The Times-Dispatch

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1909.

A DANGER-SIGNAL HERE.

Under the law the official vote for Governor in the election last week will not be known until the Legislature meets in January. Meantime, the compilation which The Times-Dispatch prints this morning, as full as is likely to be obtainable and official as far as it goes, offers a certain amount of food for thought.

This compilation tabulates the official returns from forty counties and six cities, certainly covering more than half the vote of the State. It shows that the counties and cities indicated gave Judge Mann 35,870 votes and Captain Kent 17,313 votes. A year ago these same counties and cities gave Mr. Bryan 43,192 votes and Mr. Taft 23,008 votes. The Democratic shrinkage in these cities and counties thus amounts to nearly 17 per cent. The Republican shrinkage amounts to nearly 25 per cent. If we figure in all cities and counties the same shrinkage which is found to exist in those here accounted for, we find that Judge Mann's total vote is 68,846 and Captain Kent's total vote is 39,587.

Let it be repeated that these figures are not offered as authentic and exact. They are simply presented, in the absence of authentic and exact figures, as the most reasonable estimate that can be made.

Now, up to last week there had been three general elections in the State since the new Constitution went into effect, greatly reducing the electorate. In the presidential election of 1904, the Democratic party polled 80,648 votes. In the gubernatorial election of 1905 it polled 83,544 votes. In the presidential election last year it polled 82,016 votes. Allowing for the increase of population in five years, the normal Democratic vote may safely be put at the latter figure, say 83,000 votes. Yet Judge Mann is estimated to have polled only 68,846 votes, a loss of some 14,000.

In 1904 the Republican party polled 47,880 votes. In 1905, a gubernatorial year, it polled 46,795 votes. In 1908 it polled 52,573. To average these would not be fair, since it is known that the Republican party has a larger following in national politics than inside the State. Let us hark back to the last State election and say that the Republicans have a secure normal vote of some 46,000. Yet Captain Kent is estimated to have polled only 39,587, a loss of some 6,500.

What do these estimates show?

The opposition figures may be cleared out of the way at once. The utter collapse of the Republican campaign makes them virtually useless. Certainly it would be unsafe to base any general conclusion of an optimistic nature upon them. For reasons which it is needless to analyze, the presidential efforts to break the Solid South have been answered in Virginia with heavy defection from the Taft Republicans of a year ago. But suppose that these efforts had been more successful. Suppose that exceptionally strong candidates and an able and aggressive campaign from the Republicans had resulted in their not only holding the 52,573 Taft votes in 1908, but actually adding a thousand or two to them. How would Democrats view the 68,846 estimated Mann vote then?

The question is worth considering. The Times-Dispatch estimate brings out two points which invite serious thought. It indicates:

1. That between 4,000 and 5,000 qualified Democrats who voted in the primary refused to vote in the election; that is to say, one Democrat in every fifteen violated his primary pledge rather than do what his pledge called on him to do.

2. That some 14,000 qualified Democrats refused to vote in the election; that is to say, one regular Democratic voter in every six stayed away from the polls this year.

Is it possible to explain these two apparent facts by referring to the "apathy" and the general sense of security? Was the Democratic party any less secure in 1905, when 83,544 Democrats went to the polls and voted for Governor Swanson? Is there not a danger-signal of some sort here, the exact meaning of which it is the duty of wise party leaders to investigate and examine with some solicitude?

DESERTING THE PULPIT FOR BUSINESS.

Two clergymen in the heart of populous New England have resigned, separately, to go into business. Both of them are understood to have been driven from the pulpit by the smallness of their salaries. One of them has said so. He has issued a statement declaring that he is making the change "for the sake of the money there is in it." He points out that clergymen's salaries have stood still "while wages have increased 50 per cent, and the cost of living about as much," and that in twenty-five years' hard service it is impossible for the clergyman "to save an amount equal to one year's salary or enough to keep him one year."

These clergymen will, of course, be criticized. The ideal of a Christian ministry is entirely removed from the question of money. "Take no thought for the morrow" was the express injunction of the first preacher of Christianity. Whatever the circumstances, it cannot be thought inspiring to see a minister abandon his holy calling because he had a chance to "do better" in a manufacturing business. Yet it must be said at once that we do not live in an ideal era, but an intensely practical one, that the age of miracles seems to be definitely over, and that the clergyman who waited for the ravens to feed him and his family would be likely to find himself a charge upon the community.

