resentatives of the official world. The American ambassador and Mrs. Page were among those present.

Large Attendance of House Members

The opening of the house of commons found an unusually large number of members gathered at the doors, waiting to make a dash into the chamber to secure seats for the momentous initial debate.

The doors were thrown open at 8 o'clock this morning instead of at midnight, as is usually the case. Among the earliest to arrive were groups of Ulster unionists and of their bitter opponents, the Irish nationalists, and these, for the first day at least, were able to capture prominent places in the house.

The police and soldiers, whose duties on these occasions heretofore have been largely perfunctory, were kept busy for several hours early today searching every corner of the cellars and vaults for suffragettes. This searching process has been done on the opening day of the session ever since the discovery of the "gunpowder plot" of Guy Fawkes.

The yeomen of the guard, in their picturesque old-time uniforms, were accompanied today by the chief inspectors of the metropolitan police, who discarded the ancient lanterns generally carried and replaced them with modern electric torches so as to make sure that no hidden militant should escape them.

BISHOP HELD PRISONER BY LONDON SUFFRAGETTES

Determined to Prevent Him From Attending Session of House Lords.

LONDON, February 10.—The militant suffragettes made a strong effort today to prevent the Bishop of London from attending the opening session of the house of lords, of which he is a member. They made him the first victim of their new campaign of molesting public men. Their ire was particularly directed against the bishop for his alleged exoneration of the government in his report on the prison treatment of suffragettes.

The bishop's residence in St. James square was picketed early in the day by the women. Two of them acted as sentinels on the doorstep. Two other women, Miss Dunlop and Miss May Richardson, then tried to gain access to the bishop, but the house door was slammed in their faces.

The knots of spectators meanwhile remained outside enjoying the scene and awaiting the result of the bishop's exit or his temporary prison.

On the route from Buckingham palace to the house of lords the authorities took strictest precautions to prevent any attempt on the part of the suffragettes to break up the procession or reach the king with a petition.

WOULD END ULSTER PROBLEM.

Sir Horace Plunkett Suggests Novel Plan for Settling Trouble.

LONDON, February 10.—Sir Horace Plunkett, noted for his advocacy of agricultural co-operation and technical education, and whose opinion in Irish matters carries great weight with all parties, outlines in the Daily Mail a novel plan for settling the Ulster problem. He is firmly of the opinion that the passage of the home rule bill will, as it stands, lead to serious sectarian riots, perhaps to civil war in Ulster, and to avert such a disaster he proposes that the Ulster unionists should accept the bill upon three conditions:

First, that a clause should be inserted enabling it to be decided by a plebiscite, after a certain number of years, whether any section of Ulster desired to continue subject to the Irish parliament.

Second, That both sections of Irishmen should be invited to suggest to the government any amendments which could be incorporated in the bill by consent.

Third, That the Ulster volunteers should be given an opportunity to become organized as a territorial force, with the double object of adding a valuable body to the nation's defensive forces and preserving intact for the Ulster unionists an ultimate safeguard on which, rightly or wrongly, they can rely for the preservation of their liberties.

Sir Horace contends that acceptance of this scheme would furnish a valuable experiment for the various sides in the home rule difficulty.

DIES BILL IS AIMED AT CIVIL SERVICE EMPLOYES

Limits Their Tenure of Office and Denies Them Pensions or Allowance of Claims.

Representative Dies of Texas today introduced a bill which would prevent all civil service employes from receiving pensions at any time, and even from collecting claims against the government from circumstances arising in the government service.

The bill would limit the tenure of office of all civil service employes of the United States to ten years, but would allow political henchmen to retain office as long as they could retain their "political" pull.

It also provides a method by which civil service employes may be dropped by stating that the tenure of office shall be ten years, "unless sooner terminated" by legal authority. The bill states:

"When it shall appear that any civil service employe has been in service ten years from the date of the final passage of this act, his name shall automatically be dropped from the pay rolls of the government." The bill further states, "and no pension or other gratuity shall ever be paid by the government to any civil service employe or person previously so employed on account of services rendered while in the civil service employ of the United States."

NEW HOME FOR FORESTERS.

Building to Be Erected at 13½ and B Streets Southwest.

Work will be commenced almost immediately on a new building for the forest service of the Department of Agriculture at the corner of 13½ and B streets southwest. The building in all probability will be nine stories high, making it the tallest of the rented buildings occupied by the department.

There will be about 80,000 square feet of floor space, which is decidedly more than the forest service is now occupying in the Atlantic building, on F street. This probably means that the forest service will share the new building with some other bureau of the department. The new structure will be of fireproof construction and white, to correspond in general color with other new buildings of the department.

BILLS ON INSURANCE.

Board of Trade Committee Considering Measures Before Congress.

