

Side Lights On Washington.

Social Season a Thing of the Past—Is the National Capital a Snobocracy?—The Political Complexion of the Next Senate—The Glavis Testimony in the Ballinger Investigation.

By JAMES A. EDGERTON. [Our Washington Correspondent.]

THE social season in the national capital is at an end. With the coming of Lent on Feb. 9 the big functions are over till after Easter. The season has been one of the shortest and most active in Washington social annals.



MRS. JAMES S. SHERMAN.

from appearing. One such occasion was the dinner given to the governors. Second to the White House functions, the receptions by Vice President and Mrs. Sherman have perhaps been the most popular affairs of the season.

Notwithstanding the fact that foreigners charge us with snobishness and plutocracy, Washington at least on the surface is democratic. There is scarcely a capital in the world that has so few feathers and so little ceremony.

The statehood bill for Arizona and New Mexico has gone to the senate and is practically assured of passage. It has the approval of the president and has been agreed to in a general way by the leaders of the two houses.

Not only do the representatives come up for election next fall, but thirty of the senators go out of office on March 3, 1911, and in most cases the legisla-

tures which will name their successors are chosen at the coming election. The thirty senators whose terms expire with this congress are as follows: Aldrich, Beveridge, Bulkeley, Burkett, Burrows, Carter, Clapp, Clark (Wyo.), Culberson, Daniel, Depew, Dick, Du Pont, Flint, Frazier, Hale, Kean, La Follette, Lodge, McCumber, Money, Nixon, Oliver, Page, Piles, Rayner, Scott, Sutherland, Tallaferro and Warner.

As to the chances of these senators for re-election, it is now announced that Aldrich will be a candidate to succeed himself, and there is every prospect that he will do so. In the case of Beveridge, the present legislature of Indiana is Democratic, and it is admitted on all hands that the fight in that state in the fall will be a hard one, and no confident prediction of the outcome is yet possible.

Carter of Montana and Clark of Wyoming will perhaps succeed themselves, although Montana in Populist days went against the Republicans. Clapp may have opposition in his own party, but as Minnesota has shown strong leanings toward the insurgent cause and as Clapp belongs to the insurgents his chances seem at least favorable.

Eugene Hale, the titular Republican senate leader, is to be opposed in his own party, Judge Frederick A. Powers having announced himself as a candidate. La Follette, the insurgent leader from Wisconsin, will certainly be a candidate to succeed himself and will doubtless win.

A rather remarkable fact is that of these thirty senators whose terms expire only six are Democrats. It is frequently said that by no possibility can the Democrats capture the next senate, but a little study shows that they might do so in a landslide.

One of the new features of the Glavis testimony before the Ballinger investigating committee brought in the names of Representatives McLachlan of California and Kinkaid of Nebraska. It appears that after Ballinger left the land office he became attorney for Kinkaid in an Alaskan coal claim.



LOUIS R. GLAVIS.

bill district of Nebraska—the "big Sixth"—covering most of the western half of the state. He belongs to the insurgent group, but I believe did not "go through" on the conference report. He is now serving his fourth term in the house. In one of the magazine stories Senator Heyburn was also brought into the affair.

In connection with these Cuningham claims comes the offer of J. E. Bellaine of Seattle for a lease of 5,000 acres of Alaska coal land. Mr. Bellaine believes that his proposition would bring into the coffers of the American government at least \$8,000,000. For a mere rental this is a staggering sum and gives some idea of the enormous value of these Alaska coal lands around which this Ballinger-Pinchot controversy is waging.

Views of The French Disaster

WHILE hundreds of columns have been published about the great disaster in France from floods, the illustrations now reaching this country give one, of course, a far better idea of the appalling conditions over there when the Seine and other rivers overflowed their banks. The scenes during the calamity were startling, to say the least, especially in the lower sections, where the water rose above the roofs of houses in some places, drowning hundreds and destroying millions of dollars' worth of property.

The scenes at night in Paris during the disaster presented a weird spectacle, soldiers, sailors, firemen and police working by the light of campfires and torches constructing tempo-



CARRYING MADAME ACROSS A FLOODED STREET IN PARIS.

rory walls to keep out the invading floods, while pickets patrolled the sections of the city in darkness.

In the outskirts and in the inundated regions above and below the city the greatest distress still prevails, despite the efforts toward relief and the prodigal distribution of food supplies. Hundreds of persons are found on the verge of starvation, and thousands who lost everything must be aided for months. It is estimated that more than 250,000 persons have been affected by the floods. Freezing temperature adds to the misery of the unfortunates.

Every civilized country in the world has offered aid for the victims, and France has appropriated large sums for the sufferers. The relief fund raised in this country, which amounts to a large sum, comes from every section of America, the French colonies



LADDERS USED TO REACH UPPER STORIES.

In the large cities subscribing liberally. In Paris, in addition to the regular establishment of the Red Cross and other relief societies, public spirited citizens have thrown open their buildings and upon their own initiative transformed them into hospitals. Many seminaries left vacant since the properties passed to the state have been equipped as hospitals and temporary homes for refugees, in some cases beds being set up in the cellars of the churches.