The case is an exceedingly difficult one. To say that the parish should always pay the pastor a fair living salary is a good deal like begging the question. The church deliberately, and properly, pushes its work into parishes which simply cannot afford to pay such a salary. It is a cardinal tenet that the poor should have the gospel preached to them, and there can be no complaint because the poor pay poorly. As for the inspired men who voluntarily choose this life of self-sacrifice, they would hardly complain so long as they have food, clothes and shelter, which for a single man would mean no more outlay than the very poorest congregation could afford.

But many of these men are not single; they are married and have large families; and this complicates their case very seriously. The godliest man might be convinced that however much he was ready to sacrifice himself to the uttermost, he had no right to sacrifice his wife and children. It would be rigorous to say that no clergyman should marry without an assured income, even though St. Paul favored celibacy as a general rule, and matrimony is clearly complicating. Possibly a sort of supplement to the home missions fund, by which wealthy parishes helped to pay the poorer clergymen's salaries, on something more like an equal basis, would be the most logical way out of a condition which is certainly not satisfactory as it stands.

MME. STEINHEIL: A STUDY IN COMPARATIVE JUSTICE.

The trial of Mme. Marguerite Steinheil has become an international sensation. Men and women who avoid the ordinary run of scandals and murder trials are interested despite themselves in the examination of the beautiful "tragic" widow, who gained the love of a President and shone in the most enlightened circles of France. Every day adds new features to the proceedings, and every cable report contains some new development.

But aside from the dramatic aspect of the trial, and apart from the insight it gives into the French love of the emotional, this case is a most interesting study in comparative justice. Perhaps every one who reads the details of the cross-examination of the witness by the Viscount de Valles pictured in his mind the contrast between the scenes enacted in the grim Parisian Court of Assizes and those witnessed so often before our American tribunals.

The serious character of Madame Steinheil's alleged crime gave her immediate access to the cour d'assises, rather than to the lower criminal court, the tribunal correctionnel. Thus she escaped what would have been the police court hearing in America, and appeared before our Hustings Court. The cour d'assises has penal jurisdiction, and can sentence the unhappy woman to death. From its decision the only appeal lies to the chambre criminelle of the Court of Cassation—the supreme judicial tribunal of France.

As the latter court will only review the law in the case, the hearing before the jury of the cour d'assises will probably determine Mme. Steinheil's fate. While the verdict must be given by the jury of twelve, the law is construed by the three judges of the court, who also conduct the examination. Thus the chief prosecutor is also the chief magistrate.

In the eyes of American justice there could be no more complete reversal of justice. The president of the court, the Viscount de Valles, browbeats the prisoner whose case he must review, and warns the jury against her wiles. "Her tears and indignation," he solemnly announces to them, "are all calculated to affect you." "Watch her faint," he screams to the stolid twelve, "when I ask her the next question." Or, again, "You are a liar, madame," he cries to the prisoner. It must be remembered, though, that a good deal of this is sheer stage-craft, and that an exceptionally savage attitude on the part of the judge is understood in France to mean a desire for a light sentence. The reaction in sympathy is fully expected. And the freedom given the prosecutor is excelled, if anything, by the latitude allowed the prisoner. She tartly abuses the judge, appeals tearfully to the jury and cites a thousand scandals that have no bearing on the case. She wheedles witnesses, or begs their pardon for injustice done them, with many a sob and tear. As a result, thrill follows thrill, sensation rolls on the heels of sensation, and there is not a dull moment in her three days' examination.

Very different would be the scene in an American court. A grim-visaged judge would wield impartial justice, while the lawyers for the defense would raise unending objections to the examination of the State's attorney. More than half the evidence would be ruled out, or else heard with the jury out of the room. Whatever the result, we should be able to congratulate ourselves upon the impartial hearing.

But, after all, there is little likelihood that our verdict would be more just than that to be given by the French jury. When the evidence is all in, and when the weary and hoarse presiding justice has composed himself, he will give instructions in accordance with the law. No doubt the jury will forget tears and reproaches alike, and decide the case on its real merits. Justice is justice, in Europe or in America.

THE PROPER LINES OF TAX REFORM.

Nine weeks from day after to-morrow the General Assembly will convene. In some respects, the session then begun will be the most important in the recent history of the State. Vital measures and weighty ventures must receive the attention of the members. Needed reforms and wise statutory revisions must be approved. Every member of the Assembly will be called upon to vote on bills which concern the permanent welfare of the State and the lasting betterment of its material conditions.