Consideration of bills relating to insurance now pending before Congress will be undertaken and a report thereon made to the full insurance committee of the Washington Board of Trade at its meeting next Monday afternoon, by a special subcommittee just appointed for the purpose. Those comprising the special committee are George R. Linkins, W. A. Brown, J. Spring Poole, William H. West and Albert F. Fox.

The bills which will receive special consideration from this body are Senate bill 2589 and House bill 5668, having to do with the regulation of the insurance business from that of real estate.

COMMERCE BODIES TO AMALGAMATE

Directors of Executives and Secretaries' Associations Hold Conference Here.

BUSINESS CONDITIONS IMPROVING STEADILY

Irving C. Norwood Cites Marked Resumption of Manufacturing Activities.

IRVING C. NORWOOD.

Amalgamation of the American Association of Commercial Executives and the Central Association of Commercial Secretaries is assured as a result of a series of conferences just held by the directors of the two organizations at the New Willard as a preliminary to the convening of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. The name of the consolidated organization will be the American Association of Commercial Secretaries, the dues will be largely increased, an efficient paid secretary will be employed and the association will become a clearing house for information concerning city building and secretarial effort.

The directors of the two associations who completed the consolidation program at an all-day session yesterday are Irving C. Norwood of Davenport, Iowa; W. G. Bruce of Milwaukee, Wis.; H. V. Eva of Duluth, Minn.; C. M. Clendenning of Kansas City, Mo.; W. E. Holmes of Sioux City, Iowa; Willis Evans of Peoria, Ill., and S. Christy Mead of New York city.

Subjects to Be Discussed.

A constructive program for the four-day session of the consolidated organization, which will be held next September in either Chicago, Cleveland or Milwaukee, also was agreed upon by the directors yesterday. The subjects upon which formal papers will be read and open discussions held are: "Economic Problems of the Commercial Secretary," "Commercial Clubs and Civic Affairs," "Fighting Fraudulent Charities," "Commercial Association Advertising," "Relationship Between the Chamber of Commerce of the United States and Local Promotion Organizations," "Is the Employement of Membership Solicitors Practical?" "What Constitutes an Efficient Commercial Organization?" "Factors in Securing Factories," "Conventions—Their Value and Their Cost" and "Promotional Effort and the Press."

Goodwin to Be Invited.

Before leaving Washington the directors of the two secretarial associations will call upon Secretary Elliott Goodwin of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States and urge him to attend the September convention of the consolidated organizations and read a paper describing the functions of the national chamber and the relations that should exist between that body and the local promotion organizations that form its membership. Some of the directors are inclined to believe that this potential relationship has not been taken advantage of to the fullest extent by the national chamber, and that as a result maximum efficiency has not been attained.

All of the commercial executives who attended the directors' meeting yesterday will remain for the sessions of the national chamber. They are a unit in expressing the belief that business conditions are improving steadily, and that there is every indication of a return to normal activity in all lines within sixty or ninety days.

Confidence Is Restored.

"In the middle west," said Irving C. Norwood of Davenport, "confidence has been restored and as a result manufacturers and the business world in general view the immediate future optimistically. There has been a marked resumption of manufacturing activities in our section since the passage of the banking and currency law, and the interest rate on industrial loans has been materially reduced. An industrial committee, such as I represent, is extremely sensitive to business conditions, as is evidenced by the fact that during the period of money stringency and industrial depression which began last summer and lasted until the first of the year we found very few manufacturers who were willing to discuss extensions or removals, while the passage of the currency act and the rapid return to normal conditions has resulted in a flood of applications from factories in all sections of the country that are desirous of moving nearer to their market and securing a middle west location for distribution purposes."

Davenport Leads.

In view of the gathering of commercial executives in Washington just now, it is explained that Davenport, Iowa, a city of 50,000 population, contributes a larger per capita sum for community promotion work than any other city in the United States. The organizations represented by Mr. Norwood have a permanent publicly subscribed investment of $250,000 and an annual publicly subscribed income of $50,000. This is a record that recent investigations indicate, it is declared, is not equaled save by Saskatoon, Canada, a city of 20,000, where more than $1,000,000 has been raised for promotion purposes, and where the municipal slogan is, "We have no old inhabitants to handicap us."

Thomas Hardy, Novelist, Weds.

LONDON, Eng., February 10.—Thomas Hardy, the British novelist, author of "Far From the Madding Crowd" and "Tess of the d'Urbervilles" and many other works known throughout the world, today married Miss Dugdale, his secretary and typist. Mr. Hardy's first wife died in 1912. He is in his seventy-fourth year.

Warship's Crank Shaft Cracked.

NORFOLK, Va., February 10.—Detailed examination of the battleship Vermont, which recently became crippled while en route home after a Mediterranean cruise, shows that in addition to other trouble the battleship's compressed crank shaft is cracked. The Vermont is now at the Norfolk yard.

FRAMES PROGRAM FOR CONVENTION

(Continued from First Page.)

tween these forces on matters of common interest. Our great questions are now in the field of federal legislation.

