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