Of the many important subjects to be considered, few, if any, are more urgent than the reform of our tax laws. Many of our tax provisions are antiquated and unequal; almost all of them must be revised if the State is to have its proper place in the forward movement of the South.

In anticipation of the Assembly's work, The Times-Dispatch has reviewed our tax code in all its features, and has submitted a series of reforms which appeal to this newspaper as amply deserving the attention of the Assembly. These reforms have no political bearing; they affect no existing offices, and aim solely at correcting existing injustice. They may be summarized as follows:

1. The appointment of a permanent tax commission to equalize assessments, to supervise the making of them, and to recommend future improvements in the tax laws of the Commonwealth.

2. The more frequent assessment of lands, to give the State the prompt benefit of increases in real values.

3. The abolition of the double tax on mortgages and the substitution of a law taxing the mortgage as an interest in the property.

4. The removal of the tax on bank deposits, and the exemption of the bonds of Virginia railroads.

5. The abolition of the tax on seals.

6. The exemption of the receipts from the sale of private timber as a portion of a farmer's taxable income.

7. A franchise tax for the manufacturers of implements and machines, with the license of agents under that franchise and their exemption from other license taxes on their sales.

8. The readjustment of the general license laws, and the incorporation of a general clause levying license taxes in proportion to the profits of the licensed business.

9. The defeat of the amendment for the election of commissioners of the revenue and the re-election of county treasurers by popular vote.

10. The assessment of taxes by personal service and personal oath before the commissioners.

11. The service of tax bills on all tax-payers to prevent delinquencies.

12. A general forced sale of all delinquent properties, and the payment of all delinquent taxes before current taxes can be received. In this manner the current tax receipt is a guarantee that all delinquent taxes are paid.

13. In case other reforms are not adopted and assessments are not properly equalized, the adoption of a direct inheritance tax, levied at 1 per cent. on all properties over $4,000. This will prevent any possible deficit as a result of other reforms.

We again submit these proposed reforms to the attention of every member of the Assembly, and shall take occasion to review them during coming weeks. We believe that their adoption will remove unjust public burdens from many classes of tax-payers, and at the same time largely swell the revenue of the State.

"Adriatic Strikes Bottom," says the headline. Cheer up, Ady! We've done it ourselves and always bounced back.

Chauncey Depew advises everybody to drink champagne only, which costs nothing. The advice we mean.

If Mr. Pierpont Morgan wants to buy any more manuscripts of great novels, we shall be happy to furnish him with the names of a few local authorines.

The manger seems to look good enough to Copenhagen University.

And remember it was Mme. Steinheil's step-mother, not her mother-in-law, that she is charged with having killed.

Mr. Aldrich is now touring the West, showing his great "desire to aid the people." And there are portions of the West which will require a whole lot of showing, too.

Columbia, S. C., will be interested to note that Senator Tillman was one of the guests of honor at the presidential banquet. This incident teaches that Senator Tillman does not object to going to public banquets so long as there is no little formality of $10 in advance connected with the affair.

Talk of making Alfonso an "absolute monarch" is absurdly out of place. Alfonso is a married man.

James J. Jeffries declares that football is "unreasonably brutal." Naturally it seems so to one who is used to taking his sport on a typewriter.

According to the argus-eyed Washington Herald, a man named Scripture was defeated for office in a New York town. Possibly the devil cited Scripture for his purpose.

If Congress were in session now, it would not be so hard to imagine who started that canard about Mr. Roosevelt's demise.

In Macon Mr. Taft steadily refused a mint-julep, though it was urged upon him by three of the most beautiful girls in that city. For the sake of the President's prohibition record, we earnestly trust during his visit here none of our irresistible little starry-eyed blondes will take it into their pretty heads to make him julep one or two.

If Madame Steinheil is acquitted, it goes without saying that her vaudeville offers will pass beyond the dreams of avarice.

Borrowed Jingles

ALL ON ACCOUNT OF FATHER.

Everybody's on a diet up to our house at present;
Mother's awfully dejected, father's look is seldom pleasant;
We have cut out beef and bacon and a lot of other stuff;
We have turned away from sausage, and our fate is pretty tough.

We have had to give up pancakes; sugar's banished from the table;
Pa and ma are on a diet, so am I and sister Mabel;
We have turned away from salads and all kinds of pie and meat,
And it's always very dismal when we seat ourselves to eat.