"Twenty years ago our business men were not so much impressed with this fact as they are today. As their organization became effective and the business men began to study conditions affecting business prosperity they have found that the results of national legislation really do reach back into every city and town and village, into every industry and every line of commerce, directly or indirectly.

"The industries of the country are interdependent. Whatever affects one fundamentally in any large way is bound to react on many others. This fact is being realized by business men generally today. They are no longer content to criticise and find fault with new proposals concerning the country's business, and our people as a whole.

Defends Lawmakers.

"Here and there you find a tired, overwrought or impatient man, who inveighs against our representatives and senators and legislators generally. He declares that they do not know anything about the business, but continually make laws vitally affecting the industrial welfare of the nation, without any conception of their effect. Of course, there is occasion for this complaint, but I believe that we all know that the great majority of our lawmakers are seeking earnestly and patriotically to serve the country to the best of their ability; they have no wish to disturb or destroy business.

"Wherever legislation for reform in business is advanced it is almost always for the purpose of correcting some wrong or fancied wrong. If the wrong exists, it is to our interest as business men to help in its elimination. If the proposal to cure the difficulty is unsound, we should point out that fact and help to find the right kind of a remedy.

"If there is no wrong, and therefore no need for legislation, an honest and logical presentation of the facts will be respectfully heard and considered by a Congress or legislature. When any body of lawmakers reaches that point where it deals with questions on the basis of prejudice alone, when its actions are influenced by the desire of its members to grind their own axes, you may be sure that the public will appreciate the fact sooner or later, and apply the remedy."

Dinner for H. A. Wheeler.

The directors of the chamber gathered at the New Willard Hotel last night, giving a dinner in honor of Harry A. Wheeler of Chicago, president of the organization and presenting him with a set of solid silver plates as a testimonial of their regard and in recognition of his services to the body.

Mr. Wheeler has expressed his intention of not again accepting the presidency of the organization, a position he has held for two terms. A. B. Farquhar of York, Pa., vice president, presided last night, and during his remarks as toastmaster gave much credit to Mr. Wheeler for the remarkable growth of the chamber since its inception two years ago. He said that Mr. Wheeler had given 60 per cent of his time, taking that much from his own business, to foster the chamber, without recompense and at a financial loss. Each of the dinners expressed his regard for Mr. Wheeler and appreciation of his work before the latter was allowed to make a speech. He said that he would always retain his interest in the organization, and regretted not being able again to serve as president.

MACHINES CRASH IN AIR.

One Aviator Killed and Two Others Injured by Fall.

JOHANNISTHAL, Germany, February 10.—A midair collision between a biplane and a monoplane over the aerodrome here today caused the death of one German aviator and serious injuries to two others.

Gerhard Sedlmayer, an experienced airman, was flying his biplane, carrying as his passenger Lieut. Leonhardt of the German army. They were circling the aerodrome at a height of about 100 feet when their machine was crashed into by a monoplane in which Degner, a pupil at the flying school, was making his first independent flight.

Both machines fell, and when the men were extricated from the wreckage it was found that Degner was dead and the other two gravely hurt.

PREMIER AND CABINET RESIGN

Divergence of Opinion Concerning Defenses Causes Swedish Crisis.

STOCKHOLM, Sweden, February 10.—Karl Albert Staaff, the Swedish premier, and his entire cabinet resigned today in consequence of divergence of opinion concerning the necessity of increasing the Swedish defensive forces. King Gustave accepted the resignations.

The ministerial crisis was brought about by the recent demonstration of 30,000 landowners and farmers from all parts of the country, who demanded an increase of Swedish armaments. This was followed by a socialist demonstration equally imposing, protesting against any project to increase expenditures on the army and navy.

ON THE STUMP AT AGE OF 81.

John P. St. John, One-Time Presidential Nominee, on Speaking Tour.

CHICAGO, February 10.—John P. St. John, prohibition candidate for President in 1884, stopped here a day on his way east, where he is to make a speaking tour for the temperance forces. Although he is eighty-one years old and has made more than 4,500 speeches for prohibition, former Gov. St. John is one of the most active campaigners of the party.

In his earlier campaigns he was burned in effigy more than 100 times.

Of late he has been receiving congratulations from friends and former foes in his home town, Olathe, Kan. "The temperance wave is rising higher and higher," he said. "We have prohibition in Congress, in the President's office and in the office of the Secretary of State. It is simply a matter of time until the whole country is dry."

TO HELP UNEMPLOYED.

Mayor Mitchel to Establish Central Labor Exchange in New York.

NEW YORK, February 10.—Following conferences with Mayor Mitchel and four of his newly appointed heads of departments, it was decided yesterday to establish a central employment exchange to relieve the distress of men out of work. Henry Bruere, city chamberlain, sent representatives to employment agencies to ask them to co-operate.

It is proposed to communicate twice daily with each employment agency co-operating and to publish a daily letter telling the character of work offered and the number and class of men seeking employment.

