

Personalities Of the Hour

And Their Occasion For Being In Print

Figures Uppermost In Current of Events



G. W. WICKERSHAM.

THE speech of Attorney General George W. Wickersham at the dinner of the New York Bar association recently has occasioned much discussion because of the different interpretations put upon certain language he used. He took occasion to refer to prosecutions of corporations believed to have violated the law and commended the work of the Roosevelt administration in its vigor in seeking to enforce the law thoroughly against all offenders. He continued:

"The work of the present administration is none the less important than was that of the last in continuing to enforce the laws of the country. But the methods which were necessary to awaken the business community to a recognition of the existence and vitality of these laws are no longer essential. It may be, it probably is, true that in the movement to impress upon the whole business world the meaning and force of certain laws and the necessity of attention and obedience to them some suits were instituted and some prosecutions commenced without sufficient consideration and without adequate cause. When such conditions are found to exist the present administration will not hesitate to withdraw the suits or dismiss the prosecutions."

Some have interpreted this pronouncement as meaning a letup in federal warfare on corporations, others as notice that the work would be carried on just as vigorously and thoroughly as before, but with less noise, the latter not being necessary, now that public sentiment has been so well aroused.

Mr. Wickersham's appointment as attorney general was somewhat criticized on the ground of his former corporation connections. Some, however, explained it on the theory that President Taft in his prosecutions of big offenders wished to have a man in charge who was thoroughly versed on the laws pertaining to the subject, and it is generally conceded that Mr. Wickersham is such a lawyer.

When his name was first mentioned in connection with the office it was even asserted in certain quarters that Mr. Wickersham was a corporation lawyer. The impression probably arose from the fact that in recent years he had been counsel for the subway company and was also conspicuous in the litigation of the Chicago Traction company and in similar cases.

Lieutenant Calvin P. Titus, fourteenth infantry, the first man to scale the walls of the Chinese city at the battle of Pekin, Aug. 14, 1900, has reconsidered his intention to leave the army, and President Taft has revoked the acceptance of his resignation. Lieutenant Titus resigned several months ago in order to devote his entire time to religious work, mainly in connection with the Y. M. C. A. It was accepted to take effect July 1, 1909.

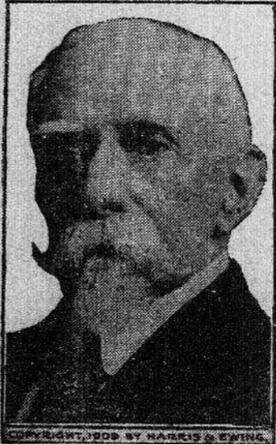
Lieutenant Titus has indicated his desire to be made a regimental chaplain. The acceptance was revoked in order to permit a compliance with his wishes, as it is realized that he would be a valuable man in that capacity. To become eligible for a chaplaincy it will be necessary for him to become an ordained minister.

Lieutenant Titus was born in Clinton, Ia., in 1879 and at ten years of age was given by his father to an uncle, W. H. Lee of Wichita, Kan., to rear. Lee was then a captain in the Salvation Army. Titus possessed a natural gift for playing the violin and fute and was a good singer. At fifteen he began to sing and march with the Salvationists. He was in Shaftsbury, Vt., in 1898 when the Spanish war broke out and enlisted in Company K, First Vermont volunteers, with the intention of going to Cuba. The regiment never went beyond Chikamauga.

In November of that year he was discharged and went west to preach to Indians and cowboys. In April, 1899, he enlisted again. He asked B. F. Nichols, a Wichita real estate dealer, to act as his guardian and had to pawn his gold watch for \$5 to get money to pay for the guardianship papers. Later Nichols took the watch out of pawn and sent it to the young soldier in Manila.

Because of Titus' act of bravery in Pekin, President McKinley appointed him to West Point. President Roosevelt gave him a bronze medal for conspicuous bravery voted by congress. He had finished his first year at the Military academy.

Exceptional interest pertains to the new minister to the United States from Venezuela, Senor Pedro E. Rojas, who has just presented his credentials to President Taft, because of the new regime that was inaugurated in Venezuela on the departure of President Castro. The government at Washington and Castro's government had come to the parting of the ways, and we had no diplomatic relations with Venezuela during the last few weeks of Castro's despotic rule. When he left the country and was succeeded by Gomez our government hastened to dispatch thither as a special commissioner William I. Buchanan, whose mission resulted in re-establishing good relations with the South American republic and paving the way for arbitration of the questions at issue regarding the property rights of Americans who had invested money in Venezuela and had, as they claimed, not received fair treatment at the hands of General Castro and his minions. The reception of Senor Rojas marked the complete and formal re-



PEDRO E. ROJAS.

establishment of diplomatic relations between Venezuela and the United States. In welcoming him President Taft said:

"The feeling of sympathy and good will which has existed since the independence of Latin America and which I trust will continue and grow stronger with the coming years between the republic of Venezuela and the United States of America naturally calls for close intimacy and friendship between the two countries and peoples."