Every day the cook looks at us with a kind of solemn pity,
And I guess she thinks she's workin' for the worst cranks in the city;
Mother's health is simply splendid; sister's well and so am I;
But we're all compelled to diet—father must, and that is why.
—S. E. Kiser, in Chicago Record-Herald.

MERELY JOKING.

Not Noticeable.

Gertrude—Physical culture is splendid. I'm taking beauty exercises.

Marjorie—You haven't been taking them long, have you?—Baltimore American.

In the Restaurant.

"What did you think of that piece the orchestra just played, dear?"

"Why, I didn't hear it, uncle; you know you were taking your soup then!"—Yonkers Statesman.

As It Often Happens.

"We tried keeping an account of our expenditures, but, after all, it didn't give us a very clear idea of where the money went."

"Why not?"

"Both my wife and myself had too many items that we wanted listed as sundries."—Kansas City Journal.

Following Taft.

Teacher—What are the duties of the Vice-President of the United States?

Young America—He has to play golf in the absence of the President.—Puck.

Not Quite the Same.

"What we want," said the attorney to the reporters, "is justice."

"What I want," said the client to the attorney, "is a verdict in my favor."—Life.

All It's Good For.

Snubbubs—What do you intend to do with that lot you bought at Swamphurst?

Commute—I am thinking some of making a fishing preserve of it.—Brooklyn Life.

THE OBSERVANT PARAGRAPHERS.

A MEMBER of the Roosevelt hunting expedition has undertaken the ascent of Mount Kenia, which thereby threatens to become the Mount McKinley of Africa.—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

* * *

And while Johndee was busy handing the hook to the hookwork Tarrytown went "wet."—Indianapolis News.

* * *

There is some talk of "abolishing ambassadors." Mr. Knox has given the scheme a trial.—Charleston News and Courier.

* * *

Thomas W. Lawson, of Boston, has taken no part, so far, in the polar dispute, but Tom doesn't act as press agent for outsiders.—Atlanta Journal.

* * *

Madame Johanna Gadski has become an American citizen, and a pair of Astors have been lost by America to England. The United States wins!—Louisville Courier-Journal.

* * *

With the Taft cocktail at New Orleans and the artillery punch at Savannah, it is quite clear that President Taft mounted the water wagon none too soon.—Pittsburg Gazette Times.

OUR LESSON IN TYPHOID.

Good Work of Health Officials Real Cause for Low Death-Rate.

The city of Richmond, Va., has recently had a notable experience with typhoid fever. During the twelve months ended with last September the mortality from that disease was less than half as great as in any previous year for which statistics are available. If certain changes in the waterworks system of Richmond, which were completed last fall, had then gone into service, there would have been no question in the minds of most sanitarians concerning the cause of the diminution in the death rate; but an accident interfered with the use of the improvements. The conduit which leads from the new settling basin burst while being tested about a year ago, and it has not yet been reconstructed. Hence there has been no alteration in the character of the city's drinking water.

Richmond's good fortune, which is probably in no measure the result of chance, emphasizes a lesson which health officers have not yet learned any too well. With excellent reason the water supply is usually suspected whenever the prevalence of typhoid fever becomes conspicuous in any community, but water is not the only possible source of danger. The installation of a filter plant by the city of Washington was not followed by as great a reduction in the proportion of typhoid cases as had been expected, and for at least one serious outbreak of this disease which occurred after pure water had been secured a particular dairy was found to be responsible. When the truth concerning Richmond is more fully known there is a strong probability that the exercise of special vigilance regarding articles of [illegible] will be found to be the safeguard which cut down its death rate to such a remarkable extent. There is little likelihood that the need of keeping a strict watch on a city's water supply will ever be overestimated, but to install filters at great expense and then neglect other precautions is poor policy.—New York Tribune.

The Latent Forces.

