

position of that body was such as to command attention and emphasize all that they were bold enough to say. . . . The address is unquestionably one of the most scathing denunciations of existing conditions that it has ever been our good fortune to read. The creditable part of it is in the citation of facts rather than the display of forensic oratory.

**DEFEAT OF THE METZGER BILL IN OHIO.**

Cleveland Recorder (Dem.), Mar. 2.—It has been so often asserted that it has become a truism that when plutocracy or special privilege really wants something from the Ohio legislature or desires to protect some hoary outrage on the people enough crooked Democrats can always be had to join the Republicans to carry the point. The vote on the Metzger bill on Wednesday evening is no exception to the rule which has prevailed so long in such matters. Eight black sheep Democrats were on hand to vote for the street railroad monopoly against this best bill and most important bill of the session, and eight other Democrats dodged the question entirely.

Johnstown (Pa.) Democrat (Dem.), Mar. 2.—The Republican House of Ohio has defeated the Metzger bill advocated by Mayor Tom L. Johnson conferring on the people of cities the right to vote franchises for street railways without the consent of property owners on the streets covered by proposed grants. Thus it is seen that the President's party remains loyal to the interests of the traction monopoly.

**IN CONGRESS**

This report is an abstract of the Congressional Record, the official report of Congressional proceedings. It includes all matters of general interest, and closes with the last issue of the Record at hand upon going to press. Page references are to the pages of Vol. 40 of that publication.

Washington, Feb. 26 - Mar. 3.

**Senate.**

Senator Tillman, from the committee on interstate commerce, reported back favorably the bill on railroad rates as it had passed the House (p. 3025), after which the bill to provide for the final disposition of the affairs of the Five Civilized Tribes of Indians in the Indian Territory was considered (p. 3025). This was followed by acceptance of the House amendments to Senate resolution for investigating railroad discriminations and monopolies (p. 3037) and further consideration of the Statehood bill (p. 3037). On the 27th both the Statehood bill (p. 3130) and the Five Tribes bill (p. 3145) were considered; and on the 28th Senator Foraker spoke in opposition to the railroad rate bill (p. 3169); and the Aldrich resolution for extending the tribal relations of the Five Civilized Tribes was amended and passed (pp. 3187-3191). The bill for the final disposition of the affairs of the Five Civilized Tribes was considered on the 1st (p. 3263). It was under further consideration on the 2nd when the Senate adjourned to the 5th.

**House.**

The Lake Erie & Ohio River Ship Canal company bill was considered on the 26th (p. 3070) and passed on the 27th (pp. 3098-3099). Following its passage, the army appropriations bill was considered (p. 3100). This bill was further considered on the 28th (p. 3228), and on the 1st it was passed (pp. 3284-3302). Before the passage of the army appropriations bill the Senate resolution extending tribal relations of the Five Civilized Tribes of the Indian Territory was adopted (pp. 3279-2280). Only private measures were considered on the 2nd, and adjournment was taken to the 5th.

**Record Notes.**—Senator La Follette's amendment to the Five Civilized Tribes bill to prevent acquisition of coal or asphalt lands by railroads (p. 3151). Text of

Senator McCumber's resolution as to railroad rates (p. 3031). Senator Clay's proposed amendments to railroad rate bill (p. 312). Speech of Senator Hopkins on Statehood bill (p. 3131). Speech of Senator Doliver in the Senate on railroad rate regulation (p. 3313); by Senator La Follette on the Five Civilized Tribes question (p. 3327); and by Senator Foraker on the railroad rate bill (p. 3169).

**RELATED THINGS  
CONTRIBUTIONS AND REPRINT**

**PROPHECY.**

For The Public.

When, formed by groping mind and tedious hand,

The airy palaces of man shall stand,  
Substantialized, accomplished; when shall be

The builded vision of humanity,  
The city of the centuries—then know

Some prophet heart divined it long ago;  
Some poet glimpsed it where the spirit gleamed:

It is the city that the dead have dreamed.  
LEONORA PEASE.

**ONE TOUCH OF HUMAN NATURE.**

The following press dispatch is a simple, beautiful tribute to a man and woman who have gained vast wealth but have not lost their own souls:

Cleveland, O., Feb. 16.—The body of James, the 12-year-old son of James and Marian Tyler, negro servants employed by Mayor Tom L. Johnson, lies surrounded by palms and flowers in the music room of the Mayor's magnificent Euclid avenue house. The child died yesterday and funeral services were held in the Johnson mansion this afternoon. The Tylers lived in a house in the rear of the Mayor's home. When the child became seriously ill Mrs. Johnson brought him to her house, where she gave him her personal attention. All of the ministrations which a woman can give a patient, all the cravings which a child can have or money can satisfy, were his. The whole family attended the funeral services.

—San Francisco Star.

**THE RELATION OF GAMBLING TO THEFT.**

For The Public.

In a former article in The Public (vol. vii., p. 292) the writer classified gambling broadly as thieving. It is objected that the gambler should not be called a thief, because he does not take his plunder without the consent of his victim, who has an equal chance to get away with the plunder. Technically and formally, the element of a qualified consent does distinguish gambling from ordinary stealing. The classification which places the two together is a broad classification which takes into account the inherent essence of the thing rather than its form.

Gambling bears the same relation to theft that dueling bears to murder.

The element of consent is the same, to "do" or be "done." Some of the most wicked murders of history have been, in form, duels; and some of the worst thefts and robberies have been, in form, gambling. There are grades of dishonesty in gambling and theft, just as there are grades of wickedness in dueling and murder; but the essential and common element in murder and dueling is the wanton taking of human life, and the essential and common element in theft and gambling is the willful conversion of another's property.

The only ethical basis of property is productive labor, free exchange or voluntary gift. The gambler's title does not rest on any of these; it is a dishonest and dishonorable title. The fact that the gambler may play his game "on the square," does not make his title honest, any more than a strict observance of "the code" will justify the duelist in taking human life.

JESSE F. ORTON.

Grand Rapids, Mich., Jan. 10, 1906.

**THE NEW FRIENDSHIP.**

An editorial in the Manchester Guardian in reply to a correspondent who asked why there is no real friendship nowadays.

Between men and men certainly there is less than there used to be of the friendship that halves all sorrows and doubles all joys. Perhaps the age of the great friendships is over; the conditions of modern life are against it. For the formation of the perfect friendship there must have been common suffering. It will only thrive in an atmosphere of endurance and stress; no mere devotion to a cause will produce it; the cause must be, at the least, unpopular, if not dangerous, to favor its growth.

Another cause, and one mentioned by Bacon, is the growth of towns—"because in a great town friends are scattered, so that there is not that fellowship, for the most part, which is in less neighborhoods." Perhaps a truer way of stating the point would be to say that, though friends may get solitude in towns, they cannot get that isolation out of which the great friendships spring.

Yet another reason is the difficulty of shaking ourselves clear of the elaborate mechanism of modern life. The time-saving devices in which we unlucky moderns are entangled are for most people the great wasters of time. We are too busy to get anything done; the mere machinery of life keeps us attending to so many things