Senor Rojas is about sixty-five years of age, has resided in New York and was among those driven out of Venezuela by Castro.

In case the daughter born to Queen Wilhelmina of Holland should not live to ascend the throne of the Netherlands the Dutch would go to the Grand Duke William Ernest of Saxe-Weimar. He was born in 1876 and is very rich. Several years ago he married the Princess Caroline Elizabeth Ida of Reuss, and she died from his court only a few weeks after the ceremony, leaving quite a scandal. The grand duke owns vast estates in Germany and Austria by inheritance from various relatives, and his fortune has been estimated as high as \$30,000,000.

President Taft signed an executive order recently changing the spelling of the La Salle national forest, in southeastern Utah, to "La Sal." The change was made in accordance with the suggestions of field officers of the forest service, as well as administrative officers in Washington, approved and recommended by the secretary of agriculture.

The spelling of the name of this national forest was made to conform with the name of the French explorer La Salle, through a misunderstanding, when the forests of the state were re-districted last July. The correct local application of the name, however, is to the Salt mountains, called by the Spanish "La Sal" mountains, evidently in reference to the salt deposits found in the region. Besides the range of mountains, a town and a creek in this part of Utah have the same name.

This national forest is in charge of Acting Supervisor John Riis, the son of Jacob Riis, the New York author and reformer. He entered the service as a forest guard some years ago and worked his way up through the ranks of assistant ranger and forest ranger to that of acting forest supervisor. This La Sal forest, which has its supervisor's headquarters at Moab, Utah, is located in district No. 4, with district headquarters at Ogden.

Great praise has been bestowed upon Miss Rose Lambert, superintendent of the united orphanage and mission at Hadjin, conducted under the auspices of the Mennonites. She has been in the Hadjin field longer than any other missionary there and during the fortnight in which the Christians of the place were besieged by murdering and looting Mohammedan tribesmen was most efficient in work for the defense of those in peril. She tele-

THE PERSECUTED ARMENIANS



ARMENIAN CHRISTIANS AT WORSHIP



CAPT. J. QUINAN.

THE Young Turk leaders of the Ottoman empire are convinced that the dethroned sultan, Abdul Hamid, was the real instigator of the outbreak of intolerance and cruelty which has caused the vast sacrifice of life in the Christian communities of Asia Minor. They also believe that he had plotted the death of all the foreigners at Constantinople. The chamber of deputies had determined on an investigation of the massacre at Adana, where the native Christian population was well nigh wiped out by the carnival of loot and crime which raged for many days. The persecution of native Christians and the dangers to which Americans in the country have been exposed have excited much interest in the United States and have resulted in protests being lodged with the American state department against the conditions prevailing in Turkey, conditions which many think ought to cause activity on the part of the American government. Our government has sent two cruisers, the North Carolina and Montana, to Alexandretta, a port near the disturbed districts which has an American consulate, and has also dispatched there the revenue cutter Tohoma, under command of Captain J. Quinan.

An American dragoon rescued sixty persons from Deuryul and brought them to Alexandretta. Deuryul, which was besieged for some days, made a brave effort to hold out against the fanatics.

One of the most heroic acts recorded in the long list of thrilling deeds performed by Americans in the course of the massacre was the attempt of the Rev. Stephen E. Trowbridge, an American board missionary at Aintab, to prevent the murder by a Moslem of an Armenian Christian. Mr. Trowbridge



REV. STEPHEN E. TROWBRIDGE.

chanced to be at Adana when the attacks on the Christians in that vicinity began.

He was an eyewitness of the shooting of the Rev. Daniel Minor Rogers and the Rev. Henry Maurer, fellow missionaries from America. He risked his own life in trying to prevent a fanatical follower of Mohammed from killing an Armenian Christian. He interposed his body between the murderous Moslem and the Armenian and threw his arms about the latter to protect him. Nevertheless the Turk fired and succeeded in killing his intended victim. Mr. Trowbridge in seeking to protect life and property was repeatedly exposed to the fire going on between Moslems and Armenians, and several bullets from Moslem rifles whizzed past very close to him. He says that the government authorities did scarcely anything to stop the rioting, pillaging and burning in Adana, and when they did anything at all it was to fire at Armenians who were resisting Turkish plunderers. Mr. Trowbridge was formerly assistant pastor of the Central Congregational church in Brooklyn borough, New York.