Copies will be posted in police stations, neighborhood settlements, employment agencies and other places where the unemployed may see the lists.

Slays, Then Flees in Auto.

TAMPA, Fla., February 10.—Emanuel Macrimaris, a Greek, owner of many sponging vessels at Tarpon Springs, this morning shot and killed Panagis Gassanos, another prominent Greek, there. Macrimaris, as soon as Gassanos fell, leaped into his automobile and was whirled into the country. Officers are on his trail.

CHRIST IS MAKER OF CITIES, HE SAYS

Dr. Jowett Again Addresses the Midwinter Bible Conference.

PALMER URGES STUDY OF SCRIPTURAL GEOGRAPHY

Secretary of State and Mrs. Bryan Hosts to Religious Workers.

Christ as the maker of cities, the life and inspirer of states and the protector of communities, formed the burden of the discourse of Rev. Dr. John H. Jowett before the morning meeting of the midwinter Bible conference at the First Congregational Church this morning.

Dr. Jowett took as his text the words of Jesus found in the twenty-third chapter of St. Matthew, "O Jerusalem, how often I would have gathered thy children together even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!"

He spoke of the vast variety of races, trades and characters that made up the chief city of Palestine in that day—the Romans, Jews, Greeks, Pharisees, housewives, soldiers, artisans, laborers, harlots and beggars, with the injunction that in the modern application of the text we must substitute the word London, New York, Chicago or Edinburgh, as the case may be, each with its problems far more complex than those of ancient Jerusalem in the making of a community into a family.

Has Modern Application.

"When we substitute the name of some modern city," said he, "then the words of Christ rise up to us as vigorous, relevant and modern."

"What means have we for the turning of a city into a home like the family gov-ered and protected by the mother-bird of Christ's metaphor, which is our Lord Himself?" concluded the eminent divine. "Legislation will not do it, nor patriotism, nor common literature, nor commerce and trade, nor education and culture, for even a theological seminary can, on occasion, be a veritable cockpit. All these are efficacious; all play their parts. The Lord Jesus lived and died to do it; we have His promise that He waits to do it. Let us bring the Crucified Lord back again. He offers Himself, a living presence, as the common center for all devotion, for all community life. The souls that are devoted to Him imbibe His holiness and His love and become parts of the divine family."

Geography of Bible.

Dr. Frank N. Palmer, the first speaker on the meeting, took as his subject "The Geography of the Bible." He emphasized the necessity of familiarity with the geography of the Scriptures because of the frequent local allusions not only in narrative, but in prophecy as well. Knowledge of the very character of the soil and the productiveness of the regions spoken of help make real to mankind the Scriptures and clarify many of their statements, said Dr. Palmer.

"The Old Testament, as Literature and as Life" formed the subject of Rev. William A. Souper of London, who emphasized the vast variety of literature to be found in that portion of the Bible, historical, poetical, prophetic, dramatic and admonitory. The Old Testament, said Dr. Souper, was written by imaginative, emotional orientals, men whose hearts more quickly responded to an appeal than did their minds, and to properly teach the Old Testament a man must give free play to the same qualities in himself.

"If we de-orientalize it into a western world book of logic and syllogisms we make it into a dead thing," declared the speaker and further:

"Any conception of history that does not recognize the supremacy and guidance of God, no matter how accurate in details or how full, is not true history."

Dramatic Literature.

Speaking of the dramatic literature of the Old Testament, the book of Job, with its relation of almost every human experience and emotion, was cited as a sample. In regard to the poetical aspect Dr. Souper gave as his opinion that no songs were comparable in passion, power and beauty to the songs of Zion. In speaking of the prophetic portions, "The Hebrew prophet was one to whom a door in heaven opened and who saw the face of Jehovah every day," said he, and, regarding what he characterized as "wisdom literature," declared that Ecclesiastes and the book of Proverbs can well solve modern as well as ancient problems inasmuch as "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom."

An even larger congregation than that in attendance yesterday packed the church and listened to the stirring and instructive addresses of the eminent students and expounders of the holy Scriptures. Last evening policemen were compelled to turn away those who desired to attend the meetings, but who did not have reserved seats.

Bryans Entertain Speakers.

The Secretary of State and Mrs. Bryan gave a luncheon this afternoon at Calumet Place to the speakers of the Bible conference and other distinguished persons. Those present were: The Secretary of Commerce, Justice Peele, Rev. G. Campbell Morgan, pastor of Westminster Congregational Chapel, London; Rev. John H. Jewett, minister of the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, New York city; Rev. William Souper, pastor of Clapham Commons Presbyterian Church, London; Col. Henry O. S. Heistand, Rev. F. M. Palmer of Lake Winona, Minn.; Rev. John McNeil, the Scotch evangelist of Toronto; S. D. Gordon of Philadelphia, Dr. C. M. Cobern, theologian and archeologist of Meadeville College, Pa.

