
INCIDENTAL SUGGESTIONS

AN APPEAL TO PARENTS

To Awaken in Children Their Inherent Love of Cultivating the Soil.

Chicago, Mar. 22, 1910.

Let your children co-operate with Mother Earth in bringing forth fruit and flowers.

She will reciprocate by giving them vitality, health and strength. Aye, she will reveal herself to her loyal brood for their loving recognition, by instilling in them sweetness, ecstasy and love.

Friends, when the day arrives when idle hands shall have an opportunity to apply themselves to the source of all wealth, without let or hindrance, then the Glad Day, so long foretold by poet, sage and seer, shall have come.

JAMES POPPERS.

NEWS NARRATIVE

To use the reference figures of this Department for obtaining continuous news narratives:

Observe the reference figures in any article; turn back to the page they indicate and find there the next preceding article, on the same subject; observe the reference figures in that article, and turn back as before, continue until you come to the earliest article on the subject; then retrace your course through the indicated pages, reading each article in chronological order, and you will have a continuous news narrative of the subject from its historical beginnings to date.

Week ending Tuesday, March 22, 1910.

Victory for Insurgent Republicans in Congress.

By a combination vote of Insurgent Republicans and regular Democrats in the lower house of Congress, the regular Republicans under the leadership of Speaker Cannon, were on the 19th defeated in a matter of vital importance.

+

The question was finally determined by the vote on a resolution offered on the 17th by George W. Norris of Nebraska, an Insurgent Republican; but the first skirmish occurred on the 16th over a ruling by the Speaker. He had ruled that a census resolution had the right of way (being privileged business under the Constitution, which provides for a census), over the regular calendar unless otherwise ordered by a two-thirds vote. From this ruling on the 16th an appeal was taken, and the Speaker was overruled by a vote of 163 to 111. The roll call then disclosed Insurgent Republicans to the number of 42. On the following day, the 17th, Mr. Norris offered his resolution, which, as subsequently amended in some details of no essential importance, is as follows:

Resolved That the rules of the House of Representatives be amended as follows: (1) In rule 10, paragraph 1, strike out the words "on rules shall consist

of five members." (2) Add a new paragraph to rule 10, as follows:

Paragraph 5—There shall be a committee on rules elected by the House consisting of ten members, six of whom shall be members of the majority party and four of whom shall be members of the minority party. The Speaker shall not be a member of the committee and the committee shall elect its own chairman from its own members. Resolved, further, that within ten days after the adoption of this resolution, there shall be an election of the committee and immediately upon this election the present committee on rules shall be dissolved.

The points about this resolution are that it takes from the Speaker the power of appointing the powerful committee on rules, that it doubles its membership, and that it excludes from the committee the Speaker who has heretofore dominated the committee.

+

Immediate consideration of that resolution was demanded in accordance with the Speaker's ruling of the 16th that a Constitutional subject is privileged (the duty of making rules being provided for in the Constitution as well as the duty of taking a census), but the Speaker refused to rule. The regular Republicans, however, were in a minority, and could not sustain him; but in support of the Speaker they battled for time. The Insurgent Republicans and the Democrats, battling back, tried to force a ruling from the Speaker; but he refused to make one, and the parliamentary struggle went on. Three times on the 17th the regular Republicans were defeated on motions to postpone. Shortly before midnight they moved a recess which was defeated by 142 to 141. Then the regulars resorted to the tactics of breaking the quorum by leaving the chamber, and at half past two on the morning of the 18th, a roll call showed no quorum, only 154 members being present. Orders to fetch absent members were then voted, and the House was kept in session far into the following day.

+

On the 18th, in the afternoon, after 26 hours of continuous session, a short recess was taken to promote a proposed compromise; but the Speaker would agree to nothing divesting him of dictatorial power. Upon the reassembling of the House, however, he announced his readiness to rule on the Norris resolution. But he was interrupted by his chief supporter, Mr. Tawney, with another motion to postpone. This having been assented to in advance by the Insurgent Republicans, against the protest of the Democrats, the matter went over to the 19th by a vote of 164 to 150. When it came up accordingly on the 19th the Speaker ruled the Norris resolution unprivileged, and the House, promptly overruling him by a vote of 182 to 160, thereupon adopted the Norris resolution by 191 to 155. By the same vote a Demo-

cratic motion (invited by the Speaker) to declare the Speakership vacant was then defeated.