The Armenians in their extremity look for help to the foreigners in Turkey, especially the Americans. Many heroic acts have been performed by the Christian missionaries in Turkey and the foreigners attached to legations and consulates. Sometimes their efforts in behalf of the oppressed natives have met with success, but more often the odds against their being able to give these poor human beings aid have been too great to overcome.

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graphed the first description that was received at Constantinople of the dangers amid which the American women missionaries at Hadjin were placed. The first dispatch, which related how desperadoes had for days been killing and looting, robbing shops and plundering and burning homes, was borne by a messenger who was shot down and killed on his way to the telegraph office. The second messenger charged



MISS ROSE LAMBERT.

with the dispatch was successful in conveying it to its destination. Miss Lambert is the daughter of Rev. George Lambert of Elkhart, Ind.

The Armenians are a people of ancient origin, devoted to their nationality and their church, but persecution has scattered them, like the Jews, over the face of the earth. In the treaty of Berlin of 1878 Turkey promised to give the Armenian subjects of the sultan better treatment, but the promise was soon disregarded, and several extensive massacres have since occurred besides that of this year. The Armenian church was established early in the third century and is thus one of the oldest national churches in existence. Its ceremonies are much like those of the Greek church, but it has some distinctive features, and owing to the persecutions they have suffered the Armenians in Turkey worship mostly in the nighttime. The mass is said in the ancient Armenian, the sermon being in the modern. Their hierarchy claims succession from the apostles, like that of the Greek, Roman and Anglican communions. The secular priests may be married once, but are not permitted a second experiment in matrimony. The Armenians had a flourishing literature in the fifth century, and some of their hymns date from that era. There has recently been a revival both of their literary life and their religious activity.

The Syrian church is another existing in the Ottoman empire, and its members have also been persistently persecuted by the Moslems.

It is difficult to understand how in a country claiming to be civilized such a carnival of outrage and massacre can prevail as has been witnessed in Tur-



A SYRIAN ARCHBISHOP.

key in the past few weeks. It is estimated that in that time from 25,000 to 30,000 native Christians, mostly Armenians, have met death at the hands of Moslem murderers, and thousands of survivors of such cruelties are now homeless and destitute, many of them refugees in the yards of the American missions, embassies and consulates, where they seek protection under the banner of the cross or the starry flag of the United States.

In the Glare Of Footlights

John E. Dodson In "The House Next Door"

Robert Hilliard In "A Fool There Was"

IT is mixing metaphors a little to say that "The House Next Door" has made a hit in New York.

But it is a fact that John E. Dodson in this play at the Gaiety theater has won more praise than has been accorded any production of the kind in some time. The reason seems to consist partly in the circumstance that the play, which is by J. Hartley Manners, possesses genuine merit and teaches some lessons that need to be learned and taken to heart. The theme is racial animosity—the prejudice between Jew and gentile—and the claim is made that the aim of the production is entertainment pure and simple. However that may be, the effect of the drama is an appeal, and a very forcible one, too, in favor of fair play as between the races, deeply colored by race or religious prejudice. The story turns on the complications resulting from the Cotswolds and the Jacobsons becoming next door neighbors. Sir John Cotswold is an aged English baronet whose pride in his ancestry is only equalled by his ignorance of how to sustain the family pretensions. In consequence of his being so much more of an adept at spending money than making it his family become impoverished, his estate is mortgaged, and finally he has to pay rent for it to the Jew who has acquired it and who adds insult to injury, in the view of Sir John, by establishing himself and family in a house next door.

The rent gets long overdue, and Sir John is only enabled to pay it by the help of his son, who has won success in opera and who, it develops, has been enabled to obtain his musical education through the generosity of this same despised Jacobson. To cap the climax the Liberal government—Sir John is a Conservative, of course—makes Jacobson a baronet, too, in recognition of his philanthropy and public service. Sir John writes to the Times to protest that everything in the country will soon be owned by the Jews and insinuating that the title won by Jacobson is bought, and bought



JOHN E. DODSON.

with ill gotten gains. At this juncture of affairs he discovers not only that his son has fallen in love with Sir Isaac Jacobson's daughter, but, to make matters worse, his daughter has fallen in love with the latter's son. Conditions are very much mixed, and the situations resulting are comical indeed, while some scenes are not without an element of considerable pathos, as when the old baronet leaves the Jew's house with his daughter on his arm after she has decided to give up her lover and stay by her aged father, mistaken and blind in his prejudice though he is, to the end. But matters suddenly take a surprising turn, and even Sir John is convinced that he has been wrong all his life in thinking that there can be nothing good in a Jew. The role of Sir John is admirably interpreted by Mr. Dodson, who has made a character of the part deserving of a long survival in memories of the stage.