Life is ruled through wondrous things!
Shape the course of happenings!
What, methought, do these things mean
That seem hovering 'round unseen?
Is there some vast power concealed,
Through the world moves unrevealed,
Which communes with hearts that seek
In strange paths where voices speak—
'Midst dark aisles of hidden space—
Whence the odd thought roves apace,
As if minding some high will?
Rules in whispers deep and still,
Are those sounds that seem so queer,
Guarding angels trailing near?
As they struggle to unfold
And impart great truths untold—
To the soul in blindness grope,
Through dense caves of doubtful hope,
While the fancy seeks the gate
Closed against the world till fate
Deems it wise to turn the key
That unlocks life's mystery;
Poor caged spirits delve in vain,
Striving, yearning to attain
God's grand pinnacle of light,
Casts a symbol strangely bright,
As a flame of distant fire,
Burning low, then flashing higher,
In the night while fitful gleams
Tinge the sky with scarlet beams!
Thus do glows of unseen souls
Flash at times 'round mundane goals
And reflect that hidden charm,
Thrills the heart with quaint alarm,
Quite convincing all is real,
Fraught with tones of mystic zeal.
GEORGE SANDS JOHNSON.

Leading manufacturers and distributors find our services unequaled from the point of increased sales.

Richmond Advertising Agency, Inc.

Mutual Building, Richmond, Virginia. Established 1904.

MAURICE ROUVIER PLANS TO RETIRE

Buys Famous Chateau Near Paris as Country Home.

STATESMAN'S ODD CAREER

Rises From Shop of Marseilles Bookseller to Become Prime Minister of France.

BY LA MARQUISE DE FONTENOY.

BARON LOUIS VETSERA, the only brother of Baroness Marie Vetsera, who met her death at Meyerling at the same time as Crown Prince Rudolph, of Austria, lost his life in the burning of the Ring Theatre, in the winter of 1882, and some of the more scurrilous of the Viennese newspapers assailed in print his mother, for her conduct in going out driving along the Ring and in the Prater, at the fashionable hour, a few days after his perishing in the flames, denouncing her alleged callousness. The attempts, therefore, to associate Louis Vetsera with the tragedy of Meyerling, nine years later, and to identify him with the mysterious Frank Wykoff, whose death has just taken place at Denver, are ridiculous. Nor have the stories according to which he sought refuge in this country because he had killed the Crown Prince of Austria at Meyerling the slightest foundation.

The ill-fated Baroness Marie Vetsera had no other brother besides this Louis Vetsera, who lost his life in the Ring Theatre fire. There was a sister, who was married. The father and mother lived separately, under circumstances which turned all sympathies towards him, rather than towards his Levantine wife. For she was one of the Baltazzis of Constantinople, and a sister of those well known Austrian racing men who have made their way into Viennese society, after a fashion, by way of the turf and of the hunting field. Twenty-five years ago they were not received at court. Indeed, when Countess Anna Ugarte married Hector Baltazzi, she was considered to have rendered herself guilty of a terrible mesalliance, and although she continued to attend court balls and state functions, as member of the court circles, to which she belonged by birth, her husband, Hector Baltazzi, was never invited, was completely ignored, and was never permitted to cross the threshold of the Hofburg at Vienna.

It may be just as well to mention here that it is just because Baroness Vetsera, the elder (who still survives), happened to be a Baltazzi by birth, that both she and her daughters were barred from court. Baron Vetsera himself, the elder, a most agreeable and good looking man, who was for many years the representative of the Austrian government on the International Commission of the Egyptian Debt at Cairo, was a member of the court circle at Vienna, and much liked there. But his wife and daughters were never admitted to presentation at court, and it was for this reason that the Crown Prince's infatuation for young Baroness Marie Vetsera escaped attention for so long, and why he had been compelled to resort to the good, or rather, I should say, bad offices of his morganatic cousin, the then Countess George Larisch, in order to meet the baroness.

Countess George Larisch, divorced by Count Larisch, and banished from Austria in consequence of the role which she played in the circumstances that led up to the death of the Crown Prince, is now the wife of the ex-baritone Bruck, and helps him to manage the small theatre of which he is the lessee at Metz.

Rouvier to Retire.

Maurice Rouvier, who was Prime Minister of France in 1887, and again in 1905, after the fall of Delcasse, has just purchased the Chateau of Chapuy, near Meluin, one of the most luxurious and magnificent country seats within motoring distance of Paris. This is held by many to constitute a sign that he has definitely retired from public affairs, although as long as he lives he is certain to be consulted by the leading men in France, in the world of politics and of finance, in all hours of difficulty and crisis. In fact, even his enemies—and they are legion—recognize him as one of the most clever men of the France of to-day, and the respect which they entertain for his abilities is increased by his taciturn reserve and rather haughty manner, so utterly foreign to the nature of the people of Southern France, whence he hails.