+

The adoption of the Norris resolution, by taking from the Speaker the powers of concentrated control over the House of Representatives which he exercised under the old rules, makes him simply the presiding officer of that body.

+ +

The British Parliament.

Pursuant to the program agreed upon by the House of Commons on the 28th (p. 254) this House will adjourn on the 23d, over the Easter holidays, and its sessions will be resumed on the 29th, when the movement to curb the power of the House of Lords will proceed. Meanwhile, Mr. Asquith, the prime minister, has given formal notice of the veto resolutions the Ministry have agreed upon. He did this in the House of Commons on the 21st. As reported by cable the proposed resolutions, three in number, are in substance as follows:

The first declares it is expedient that the House of Lords be disabled by law from rejecting or amending a money bill.

The second declares that it is expedient that the powers of the House of Lords over bills other than money bills be restricted by law, so that any such bill which has passed the House of Commons in three successive sessions and has been rejected by the House of Lords in each of these sessions shall become a law without the consent of the House of Lords, on Royal assent being declared, provided that at least two years have elapsed between the date of the first introduction of the bill in the Commons and the date it passes the Commons for the third time.

The third proposes to limit the duration of each Parliament to five years.

+

In the House of Lords the Rosebery resolutions for reforming that House from within (p. 254) were adopted in part by that House on the 21st. The first two resolutions, declaring that a strong and efficient second chamber is not merely an integral part of the British constitution, but is necessary to the well being of the state and the balance of Parliament, and that a second chamber can best be had by reconstituting the House of Lords, was unanimously adopted; but the third renouncing the hereditary principle went over. It was passed on the 22nd by 175 to 17.

+ +

The French Ministry Tides Over Its Crisis.

The French Premier, Mr. Briand, has met the scandal of the exposure of vast graft in the liquidation of the church property for the Republic (p. 254), with a pluck that has brought a popular vindication. In a powerful speech in the Chamber

of Deputies on the 15th he made no attempt to plead extenuating circumstances for what had happened; but contended that the government was not responsible for individual breaches of trust in the great work of the separation of the church and the state, which, he said, "had freed the country from ties which tomorrow other countries will be obliged to sever." The Chamber adopted a resolution by 343 votes to 79, condemning in the severest terms the manner in which the liquidations were executed, but expressing confidence in the government's promise to fix the responsibility and punish the guilty, whoever they may be found to be. On the 17th the Senate adopted a similar resolution by a vote of 261 to 13.

+ +

Alsace-Lorraine Desires Statehood in the German Empire.

The provinces of Alsace and Lorraine, ceded by France to the German Empire in 1871, at the close of the Franco-Prussian war, have since been governed as the "Reichsland," or Imperial Land, of Alsace-Lorraine, under laws voted by the Reichstag, or Imperial Parliament, administered by a Governor-General bearing the title of "Statthalter." The double province now desires the standing of a Federated State, like the other States of the Empire; and on the 15th the Reichstag, by a narrow margin, adopted a resolution presented by Mr. Preiss, an Alsatian member, asking for such Statehood. Dr. Gregoire, another Alsatian member, offered an amendment, which was adopted, providing that in the event of an Alsatian parliament being formed, its members should be elected by universal, equal, direct secret ballot.

+ +

The Prussian Suffrage Bill Is Passed.

The Government's suffrage bill (p. 254) was passed by the Prussian Diet on the 16th, without essential changes, by a vote of 238 to 188. The bill substitutes direct for indirect suffrage, the old system having been for groups of 150 electors to elect delegates, who in turn elected the members of the Diet. In other respects the bill fails entirely to meet the desires, not only of the Socialists, but of all radical and progressive groups, including the "intellectuals," as the professional classes are called. The Government refused to include secret balloting in the new measure, which also provides for the retention of the three-class electoral system, whereby the electors are divided according to the amount of taxes they pay, but officers, officials and other members of the educated classes are placed in the first or second class, irrespective of the amount of their taxes. The majority for the measure in the Diet was composed of the Conservative and Free Conservative parties, only two members of which refused their support. The minority was made up of the National Liber-