Rev. Melville Trotter, superintendent of the Mission at Grand Rapids, Mich.; Rev. Sherwood Eddy, the noted Y. M. C. A. missionary; Frank Wilbur Main, auditor of Pittsburgh; Rev. Solomon C. Dickey, director of the Wniona assembly; Rev. Wallace Radcliffe, Rev. W. R. Wedderspoon, Rev. Paul R. Hickok, Rev. Henry Anstadt, Rev. Earle Wilfley, Dr. George Otis Smith, president of the Y. M. C. A.; George N. McLanahan, Prof. W. H. Collison, William Knowles Cooper, G. F. Schutt, A. B. Brown and Clarence P. King, president of the Washington Railway and Electric Company.

Greatest of All Books, Clark Says of Bible

Champ Clark, Speaker of the House of Representatives, presided over the meeting last night in the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church. That the Bible, from a purely literary standpoint, is the greatest book ever written, and that Abraham Lincoln owed largely to his knowledge and use of Scripture not only his oratorical ability, but even his election to the presidency, was the declaration of Speaker Clark before introducing Rev. John H. Jowett, pastor of the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church of New York, the speaker of the evening.

During the services in the New York Avenue Church Rev. John McNeill of Toronto, the former associate of Dwight L. Moody, was speaking in the Church of the Epiphany. Rev. Melvin Trotter addressed a meeting at Hagerstown, Md., and Rev. Campbell Morgan spoke in Richmond, in accordance with the arrangement for supplementary meetings in cities and towns nearby to the central gathering point.

Throngs Fill Churches.

The statement made that more than 2,000 "series tickets" to the conference had been sold seemed borne out yesterday by the throngs who filled the various churches yesterday and last night and who carried home with them lessons from nine of the greatest biblical scholars and teachers of two continents.

Rev. Melvin Trotter spoke again at 12:30 p.m. today at Epiphany Church, which meeting was free to the public, and Mr. S. D. Gordon talked at the First Congregational Church at 2:30 o'clock, followed by Rev. John McNeill and Sherwood Eddy.

Rev. Dr. Campbell Morgan will speak again tonight at the New York Avenue Church, while Rev. Dr. J. H. Jowett is to speak again at Epiphany Church.

SWEEPING GRAFT, HIS PREDICTION

James E. Bennett Assails Trade Commission Plan Before House Committee.

Denouncing the administration trade commission bill as opening up theh "loveliest graft of a century" and as "surpassing Russia in inquisition," James E. Bennett today told the House commerce committee that such a law would drive small corporations out of business. Representing a number of corporations, he questioned its constitutionality.

"This bill as at present drawn," he said, "would give the vital secrets of the small corporation to its big competitor. It would show up the weak points of the small concern and open it up to the attacks of its rivals.

"This thing would open up the loveliest graft that you gentlemen ever saw. With thousands of special agents roaming around the country prying into the hundreds of thousands of corporations graft would be widespread.

Cites Possible Evils.

"These agents would have no qualification but political pull, no civil service examination is required, and they could be sent into any corporation's office to make a report, which would be binding on that corporation. If you slipped him $50 or $100 or $500 he might be willing to change the report. There you are. This is a tremendous inquisitorial power. Russia never had anything like this, that gave such power without let or hindrance."

Mr. Bennett argued that the bill violated the constitutional guarantee against unlawful search and seizure.

Wilson to Meet Senators.

President Wilson will confer tomorrow with the Senate committee on interstate commerce regarding his anti-trust legislative program pending in Congress. Senator Newlands, chairman, said that republican members of the committee would join with the democrats in the conference, which will be held at the White House.

Before delivering his trust message to Congress President Wilson conferred with the interstate commerce committee. Since that time the tentative trust bills have been drawn and hearings have been held before House committees. The Senate committee has held no hearings, but has had under careful consideration the interstate trade commission bill, which it proposes to amend. The perfection of all the tentative trust legislation will be discussed with the President.

Hearings Continued.

Hearings on the proposed administration trust reform measures continued today before the House committees on judiciary and interstate and foreign commerce, with more than a dozen witnesses on the day's list.

F. K. Fernald, representing a medicine company; Frank W. Whitcher of Boston, Mass., and A. C. Thomas of Sandy Spring, Md., were called before the judiciary committee by Chairman Clayton.

Assume Trust Responsibility.

Chairman Newlands of the Senate interstate commerce committee, although expressing the hope that republican members of the committee will continue to give the committee the benefit of their advice regarding the trust bills now pending, made it clear today that as the responsibility for legislation rests in the hands of the democrats they intended to frame this legislation as they deemed best.

His statement was made in reference to the "bolt" of Senators Cummins and Clapp, both republican members of the committee, who have declared that if the bill is to be handled in a partisan manner they do not intend to take part in the committee deliberations.