President Fallieres has given a large sum for the relief fund, and Marquis de Vogue, Count d'Haussonville, the Duke de Camasta, Count d'Harcourt and other representatives of the no-



OFFICIALS INSPECTING FLOODED STREET.

bility of France are devoting all of their time to the work of relief. The women of the Societe des Femmes de France, which is a Republican organization, distinguished from the Societe des Dames Francaises, have entered the hospitals as nurses. Mgr. Amette, archbishop of Paris, is personally directing the work of the Catholic clergy and charitable orders. The municipal council has adopted the suggestion of presenting medals to those who have been conspicuous in the rescue work.

"ELEKTRA" IN AMERICA.

Straus' Musical Orgy Creates a Sensation in New York. All New York is talking of Straus' great musical drama "Elektra," it having been played there recently for the first time in America and created as much of a sensation as it did abroad. Mme. Mazarin played the part of the



MME. MAZARIN AS ELEKTRA.

heroine, giving a wonderful and superb performance that has won high praise from the critics.

The opera is of one act only and lasts but an hour and forty minutes. The orchestra effects are marvelous. Tones of terror, wild shrieks, fantastic walls and terrific crashes of sound in which every instrument takes violent part are only a few of the amazing instrumental effects in this most amazing of all operas.

THE JORN CASE.

Famous Tenor, Like Ruskin, Sacrifices Much to Make Wife Happy.

Ruskin's unselfish love furnished the world a story that will never be forgotten, and a similar case has just become known. Learning that his wife loved another, Karl Jorn, the famous grand opera singer, rather than



KARL JORN.

prevent her from marrying the man of her choice, has agreed to arrange a divorce and give her \$25,000 and \$1,000 a year until she marries again. Mr. Jorn declares this act is due solely to his desire to see his wife, whom he still loves and who, he says, is one of the best women on earth, happy.

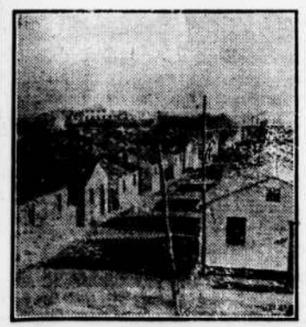
The famous tenor has devoted all his time of late years to the study of music. When he came to America he left his wife abroad, and she fell in love with another. It was to the famous painter Millais that Ruskin surrendered his wife when he discovered that they loved each other.

REBUILDING MESSINA.

Many Buildings Erected by Money Raised in America.

All the world was horrified by the great earthquake disaster in Italy a while ago, and much sympathy was felt for the victims, public subscriptions being raised to aid them in every civilized country in the universe. Americans have been especially generous in this respect, and large sums were subscribed.

The illustration shows the result of one of the plans of this country to



AMERICAN BUILT HOMES ERRECTED IN MESSINA.

help the sufferers in Messina. Houses were made in the United States that could be shipped in sections and easily set up on their arrival, and the structures are being much appreciated by the natives.

MR. BOWSER'S TESTS

What Parts of the Human Body Are Vulnerable to Cold?

NIGHT WALK FAILS TO SHOW.

Sidetracks Church Social to Make Experiments—Lands in a Snowdrift. Rescued by Policeman and Taken Home to Thaw Out.

By M. QUAD. [Copyright, 1910, by Associated Literary Press.]

"I HOPE you have nothing on hand this evening," said Mrs. Bowser to Mr. Bowser as they took seats at the dinner table the other night.

"And why?" he naturally asked. "I'd like you to go with me to the church social at my church. They are going to have a real good time, and the minister said he hoped to see you there."

"If it was any other night I would," was the reply.

"Are you going to a club?" "No, but I have a little matter on hand that is greater than fifty church socials rolled together. I have waited a week for just such a night as this."

"But what ails the night?" "Nothing ails it. It is perfect. There is a cutting wind straight from the north, and the thermometer is down almost to zero. Such weather conditions are worth thousands of dollars to me. Don't pester me with questions now, and I'll explain later on. I'll just say that I am on the point of settling a dispute in a way to make me a famous man."

Mrs. Bowser could extract no further information until dinner had been finished and he had his cigar alight. Then he assumed an air of immense superiority and said:

"Mrs. Bowser, you have been out in cold weather. In what part of your body did you feel the cold first and most?"

"In my ears, I think," she replied.

"Not in your toes?"

"Well, my toes have been cold."

"Not in your fingers?"

"Yes; my fingers have been cold too."

"As a matter of fact, you wouldn't make oath whether your ears, toes or fingers got cold first?"

"It is such a trifling thing that I never gave it any special thought."

Science Calls Bowser.

"Ah, yes; trifling thing to you and to thousands of others, but to science



WALK BY NIGHT FOR SCIENCE.

of such importance that the value can hardly be estimated." "Nonsense! What is it to science whether my big toe or my left ear gets cold first? Give it up and let's go to the social."

