

and evoking from them charges of bad faith. Two months afterwards parliament was dissolved, and it is probable that the bitterness among workingmen, engendered by the attitude of the Ministry described above, accounts for the Labor party's victory.

Apart from the issues raised by the Labor party, the questions at issue were chiefly between protectionists and free traders, the latter advocating a revenue tariff, and the former urging "fiscal peace,"—or, as we should say in this country, a "stand pat" policy. The elections were very much confused, as there were several factions. In some places it was Labor candidate versus anti-Labor. Then there was a good deal of sectarianism, an organization called the Australian Protestant Defense Association having sought to stir up strife against Roman Catholics. Women voted at this election, for the first time in most of the States. The women candidates, however, were all defeated, though more women voted than men.

The principal event of the week in American politics was the return from his European observation tour (pp. 613, 632) of William J. Bryan and his delivery of two important speeches on the political situation. The first was delivered at a reception at the Victoria hotel, New York, immediately after he had landed, which was on the 9th. Among those who participated in this reception to Mr. Bryan were Dr. Girdner, John S. Crosby, Senator McCarren, Bourke Cockran, Charles A. Towne, General James B. Weaver, and Edward M. Shepard, all of whom delivered appreciative speeches of welcome. As reported, Mr. Bryan said he intended to keep away from any personal identification with the campaign of 1904, and dwelt upon the idea that a high moral principle of equality and justice must hereafter form the basis of all party contests in this country. His second speech was made at a banquet at New Haven on the 11th, at which the other principal guests were Congressman De Armond of Missouri and Governor Garvin of Rhode Island. It was in this speech that he defined the great

political issue of the time as being—

the issue between man and mammon, between plutocracy and democracy. All surface questions of policy, of taxation, and of regulation of finance are but phases of that century-long, that world-wide struggle between the common people and organized wealth. To say that it does not pay for a nation to violate the rights of the people of another nation involves so much of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division that many get lost in a maze of mathematics. But to say that "the wages of sin is death" is to give an epitome of history that accords with each person's experience. In dealing with the trusts, with finance, with labor problems, and with all the other questions at issue, we must view them from a moral standpoint and arraign every evil at the bar of the public conscience. Will it win? Nothing else will give permanent success. As the martyrs who, eighteen hundred years ago, kneeling in prayer while hungry beasts devoured them, invoked a power mightier than the legions of Rome, so to-day it is not only possible, but necessary to appeal to that moral sentiment which when aroused will prove more potent than the purse.

St. Louis has been decided upon as the place and July 6 as the time for holding the Democratic national convention. This decision was made by the national committee of the party at Washington on the 12th. Both New York and Chicago were in the contest, and the selection of St. Louis is reported to have been effected partly in the interest of Mr. Gorman, as the Southern candidate, and partly in fear of Mr. Hearst, in whose favor it was supposed the galleries in either New York or Chicago might be packed, and whose claims have developed into a serious problem for the party.

An arbitration conference, also held at Washington on the 12th, adopted resolutions urging the government of the United States to endeavor at once to arrange arbitration treaties. These resolutions were submitted to a mass meeting in Lafayette theater in the evening of the same day and were accepted with enthusiasm. The resolutions are as follows:

Resolved, That it is recommended to our government to endeavor to enter into a treaty with Great Britain to submit to arbitration by the permanent court at The Hague, or, in default of such submission, by some tribunal specially constituted for the case, all differences

which they may fail to adjust by diplomatic negotiations.

Resolved, That the two governments should agree not to resort in any case to hostile measures of any description till an effort has been made to settle any matter in dispute by submitting the same either to the permanent court at The Hague or to a commission composed of an equal number of persons from each country of recognized competence in questions of international law.

It is further resolved that our government should enter into treaties to the same effect, as soon as possible, with other Powers.

Among the notable speakers were Gen. Miles, Cardinal Gibbons, Andrew Carnegie, Edward Everett Hale and Rabbi Silverman. John W. Foster, former secretary of state of the United States, was president of the conference, and Thomas Nelson Page was secretary.