The House judiciary committee has announced the following schedule of hearings on the anti-trust bills:

Schedule of Hearings.

February 10—F. K. Fernald, representing a medicine company; Frank W. Whitcher of Boston and A. C. Thomas, Sandy Spring, Md.

February 11—Eben Minahan, Green Bay, Wis.; Herbert Knox Smith, former United States commissioner of corporations; William Draper Lewis, Philadelphia, and D. R. Richberg, for the progressive party.

February 12 — Lawrence Chamberlain, New York, and Gustavus A. Rogers, New York, representing a motion-picture concern.

February 16—Louis D. Brandeis, Boston.

February 17—Charles Dushkind and a committee of ten, New York, and Joseph R. Darling, New York.

February 18—Committee from the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, and L. C. Boyle, Kansas City.

February 19—Boyd Fisher, New York.

PRESIDENT WILSON SILENT.

Congress Believes, However, He Opposes the Literacy Test.

While the belief is growing at the Capitol that President Wilson has decided to oppose the literacy test section of the immigration bill which has passed the House and is now pending before the Senate, no statement regarding the President's attitude in this matter has yet been made public, either by the President or by Senator Smith of South Carolina, chairman of the Senate committee on immigration.

Senator Smith has had several conferences with the President, and it is believed that a statement would have been forthcoming before this had the President been willing to see the proposed literacy test in the same light as the majority of the democrats in Congress.

The committee did not meet today, as was predicted to continue the consideration of the immigration bill, but will meet tomorrow, it is said.

To Emphasize Three R's in Schools.

BOSTON, February 10.—Plans for giving greater attention in the Boston schools to reading, spelling, writing and arithmetic are outlined in a statement given out by the school committee. "The committee proposes," says the statement, "to eliminate any non-essentials that may have been included in the present course and to fix attention more strongly than ever before upon improving the character and quality of the instruction in those subjects which are universally recognized as of fundamental importance in any school system."

EARTH IN QUAKES OVER WIDE AREA

Shocks Felt in Philadelphia, New York Cities, New England and Canada.

PICTURES AND MIRRORS SET SWAYING ON WALLS

Two Distinct Tremors Recorded at Georgetown, One of Them "Very Severe."

NEW YORK, February 10.—Points as far north as Montreal and as far south as Philadelphia felt distinct earthquake shocks of varying intensity between 1:34 and 1:37 o'clock this afternoon. Indications were that the entire northeastern section of the United States was in the zone of tremors. At no point included in the first reports was serious damage done.

In New York state the tremors were recorded in New York city, Albany, Elmira, Rome, Syracuse and other points. In Canada shocks were felt at Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Prescott, Brockville and other places.

Pictures and Mirrors Swing.

AUBURN, N. Y., February 10.—Earthquake shocks were felt distinctly here this afternoon, the Fort Hill section of Auburn being thrown into slight panic. One shock seemed to cover a period of six seconds and was followed a few seconds later by a second shock that lasted several seconds.

Pictures and mirrors were set swinging on walls and furniture danced on the floor. No damage is reported.

SYRACUSE, N. Y., February 10.—An earthquake shock was felt plainly in all parts of this city at 1:35 p.m.

ROME, N. Y., February 10.—At 1:35 o'clock this afternoon a severe earthquake shock was felt in Rome and throughout this section of Oneida county. Dishes shook on their shelves, and type in the newspaper offices moved on its galleys.

ALBANY, N. Y., February 10.—An earthquake of twenty seconds' duration was recorded on the seismograph at the state geologist's office here today shortly before 2 o'clock. It was noticeable about the capitol, where a number of pictures were shaken from the walls.

Factory Chimneys Sway.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., February 10.—Earth tremors were perceptible here. At a large manufacturing plant two high chimneys attracted attention by their swaying.

At Ithaca, particularly on the Cornell University campus, the shocks were plainly felt. Houses and dormitories shook, causing some excitement.

OGDENSBURG, N. Y., Feburary 10.—A distinct earthquake shock was felt here about 1:32 p.m. Buildings shook noticeably, and some chimneys fell. Telephone girls fled from their switchboards. In some homes furniture was overturned and dishes thrown from tables. The tremors lasted thirty seconds.

New England Feels It.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., February 10.—The earth tremors were perceptible here. At the weather bureau on the eighth floor of a downtown building Observer Tarr noted the tremors. Reports of a like character quickly came from all parts of Connecticut.

WORCESTER, Mass., February 10.—The seismograph at Holy Cross College registered an earth tremor of local nature at 1:33 this afternoon. Buildings here rocked from east to west. The movement was perceptible for several seconds. Dishes were rattled off pantry shelves and in Springfield one house rocked so hard that the front door bell was rung.

PHILADELPHIA, February 10.—An earth tremor was felt in this vicinity. At the Philadelphia navy yard the shock was quite distinct and naval officers timed the shock at 1:33 o'clock.