His career is of the strangest, and commenced in the shop of a Marseilles bookseller, who employed him, first as an errand boy and then as a drummer, for the sale of books on the instalment plan. Subsequently he entered the service of a Greek merchant named Zafiopoula, who was established at Marseilles, and engaged in the Russian grain trade. Rouvier's business took him to Constantinople, Odessa, Smyrna, Alexandria and to other Mediterranean ports, and having acquired some wealth by speculation, he, in 1869, turned his attention to politics, and devoted all his energies to securing the election of Gambetta as parliamentary representative of the city of Marseilles. For this he was rewarded on the fall of the empire in 1870, by being appointed Secretary-General of the Prefecture of the Department of the Bouches du Rhone. The following year he himself was elected to the Chamber of Deputies.

It was here that he got acquainted with that extraordinary and brilliant woman who afterwards became his first wife, and who was at the time representing one of the most important foreign European newspapers in Paris, more particularly as regarded the political and social features of French metropolitan life.

A Heart for All.

She was the natural daughter of the famous sculptor, Cadiot. Her mother disappeared when she was scarcely two years old, and from that time forth her childhood was passed in the vicious atmosphere of her father's studio. At fifteen she became deeply infatuated with the celebrated Abbe Constant, one of the most eloquent and learned priests of the age. She took up her abode with him, and in 1850 their relations, which were of the most public and flagrant nature, terminated in a marriage. The latter aroused a great outcry at the time, and led to the excommunication of the abbe, who thereupon assumed the name of Eliphas Levy, and became the friend of Blanqui and Felix Pyat. Two years after her marriage, Mme. Eliphas Levy deserted the man who had sacrificed his brilliant prospects in the church for her sake, became a pupil and associate of the sculptor Pradier, under whose tuition she developed into a very talented sculptress herself. She became the friend of the late Duc de Morny, whose bust by her chisel is one of the best plastic portraits in existence of that half-brother of Napoleon III., with whom she was also brought into contact.

After the overthrow of the empire, and the seizure at the Tuileries of the secret papers and accounts of Napoleon, documents were found and published showing that she had for several years been in receipt of a regular allowance of $5,000 a year from his privy purse. This ceased with his downfall, and she thereupon took to literature, publishing several very clever novels, under the name of "Claude Vignon," which she had likewise used for her sculptures. It was her success as a novelist which led her to turn her attention to newspaper writing, and she became the Paris correspondent of the great Brussels journal, the Independence Belge.

Two years after making the acquaintance of Rouvier, the death of her former husband, the ex-priest, permitted her to wed that statesman, who had meanwhile become one of the most influential members of the Chamber of Deputies, and as Mme. Rouvier she became a conspicuous figure in French political life, especially after Rouvier's appointment as colonial minister in 1881, after that minister of finance, and then premier. Mme. Rouvier died a decade ago, and her funeral was attended by most of the members of the foreign diplomatic corps at Paris, among them the Nuncio, who during her husband's terms of office had frequently been a guest at her table.

Some years later Rouvier married Mlle. Pommereul, and it was the jealousy which this second Mme. Rouvier—a very socially ambitious woman—developed with regard to Mme. Delcasse, that contributed in no small degree to Foreign Minister Delcasse's downfall at the hands of Rouvier. The latter himself then assumed the Department of Foreign Affairs, which enabled Mme. Rouvier to fulfil her aspirations and to preside as hostess at the splendid fetes given at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the Quai d'Orsay, in honor of the foreign sovereigns and royal personages visiting the French capital.

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STATE PRESS

Bond Issues for Good Roads.

One of the paramount questions of the day is road improvement. Campbell county is about to grapple that question in a sensible, practical way. Next Monday a proposition to issue bonds for $200,000 will be considered at Rustburg, the proceeds to be used in building good highways. It can hardly be doubted that the people of Campbell will indorse the proposition. It is unnecessary at this stage of the game to discuss the importance and value of good roads. On that point all sensible men are agreed. The point now under discussion is, what is the best method of securing good roads. The bond issue appears to be the best solution. That plan will give a respectable lump sum to be judiciously expended at once. In this way the roads will be secured at the earliest possible time, and the benefits will be enjoyed in the present instead of waiting the slower process of piecemeal improvement. A comprehensive system will be adopted and competent men will be put in charge of the roadbuilding. The burden of cost will be distributed over a series of years and will not be seriously felt by the tax-payers.—Lynchburg News.