Mr. Dodson is one of the best authorities upon matters in this country. Once when about to make a nose to be fitted over his own nose Dodson discovered that the putty out of which he molded noses was exhausted and there was no more like it in the theater. There was no time to lose, and the only substitute to be found in town was flour, so he bent a boy out in a tremendous hurry for some flour, and when it arrived he mixed it with a little water, made a nose and rushed on the stage.

All went well at first, but at the end of ten minutes Mr. Dodson discovered that his nose was actually growing and at such a rate that the other actors also noticed it. It was becoming longer and thicker and bigger and threatened to obscure his shining countenance altogether. He could scarcely get through the scene, as the audience began to titter. For his nose swayed back and forth with every movement of the head and had become a perfect monstrosity before the act came to an end. Then Mr. Dodson rushed into his dressing room, tore off his nose and examined the bag of flour, the label of which had escaped his notice. "Self raising flour—requires no yeast. Mix with a little water and set in a warm place for a few minutes, when the dough will be ready for baking."

"A Fool There Was," based on "The Vampire," by Kipling, is one of the strongest plays seen in New York in several seasons and is a social study of the highest type. It is a tragedy—a tragedy of domestic life—and conveys a lesson as plain as is needed in these days, when there is so much danger of the marital tie being a loose one. It is fortunate that so good a play is in the hands of so capable and forceful an actor as Robert Hilliard, who certainly does some of the best work he has ever exhibited in his interpretation of the leading male role, that of the erring husband, who gets under the power of an adventuress.



ROBERT HILLIARD.

The victim finds her shades as hard to escape from as those of the enchantress of old so much feared by the mythic heroes whose adventures form the subjects of much ancient lore. In this case the adventuress cared nothing for the man whom she lured—she had already ruined the lives of several men before him—and she deliberately set out to break up his home for the pleasure which abnormal creatures such as she seem to find in such diversions. The foil to her character is presented by that of the wife, whose devotion to her life's partner is such that even after he has proved false she takes him back and endeavors to make a man of him again. In the last scene the adventuress once more appears and piles her wiles, but to no avail, for under the great emotional strain her victim, whose health has been undermined by his dissipation, dies at her feet as he is seeking to decide between her fascinations and steadfastness to his pleading, high minded and loving wife.

"A Fool There Was," which is produced under the management of Frederic Thompson at the Liberty theater, is a play which approaches social problems in the right sort of way, and its popularity is a good sign. Robert Hilliard has been famed in his day not only as an actor, but as a billiardist, swimmer and one might almost add as financier. At least he made \$25,000 as a broker in Wall street as quite a young man before he went on the professional stage. Asked one day why he gave up a position which promised lucrative results, he said, "Because I would sooner make a dollar on the stage than \$10 in business." As an amateur Mr. Hilliard used to act with Edith Kingdon, now Mrs. George J. Gould, in societies in Brooklyn. His first appearance on the stage was at seven years old in the drawing room of Philip Hubert, the architect, and in company with his daughter, Marie, who afterward became Marie Hubert Frohman.

Maude Adams has begun rehearsals in New York for the single performance of "Joan of Arc" which she is to give in the stadium of Harvard university on the evening of June 22. There will be over 1,300 persons, including supernumeraries, in the company. There will be fifty super capatins, two chief stage managers, ten ordinary stage managers, a large corps of electricians, property men, masters of costumes, masters of the horses that will be used in the battle scene and four skilled armorers.

The single performance of "Joan of Arc" will be given for the benefit of the Germanic museum and under the auspices of the German department of Harvard. The use of the stadium was granted some months ago to Miss Adams by the president and fellows of the college.

A special scenic setting adaptable only to the stadium, which seats 30,000 persons, will be used. The whole effect is planned to resemble the setting for the Passion play at Oberammergau. After the performance the whole production will be dismantled and its parts dispersed. An English version of Schiller's "Jungfrau von Orleans" will be used, and the incidental music, which will be an important feature, will be taken in most part from Beethoven's symphony, the "Eroica."

Honest.
"Wouldn't you marry if you had a chance?"
"If I could find my ideal in a man."
"And what would your ideal be?"
"Well, in the first place, one who proposed to me."