"Woman, you do not know what you ask, and I will not therefore be indignant with you. When we have ascertained what part of a person gets cold first we have solved a problem that brings the north pole and the south pole almost to our doors. Solve that and Mount McKinley can be climbed in January as well as July; solve that and the farmer can drive to market at 20 degrees below zero as well as when the bluebirds are singing. Winter at once loses its terrors for all of us, and fur coats will be a drug on the market at \$5 each."

"Are you going to send out circulars to a million people asking them whether their ears or their toes get cold first?" asked Mrs. Bowser.

"Don't be ironical, please. It is going to devolve upon me—Bowser—to settle this mooted question and to settle it by personal experience. Mrs. Bowser, did you ever hear of the organization known as the Association of Gay Old Scientists?"

"No. What is it—a bowling club?" "One hundred of the leading scientists of the world banded together to pursue scientific questions and subjects. They discuss and settle fifty different matters a year. They have discussed and vainly tried to settle this matter for the last twenty-five years, and at last it has been left to me."

"I suppose some faker came to the office and borrowed \$5 off you and made you believe this nonsense."

Fame Instead of Dollars. "Go a little slow, Mrs. Bowser, a little slow. I don't want to lose my temper, and I do want fair play. I am commissioned by the association itself. There's no \$5 about it. There is fame instead. Let me once solve that problem and Cook and Peary ar-

back numbers, I shall rank as a world benefactor."

"Well, just what do you propose to do?" was asked.

"I propose to dress just as all men do for cold weather and go out for a walk of about three miles. I shall keep tab on my ears, toes and other parts and see which feels the chill first. I shall experiment for two hours, and I shall win out."

"But suppose you find that your toes get cold first. What are you going to do about it?"

"There you have it. When we find what part gets cold first, then protect that part and you are immune. If it is the feet, then we wear rabbit skin stockings; if the fingers, then we will have mittens made of lion skin; if the ears, we will have conklin ear caps. In going to the north pole, Dr. Cook suffered with his nose. But for that he might have got there ten days sooner. Had he covered it with seal-skin there would have been no suffering."

"And this association of Gay Old Sports, or whatever it is, will accept your report, will it?" asked Mrs. Bowser.

"Bound to do it, my dear—bound to. I am commissioned, you see. Yes, sir, my word—Bowser's word—must settle the matter beyond cavil. As you have been very reasonable over this matter, I don't mind telling you a little secret in advance. I shall surely find that the back of a person's neck gets cold first."

"And the remedy will be to tie a bedquilt around it?"

"Never you mind the remedy. I will look out for that. If you wish to attend the social, go on. You will find me writing up my notes when you return. I am now going to take my departure."

Notes on Cold Points. It was surely a bitterly cold night, with few pedestrians abroad. Mrs. Bowser decided to stay at home, and Mr. Bowser plunged out into the glare and the cutting cold without extra wraps. He was shivering in five minutes, but at once began taking mental notes:

"The cold seems to be hitting me in the small of the back."

"My left heel now has an icy feeling."

"Left ear tingles. Right ear feels like sheet iron."

"Something strikes me between the shoulders."

"Toes on my right foot are curling up."

"Back of my neck is without feeling."

"Knees begin to wobble."

"Just touched my nose and found it like iron."

"Should any one take me by the right ear it would certainly break away."

"Thus far I cannot say just what portion of the human body feels the cold first, but I have only begun my experiments."

"Gee whiz, but that was a corker in the small of the back!"

"I can now realize how Dr. Cook's nose bothered him."

"My feet clump along as if in wooden shoes."

"What an ass I was to come out on a night like this, but I shan't let Mrs. Bowser know it."

"My knees are like rusty old hinges."

"Guess I'm wrong as to the back of the neck."

"Have just fallen down and got up. Ears and nose may have broken short off."

"The Association of Gay Old Scientists is depending on me, and Bowser never gives up."

"I am a chunk of ice on wheels."

"I think—I guess—"

A ring of the bell brought Mrs. Bowser to the door, and there stood a policeman holding up a very rigid man. That man was Mr. Bowser.

"Beg pardon, ma'am, but isn't this your husband?"

"It is."

"Found him in a snowdrift half a mile away. Let me help get him in. He's cold as iron, and we must be careful not to break his arms or legs off. I think one ear and one heel are gone now, but you may be able to thaw out and save the rest of him."

Remarkable Boy. Woggs—You seem to be very proud of your youngest son. He must be a very remarkable youth.

Boggs—He is. Judging from the papers, I think he is the only twelve-year-old boy in the country who hasn't invented a perfect wireless telegraph, submarine boat or aeroplane.—Puck.

Since He Insisted. "Pulsatilla, has anybody made you believe that I am engaged to another girl?"

"Yes."

"It isn't true, Pulsatilla. Tell me how I can convince you it isn't."

"Well, George, you'll have to go and get a refutation."—Chicago Tribune.

A Miracle. "Well," said Dunley self complacently after his first election speech, "you didn't think I could speak, did you?"

"I confess," replied Knox, "that I can't think of anything so marvelous that has happened for years—not since Balaam's time, in fact."—New York Journal.

Japanese Poetry. John, John, the piper's son, stole a pig, and away he run. The pig got loose and stole a goose. And John was put in the calaboose. —St. Louis Post-Dispatch.