

Rico, and the \$600,000,000 of sugar tax paid into our treasury.

According to H. O. Havemeyer, in his last "President's Annual Report," we are now contributing \$36,000,000 a year to the sugar growers, as follows:

	Tons.	Share.
Louisiana planters.....	350,000	\$12,600,000
Domestic beet.....	150,000	5,400,000
Hawaii.....	250,000	12,600,000
Porto Rico.....	150,000	5,400,000

By taking the figures of Mr. Havemeyer and other refiners, Mr. W. L. Churchill, a large beet-sugar manufacturer of Michigan, shows that the refiners are making a net profit of \$100,000 a day or \$36,000,000 a year. Thus, according to their own testimony, we are contributing \$72,000,000 a year or \$5 per family to the cane and beet-sugar "infants" which are now disputing with each other as to which shall run our government and dictate the division of the spoils.

Our total sugar tax, including the import duty of 1.95 cents per pound on refined sugar and a countervailing duty of .31 of a cent on German and .81 of a cent on French sugar, all of which is utilized by the trusts, is at least 2.25 cents per pound. We consume 5,200,000,000 pounds of sugar a year. Our total sugar tax, then, is \$117,000,000, of which \$63,000,000 reached our treasury last year and \$54,000,000 was divided, partially or impartially, between our sugar statesmen-refiners and cane and beet-sugar growers and producers. Out of this \$54,000,000 the sugar trust must, of course, meet the incidental expenses of conducting the government. The remainder is all "velvet" to them.

As great as are the direct "stakes" of our political sugar interests, they are exceeded by the indirect stakes to be won or lost by the Cuban-reciprocity deal. The sugar production of Hawaii increased over 2,000 per cent. under the free admission of sugar into the markets of the United States, and sugar lands there increased in value from a few dollars to hundreds of dollars per acre. By donating \$10,000,000 or \$15,000,000 a year to Hawaiian sugar-land owners we are adding from \$100,000,000 to \$200,000,000 to the value of their lands. The removal of 25 per cent. of the duty on Cuban sugar would

give about \$12,000,000 a year to the Cuban sugar-land owners—mostly Americans or other foreigners—and add \$100,000,000 to \$200,000,000 to the value of their lands. Annexation would add \$400,000,000, or more, to these values. Of course, then, Cuba would soon be supplying—as it is proper that it should—nearly all of our sugar and the value of the beet and cane sugar lands in this country—including those of Hawaii and Porto Rico would shrink quite perceptibly.

These are the great stakes being played for by our Havemeyers and Oxnards on our political chess-board, with 77,000,000 of us as pawns, and which will be continued in our next Congress and, in fact, our Congressional elections. That these are the real stakes is evident from the fact that as soon as he discovered that he was going to lose unless he could succeed in making it a drawn game, Mr. Havemeyer, according to reports, began to buy beet-sugar lands and factories.

Mankind will be doubly blessed when it succeeds in divorcing sugar and politics; when it can have the one without the other. Sugar will then be far cheaper and politics far less corrupt.

BYRON W. HOLT.

NEWS

President Roosevelt's campaign tour (p. 376), which he resumed on the 19th, with a view to canvassing the Western States, came to a sudden end at Richmond, Ind., on the 23d, in consequence of the necessity for a surgical operation upon his leg for an abscess. The abscess was located on the left shin between the knee and the ankle, and is supposed to have resulted from one of the bruises Mr. Roosevelt received in the recent trolley accident (p. 345) in Massachusetts. His physicians at Richmond issued a bulletin prior to the operation in which they pronounced the President "entirely well otherwise;" and after the operation, which consisted, according to the medical report, in the removal of two ounces of "perfectly pure serum," the secretary to the president, Mr. Cortelyou, issued a bulletin stating that although from indications the President should make a speedy recovery, it was

deemed absolutely imperative that he remain quiet and refrain from using the leg. Accordingly all his speaking engagements were canceled and he returned at once to Washington, where he arrived in the evening of the 24th.

Mr. Roosevelt had spoken on the 20th at Cincinnati, where he argued against the possibility of curing trust evils by revising tariff schedules, and advocated as his remedy for the trust evil, publicity first, and next, a constitutional amendment giving the Federal government power over corporations doing an interstate business. He had spoken also at Detroit. This was on the 22d. The burden of his speech there was reciprocity with Cuba. At Logansport on the 23d he delivered his speech on tariff revision, which was to have been delivered at Milwaukee. In this speech he declared the need to be some machinery by which, while perpetuating the policy of a protective tariff, we shall be able to correct the irregularities and remove the incongruities that are produced by changing conditions. He proposed no particular machinery for that purpose, beyond saying that there are two or three methods and that his personal preference would be that no action should be taken except after a report from a body of experts.

The Ohio campaign for home rule and just taxation which Mayor Johnson of Cleveland and Herbert S. Bigelow, the Democratic candidate for secretary of state, are conducting has met with increasing success and is of growing interest. After the large tent meeting of the 15th at Bowling Green (p. 376), the campaigning party went to Napoleon, in Henry county, which is Democratic, and where Johnson forced the Democratic candidate for auditor, not without difficulty, to pledge himself before a meeting of 5,000 people, that if elected he would do all in his power to make the railroad valuations the same as those of the farmer and the cottager, and that he would not ride on the railroads with a pass. The next meeting was held on the 17th at Defiance, in the Democratic county of that name, where nearly as large an audience assembled, and where Mayor Johnson exacted the same promise from the Democratic candidate for auditor of that county. On the 18th the meeting was held at Paulding, a place of 2,000 inhabitants, in Paulding county, a Republican locality,