

is one of the greatest nuisances in Detroit. It is not scientific. It is not practicable, and is offered only as a bait. Six tickets for a quarter, with a transfer, is really what the company offers the people of Cleveland. Eight tickets for a quarter would not anywhere nearly meet the burdens that the company will be relieved of under such a measure as they ask. Oh, but you say they offer you something else: they are going to divide profits with you. They will limit their dividends to 5 per cent. They will give you half of the profits over that sum. You heard—some of you—the admission of the company that the question of profit was a mere matter of book-keeping. I don't think that if such a proposition as this was accepted the net returns would be very big. Expenses that are now charged to certain sources would then become operating expenses and your profits would not be very great. Don't you also notice they say, not present capital, but any increase in capital stock? And I say to you as an expert that an increase is merely turning on the hose. I say to you that this proposition deserves no consideration whatever. It is not a proposition to consider or to fool anybody about. You should reject it without referring to committees. That is what I would do. I don't think that the people or the Council are going to settle this matter by giving to the company the profits of the future. The city is entitled to something better. That plan demands at your hands, my friends, the consideration of the waste basket.

A motion to reject the proposal and a motion to refer it to a committee were both laid upon the table by the Council.

Republican Convention for Ohio.

Ohio is the pioneer in Republican politics of the Fall campaign, that party's convention for that State having met at Columbus on the 24th. The friends of Gov. Herrick and Senator Dick are reported as in control, and Secretary of War Taft was seated as temporary chairman. After his speech and the naming of committees, the convention adjourned for the day.

Democratic Convention for Pennsylvania.

The Democrats of Pennsylvania met at Harrisburg on the 24th, and nominated a candidate for State treasurer and a candidate for Superior Court judge.

Cuban Presidential Election.

The second presidential elec-

tion of the Republic of Cuba (vol. iv, p. 163; vol v, p. 104) is to be held next December, and on the 23d the National Liberal party, in convention at Havana, adopted its platform and nominated its candidates. The platform, besides advocating a modification of the Platt amendment (vol. iv, pp. 122, 153) whenever opportunity offers, demands—

decentralization of the government's control of local affairs by the development of provincial and municipal autonomy; sanitation; discontinuance of the department of justice; that judicial functionaries be responsible only to judicial tribunals; immediate payment of the balance due revolutionary veterans; road and harbor improvements; prudent reformation of the tariff in harmony with the commercial treaties; direct taxation as the principal basis of the government's income; adoption of a national coinage founded on the gold standard; arbitration of differences between employers and workingmen; encouragement of immigration.

The party's candidate for President is Gen. Jose Miguel Gomez, who was nominated by a vote of 103 to 6. Gomez is 50 years old, and a native of Santa Clara Province, of which he is governor. The candidate for Vice President is Senator Alfreda Zayas.

The plank in the platform which calls for modification of the Platt amendment is thus interpreted editorially by the Chicago Record-Herald of the 22d:

It appears that the Cubans have no intention of asking for the virtual repeal of the Platt amendment, which has hardly given them cause for complaint. What they would like to obtain is a modification of the article declaring that "all of the acts of the United States in Cuba during its military occupation thereof are ratified and validated, and all lawful right acquired thereunder shall be maintained and protected." Disclaiming any repudiationist designs, some of the Cuban leaders think that the Island government ought to be permitted to annul concessions and contracts that have operated to the disadvantage of the country. Thus the game of *jai alai*, authorized by Gen. Wood, is said to be a "social cancer" and a demoralizing form of gambling. The proprietors of the establishment claim a vested property right under the Platt amendment. Dissatisfaction, too, exists with the contracts for the sewers and other sanitation work. The necessity of guarding against the spread of yellow fever is recognized, but the

Cuban Liberals hold that the Platt amendment should not be so construed as to compel the Island to award particular contracts to particular persons.

The Tarriff Issue in Great Britain.

In connection with the movement in the direction of protection in Great Britain (p. 72), great disorder occurred in the Commons on the 22d. The Premier, Mr. Balfour, had publicly pledged his party in a speech at Edinburgh to refrain from dealing with the subject of tariff preferences for the colonies, without first "going to the country"—that is, dissolving Parliament and giving the people an opportunity to elect new members upon that issue. Sir Henry Campbell Bannerman, the Liberal leader, accused him on the floor on the 22d of violating that pledge. The grounds of the accusation were furnished by the Premier in a speech immediately preceding the accusation. In that speech he said, in reply to questions, that he—

did not consider himself pledged to inaction in regard to colonial preference except so far as Parliamentary action was concerned. But although the Ministry did not intend to deal with the fiscal question in the present Parliament, the matter of colonial preference might be submitted to a colonial conference in 1906, even though the country had not previously had an opportunity of expressing an opinion on the subject. The decision of the conference, however, would not be binding either on the mother country or on the colonies without legislative action.

A debate on the Bannerman accusation followed. The uproar was caused by the putting forward of Secretary Lyttleton, the secretary of state for the colonies, to speak for the Premier. The Liberals shouted Lyttleton down, insisting upon hearing "Balfour himself in defense of his own honor." On the following day, the 23d, Mr. Bannerman moved a vote of censure of the Premier and there was another uproar. To restore quiet, the discussion of this motion was postponed for a later day.

The Presbyterian General Assembly.

Turning from British political to American religious subjects, the meeting of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian church at Winona Lake, Ind., is to be noted. The Rev. Dr. James D.