Judge Watkins for Lassiter's Seat.

Prince Edward has never been represented in the Congress of the United States by a Democrat, and Farmville is the second city in the Fourth District. But neither Prince Edward nor Farmville would ask for recognition if they did not offer a son, "honest and capable." That was and is the Jeffersonian test, and Judge A. D. Watkins measures to it well and full. He "wears the white flower of blameless life," and has won his spurs as Democrat on the forefront of battle. Lassiter, the gifted and loyal Democrat, is dead, but Watkins lives ably to serve and faithfully to represent the citizens of the Fourth Congressional District. Prince Edward presents his name with just pride and genuine pleasure.—Farmville Herald.

Hampton Centenaries.

The step taken by the Merchants' Association a few nights since, when it heartily indorsed the movement for a celebration here next year and practically launched the undertaking, should be received with a great deal of pleasure by all of the people of the Peninsula. We have already pointed out the many features which will have centennials in the section, and such an opportunity should not go by unnoticed, and indications are that our people are not going to allow it to do so. We believe that the government will be found willing to aid such a project, not by appropriation, but by having representatives of her army and navy participate in the celebration. Perhaps the mother country would also take part in such a demonstration. Such aid, if it is possible to secure it, should be a sort of basis to go on. With this settled upon, the time and plan of the celebration could be fixed.—Hampton Monitor.

Now Let the Party "Make Good."

Since the Democrats have shown their strength in no uncertain way, it is up to the party to make good, should it ever regain its former position in affairs politically. We would have liked a close contest. A good balancing party is always sufficiently dangerous to keep the other fellow in the straight and narrow path. The game has been played straight—at least at the ballot box—and no bickerings should come as the result of defeat from any quarter.—North Emporia Independent.

Daily Queries and Answers

Address all communications for this column to Query Editor, Times-Dispatch. No mathematical problems will be solved, no coins or stamps valued and no dealers' names will be given.

Berlin or Chicago.

To settle a controversy, please tell me whether Berlin or Chicago is the larger city. ANXIOUS INQUIRER.

The last published figures give Berlin about 350,000 more than Chicago, but it is likely that the next consus will show Chicago in the lead.

Some Stage Matters.

1. What is the real name of Mary Anderson?
2. How old is Raymond Hitchcock?
3. Is Anna Held a native of America?
4. Does Madam Nazimova play her parts in English or in German? STAGE.

1. Mrs. A. F. de Navarro.
2. Thirty-nine years.
3. No. She was born in Paris
4. She plays in English, and so far as we know has never played in German. She is a native of Russia.

The Eagles.

What is the total membership of the Order of Eagles? M. M. T.

311,159.

Emory and Henry College.

To settle a bet please tell me when Emory and Henry College was established. STUDENT.

1836.

Smithsonian Institution.

Who is the secretary of the Smithsonian Institute? How can I address him? A SUBSCRIBER.

Charles D. Walcott, Secretary, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C.

Railroad Mileage.

What State has the largest railroad mileage in the United States? What States rank next? R. R.

Texas is first, with 12,931 miles; Illinois is second, with 12,137, and Pennsylvania is third, with 11,258.

Pennant Race of 1908.

What American League team finished second in the season of 1908? B. B.

Cleveland.

Record in Shot-Putting.

What is the record for putting fourteen-pound shot? J. K. M.

53 feet 4 inches.

V. P. I. and Carolina.

Did the V. P. I. defeat Carolina in 1908? What was the score? CONSTANT READER.

Yes. 10 to 0.

World's Championship Games.

Please tell me how many of the world's championship games were won by Chicago during the two years that team played Detroit? A PLAYER.

In 1907, all four; in 1908, four of the five played.

President of Wofford College.

Who is the president of Wofford College, South Carolina? S. K. L.

H. N. Snyder, M. A.

Top-Notch Baseball Price.

What was the highest price ever offered for a baseball player since the beginning of the game? PLAYER.

Owner Murphy, of the Chicago Nationals, in 1908 offered $50,000 for the release of Christy Mathewson. This offer was refused by New York.

College Fraternities.

Which fraternity and which sorority have the largest membership in the United States? K. A.

The largest fraternity is Delta Kappa Epsilon, the membership of which is 16,600. The largest sorority is Kappa Kappa Gamma, with a membership of 6,000.

Immigration Records.