MONTREAL, Canada, February 10.—An earthquake shock was felt at 1:35 o'clock this afternoon at Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Prescott, Brockville and many other points.

Recorded at Georgetown.

Two distinct earthquake shocks were recorded on the seismographs of Georgetown University today. The first began at 11:41 a.m., and lasted six minutes, but was not very pronounced. The second was recorded at 1:34 p.m., and lasted one and one-half minutes.

"The last shock," said Father Tondorf, observer of the university, "was very severe." There was nothing in the record to show how far from here the shocks were.

SOUNDED FALSE ALARMS.

Negro Boys Fined $100 Each, With Occoquan Alternative.

Found guilty in the District branch of the Police Court today of turning in false fire alarms, Richard Offutt, nineteen years old and Le Roy Fennell, eighteen years old, both colored, were given the alternative of paying $100 fine each or going to Occoquan for thirty days. The boys were arrested yesterday by police of the eighth precinct. It is believed that their arrest will put a stop to the number of false alarms which have recently been turned in in the vicinity of this precinct.

Lumbermen Discuss Yellow Pine.

NEW ORLEANS, February 10.—Dry rot in yellow pine mill timber and other technical matters were chief topics of discussion at the opening session today of a three-day convention here of the Yellow Pine Manufacturers' Association. A successor of President S. J. Carpenter will be chosen Thursday.

Three Contest for Pepper's Seat.

DAVENPORT, Iowa, February 10.—Committee chairman of all three leading parties were confident of success in today's special congressional election in which the successor of the late Representative I. S. Pepper will be named. The candidates are Henry Vollmer, democrat; Harry Hull, republican, and C. P. Hanley, progressive. A light vote was indicated.

Yale Men to Hold Smoker.

Yale men in Washington tonight will gather at the University Club for a smoker given by the Washington Yale Alumni Association. Addresses will be made by Richard Armstrong, captain of the Yale crew in 1895, and at present graduate coach at Yale and by Sherwood Eddy, 1891 S, who is international secretary for Asia of the Y. M. C. A. The entertainment will begin at 8:30 o'clock, and all Yale men in the city have been invited to attend.

Inquiry Plan Adopted at Albany.

ALBANY, N. Y., February 10.—The assembly last night adopted the republican investigation plan by a vote of 107 to 29. The plan provides for an inquiry by an assembly committee into the highway department and "such other departments as may appear to need investigating." Progressives and the republicans joined in supporting the measure and nine democrats registered their votes in the same way. The rest of the democrats were recorded in the negative.

CONCHA CHOSEN PRESIDENT.

Once Minister to Washington Elected Head of Colombia.

BOGOTA, February 10.—Dr. Jose Vicente Concha, the candidate of the conservative party, has been elected president of Columbia. Dr. Concha was minister of war in 1901, and a year later became minister to Washington. He disapproved of the proposed Panama treaty and retired as minister in 1903.

The elections, which were held Sunday, passed off quietly. Dr. Concha, in addition to being the nominee of the conservative party, was supported by a section of the liberals and the clericals. He was opposed by Dr. Nicholas Esguerra, the nominee of the republican party. The liberals several days ago withdrew their candidate, Gen. Rafael Uribe.

The new president will take office August 7, when the presidential term of Carlos E. Restrepo expires.

RED LIGHT WOMEN MUST LEAVE CITY

Police to Keep Eyes on All Places Suspected of Sheltering Former Inmates.

Officers and members of the police department are to keep close watch on all houses, apartments and hotels in which it is suspected that former inmates of resorts in the "red light" district may have located with the purpose of carrying on their outlawed profession.

For a long time the police have been convinced that certain hotels of the city permitted practices not in keeping with the requirements of respectable establishments, and today a number of plain clothes men were detailed to the task of procuring evidence upon which the proprietors of such places may be brought into court.

Maj. Sylvester, superintendent of police, says it is not the purpose of the department of which he is superintendent to pursue such women and girls as appear to be making an effort to lead better lives.

Others, however, Maj. Sylvester said, who locate in apartment houses, usually the kind without elevators, or in the kind of hotels where few questions are asked, are to be driven out of the city if the entire power of the police department is required in the accomplishment of the task.

Orders Just Issued.

Orders have been issued to the inspectors captains, lieutenants and men composing the police force of Washington as follows:

"As heretofore directed by the major and superintendent, in precincts where known suspicious houses have or do exist, you will effectually close the same.

"You will use every endeavor to learn where the parties who may have occupied such premises have removed to and make due record of the same.

"After conferring with the several members of your respective commands, you will investigate all places under suspicion with a view of having formal complaint lodged against such persons and premises, if the facts so justify.

"All localities shall be carefully observed, with a view of ascertaining whether the laws heretofore mentioned are being in any manner violated.

"In many of the alleyways and courts will, no doubt, be found those violating the law, and due notice will be taken and report filed in all such cases.

Proposes Co-Operation.