News from the San Miguel mining strike in Colorado (p. 631) must be read with caution, since this strike region is subject to press, telegraph and telephone censorship; but such as has been allowed to go out is to the effect that since the declaration of martial law and down to the 7th, 56 men had been expelled from San Miguel county by the military authorities, and that the search for firearms had resulted in the confiscation of between 600 and 700 weapons.

Similar efforts to drive men out of the Cripple Creek region have been met—whether successfully or not, does not appear—by an injunction. This was issued on the 7th by Judge Seeds of the District Court on the application of the Western Federation of Miners against the State militia, the Mine Owners' Association and the Citizens' Alliance. It enjoins them from driving union miners from the district. Adjutant General Sherman M. Bell was reported on the 7th to have said that he had given instructions to Colonel Verdeckberg, commanding the State troops in the Cripple Creek district, to permit no service upon himself and other officers of the guard in the injunction suit, and he declared that no attention would be paid the writ.

Regarding the Cleveland, Ohio, traction question, Mayor Johnson appears to have scored a pro-

nounced victory in his 3-cent fare fight. The proposed ordinances described a week ago (p. 632) were passed by the city council on the 11th. One of these ordinances confers upon the Forest City Railroad company, the 3-cent fare line, the franchises now held by the Cleveland Electric railway, the monopoly line, upon Woodland and Central avenues. The contention of Mayor Johnson is that one of these franchises will expire next September and the other next year. The condition of the granting of the franchises is that passengers be carried for 3 cents. The other ordinance establishes a zone within which only 3 cents fare can be charged by any company. This zone extends about four miles from the center of the city and would affect about 85 per cent. of the travel from home to work place. The probable completeness of Mayor Johnson's victory in the matter is indicated by the press dispatches of the 13th. We copy that which appears in the Chicago Record of the 14th:

After four years' bitter fight the three-cent-fare men, led by Mayor Tom L. Johnson, have won. It was announced to-day that the Cleveland Electric Street Railway company would present a proposition to the Mayor providing for three-cent fares for 85 per cent. of the people of the city, five-cent fares for 12 per cent. and seven-cent fares for the remaining three per cent., on which the request for a 25-year extension of existing contracts is asked. The Mayor will accept this proposition. The granting of franchises Monday night to companies proposing to parallel the important lines of the existing company demonstrated to the latter that "it was useless to maintain the present rate of fare, which is six tickets for a quarer and universal transfers. The three-cent fare zone embraces all the territory covered by the rival companies. The concessions granted do not include transfers. The railway officials declare that the giving of universal transfers has been extremely unprofitable. The announcement had a bull effect on the stock of the Cleveland Electric on the stock exchange, where it advanced $4\frac{1}{2}$ points on very heavy trading.

In Chicago the traction question (p. 594) has been invested with a new element, through a definite proposition as to compensation to the city made by the Chicago City Railway company to the aldermanic committee on the 12th by

its lawyer. On the basis of the tentative ordinance now pending he offered 5 per cent. of the gross receipts for 20 years, as estimated by the company's experts (\$197,000,000), and 20 per cent. on any excess over that estimate. These receipts, said the company's lawyer—

are to be computed annually, and if in any one year the receipts run beyond our calculations the city is to get 20 per cent. of the excess. It is to get 5 per cent. anyhow, whether they come up to our figures or not. This payment is, of course, to be in lieu of all other public charges against the company, except taxes on our tangible property. We will agree to pay our regular real estate and personal property taxes as heretofore, but will ask to have the amount of our capital stock tax deducted from the compensation paid the city.

NEWS NOTES.

—The Iowa legislature assembled on the 11th.

—Myron T. Herrick was inaugurated as governor of Ohio on the 11th.

—Maj. Gen. Chaffee was appointed lieutenant general on the 8th in place of Gen. Young, retired.