Will you please settle the following bet? A contends that the immigration into this country during 1908 was larger than at any other time; B contends that 1906 was the largest year on record. Which is right? C.

Neither. Immigration in 1906 was larger than in 1908, but 1907 was the record year, with 1,285,349 immigrants.

Suburban Handicap.

Who won the Suburban Handicap at Sheepshead Bay in 1908? K. L. P.

James R. Keene's Ballot.

Sir Thomas's Last Race.

How long since Sir Thomas Lipton made his last challenge for the American cup? INQUIRER.

Six years. The last race was held September 3, 1903.

The Wheat Market.

What is the highest price on record for wheat? FARMER.

$2 per bushel, during the Hutchinson corner in 1888.

The Houdon Statue.

Why is the statue of Washington in the Capitol called the Houdon statue? STRANGER.

From the fact that it was designed by the Frenchman, J. A. Houdon.

Brazilian Coffee.

What country exports more coffee than any other? S.

Brazil, with 1,600,000,000 pounds per annum.

The Settling Basin.

What benefit is expected to be derived from the new settling basin if it is ever completed? CITIZEN.

Water will be run into the settling basin when it is unusually clear and will be used when the river is muddy. This will give Richmond clear water of good sanitary qualities.

Marriage in Washington.

If myself and my fiancee wish to be married in Washington, can my father prevent it? I am twenty-three years old and my lover is twenty-one. ANXIOUS INQUIRER.

No power under high heaven can prevent you from being married if you so elect.

Mount Airy.

I observe in your issue of yesterday that you refer to Mount Airy as one of the few remaining Colonial mansions. To what family did this mansion belong? A READER.

To the Tayloe family.

Suspected Tuberculosis.

My wife has a bad cough and has been losing flesh for some weeks. I am afraid she has consumption. How can I make certain? J. K. L.

Secure a physician and have him send a specimen of your wife's sputum to the State Board of Health, Richmond, Va. A positive diagnosis will be made by the board's bacteriologist.

Voice of the People

The Governor-Elect.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—Virginia has done herself honor in adding to the roll of worthies to grace the gubernatorial chair of the grand old Commonweaith the name of Judge William Hodges Mann. He is a Virginian to the manner born, thoroughly imbued with those noble sentiments and lofty ideals that have made Southern civilization revered the world over and Virginia's name a synonym of chivalric virtue. He is not spectacular, but sane, safe and conservative; not magnetic in the sense of a cheap display of sickly toadyism or deceitful smirking—the play for a gallery god—but personally attractive in genuine amiability, whole-souled Virginia gentlemanism and unfeigned courtesy. He is richly endowed with a fine analytical mind, is a deep thinker, a sound reasoner, and distinguished from the theorizing sentimentalist in that he seeks to execute his high ideals

It has been said of Judge Mann that his life's ambition has been to be Governor of this grandest of old Commonwealths. If true, surely a laudable ambition; but I profess to know him sufficiently well to aver that he is possessed of a nobler ambition, even that of discharging the functions of his high office in such a manner as to best promote the highest moral and material interests of the State he so dearly loves. The title of chief magistrate even of "the mother of States and of statesmen" could have no alluring charms for this goodly man apart from the opportunity afforded to conserve the commonweal.

The rivalry incident to the primary election and its attendant frictions and disappointments should now be forgotten and true Virginians of all parties and factions vie with one another and co-operate with the chief executive in earnest soul-purpose and effort to add yet greater lustre to the fame of dear old Virginia.

I predict that the historic page of the old Commonwealth that gave birth to Washington, Jefferson, Lee and the many other names that were not born to die will have been made no more resplendent by the able and faithful discharge of public duty on the part of a chief executive than that which will characterize the quadrennial of that noble soul it has been my privilege to know so long and love so well—William Hodges Mann.

W. M. BICKERS.

Richmond, November 3.

An Appreciated Tribute.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—In the name of the clergy and the people of the old Cathedral parish, permit me to thank you for the splendid edition of your esteemed paper of last Sunday, containing fine cuts and a page jubilee article of St. Peter's Church. On all sides the people complimented your enterprise in giving in brief form, the complete history of the historic old Cathedral.

One of the principal characteristics of The Times-Dispatch is that it gives to important events important space and matter, thus, proverbially, "rising to the occasion." May your paper continue its good work in not only giving the news, but in also being a power for good in our Southland!

F. JOSEPH MAGRI.

Richmond, November 6.

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The Confederate Museum

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