"In brief, the police will co-operate with the United States attorney for the District of Columbia, and bring to light and pursue any and all cases covered by the pre-existing laws or by the Kenyon act looking to the cleaning up of this jurisdiction.

"Members of the force should make a statement in writing of all facts pertaining to individual cases, reciting names of owners of the property, both real and personal, being prepared to make affidavit to the same as required by law, and on the several questions of legal phrases and applications as presented by the Kenyon act."

NEW HAVEN ROAD INQUIRY TO BEGIN IMMEDIATELY

Prompt Action on Senate Resolution Reopening I. C. C. Probe of Certain Dealings.

Prompt action on the Senate resolution for a reopening of the interstate commerce commission's investigation of certain financial operations of the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroad was taken today by the commission. It ordered the inquiry to begin immediately.

Hearings may be held, but it was not decided when or where or whether they will be public.

For the present the commission will conduct its inquiry by gathering from all available sources whatever information may throw light on the questions at issue. It may be three or four months before the commission is ready to proceed with hearings, in case it should decide that they are neccessary.

Among other things, the resolution calls on the commission to inquire what became of the funds the New Haven invested in various enterprises and corporations mentioned in the recent report of the commission; whether the person or persons who authorized those investments are liable to punishment, and whether the money can be recovered for the stockholders of the company.

ALSATIANS PUSH SUITS.

Decline German Army Officers' Offers of Compromise.

STRASSBURG, Germany, February 10.—Several officers of high rank in the German army visited the town of Zabern and endeavored to compromise a score of damage suits for illegal imprisonment in connection with the violent incidents between the military and civilians there in November, according to the local newspapers.

In several cases the victims of the outrages were offered $12.50 and costs to withdraw their suits, but most of them insisted on going to court.

FOREIGN TROOPS WITHDRAW.

Formed an International Guard for Port au Prince.

Withdrawal from Port au Prince of the American, British German and French forces, which formed an international guard during the latest disturbances there, was reported to the Navy Department today by Capt. Robert L. Russell, commanding the American squadron.

Authorizes Exhibit at Exposition.

BERLIN, February 10.—The German imperial parliament today adopted a resolution authorizing the German potash syndicate to use $1,150,000 from its "propaganda fund" of $2,000,000 in advertising fertilizers abroad, and also to spend $125,000 on an exhibit at the Panama-Pacific exposition at San Francisco.

FOES OF HUERTA FEAR NO PLOTS

Undisturbed by Alleged Plans of Old "Cientificos" Now in New York City.

SAY NO EVENT CAN HALT MARCH ON MEXICO CITY

Will Resist Any Effort to Deprive Them of Fruits of Victory—Garrison Refuses to Lift Ban.

Renewed evidences that with the approach of the expected success of the Mexican constitutionalists' war against Gen. Huerta members of the "cientifico" regime are plotting to take away the fruits of their struggle were received in Washington today by those closely connected with the Huerta opposition.

This was said here to be the explanation of the stories which are coming daily from Mexico City regarding plots and counterplots, and fear on the part of Huerta and his adherents. Constitutionalists here deny that they are concerned in any effort to attack Huerta suddenly in Mexico City.

It was considered significant in circles in close touch with the Mexican situation that there is at present gathered in New York a group of men formerly powerful in the affairs of Mexico, several of whom have recently visited Washington. In this group are no less than three former cabinet ministers.

Those Included in Group.

The group as at present constituted includes Esquivee Obregon, David de la Fuente, Manuel Calero, Jorge Vera Estanol, Gen. Fernando Gonzales, Emeterio de la Garza and Oscar Braniff. Senor Obregon, de la Fuente and Estanol were formerly members of the cabinet. Senor Calero was formerly ambassador to the United States and candidate for the presidency, and Gen. Gonzales is a son of a former Mexican president.

These men are said to realize that the days of Huerta are numbered, and to be planning to install in his place, either by force or otherwise, another member of the old Diaz regime. Francisco de la Barra, Gen. Felix Diaz and Gen. Gonzales are the men most frequently mentioned as possible candidates of the group. All of the members of this group are said to be men of brain and culture, well versed in the politics of their country.

The constitutionalists have set themselves to defeat any effort of the "cientificos" to step into power. They say that their movement for land and other reforms in Mexico is too well understood throughout their country now to permit of any tricks. No matter what happens in Mexico City, they say, they will continue with their onward march.

President to See Carden.

It became known here today that arrangements have been made for a meeting between Sir Lionel Carden, British minister to Mexico, and President Wilson.

Persons close to the White House confirmed an earlier report that the President would give Sir Lionel an audience on Mexican affairs when the latter passes through this country on route to England.

Thomas B. Hohler, British charge in Mexico City, is still in Washington and expects to remain here several days longer before leaving to replace Sir Lionel. He has been getting in touch with the American viewpoint on Mexican affairs.

Word received here today was to the effect that Gen. Carranza, the rebel