—Ruth Cleveland, 13 years of age and daughter of ex-President Cleveland, died of diphtheria at Princeton on the 11th.

—Gen. John B. Gordon, the last of the great Confederate generals, died at Miami, Fla., on the 9th, at the age of 72.

—Charles Foster, ex-governor of Ohio and secretary of the Federal treasury under President Harrison, died at Springfield, O., on the 9th. He was 76 years of age.

—The number of deaths in consequence of the Chicago theater fire (p. 632) is now estimated by the police at 598, while the records of the coroner show but 571.

—Jean Leon Gerome, the famous French artist, died at Paris on the 10th, at the age of 80 years. He was found dead in his bed, having died alone during the night.

—On the 11th the Senate confirmed the appointments (p. 632) of William H. Taft as secretary of war; Luke E. Wright as civil governor of the Philippine islands, and Henry C. Ide as vice governor of the Philippine islands.

—In the Straits of Juan de Fuca, between Seattle and Victoria, the Puget Sound Navigation company's steamer "Clallam" went down on the 9th, with every passenger on board, 56 in number. Ten of the crew lost their lives in efforts to save passengers.

—Senator Hanna, of Ohio, was re-elected on the 12th by the Ohio Senate and House sitting separately. The vote

stood 86 representatives and 29 senators for Hanna and 24 representatives and 4 senators for Clarke. The election was confirmed on joint ballot on the 13th.

—Gov. Yates has appointed ex-Judge Elbridge Hanecy to a vacant judgeship in Chicago, and on the 11th Judge Hanecy accepted. Judge Hanecy was overwhelmingly defeated for reelection last June. In a poll of 28 candidates for 14 places (p. 130) he was returned as the twenty-sixth.

—British reports of the 11th by way of London tell of the recent defeat of the Mad Mullah's main army in Somaliland, Africa (p. 200), 5,000 strong, by a British force of 3,200. At least 1,000 of the Mad Mullah's dervishes are said to have been killed and his army to have been dispersed, "for the present at least."

—The United States has concluded commercial treaties with China and Japan, as announced on the 12th, for opening Mukden, Antung and Fatung-kow, cities of Manchuria, to the trade of the world. It is predicted from St. Petersburg that this will directly involve the United States in the Far Eastern question of the European Powers.

PRESS OPINIONS.

CRIME.

Chicago Tribune (Rep.), Jan. 11.—The New York Journal of Commerce, commenting upon the Iroquois theater calamity, says: "Graft and unscrupulous greed among people who are not yet rated as belonging to the criminal class are getting to be the source of as much peril to the community as that underworld of vice and crime against which penal legislation is mainly directed." There is a world of truth in this pithy comment. It is the crime at the top as well as at the bottom which is responsible for most great disasters. It is greed, the demands of which are often accomplished by graft, sometimes by influence. The Mayor himself, in an interview the other day, hinted at the same thing when he said: "I am blamed for not enforcing the law. Every time there is an attempt made a delegation of prominent business men travels to the City Hall and protests. There are always prominent citizens to ask that ordinances be suspended for their benefit."

THE PANAMA SECESSION.

Springfield (Mass.) Republican (Ind.), Jan. 1. (weekly ed.).—Commerce appears to lord it over us all, not recking of precedents, treaties or justice. An American writer on the isthmus, studying the origin of the "ditch-delivered" republic, reports that it "owes its existence to nothing that bears any resemblance to Panamanian patriotism. The new nation is the child of greed," he says, "conceived of the project for the ship canal," at that particular point. It was born as the result of no genuine uprising against tyranny, but of the open and unblushing bribery of officials, and an unlawful protection extended at a critical moment by a great foreign power. The real inspiration came from no impulse of nationalism beating in the heart of an oppressed people, but from the pocket nerve of the Panama railroad company and a French canal engineer, who was not even a resident of the Isthmus. Sordid, corrupt, tricky in most particulars.