All Parts of the Country Represented at White House Ball.

Miss Ethel Roosevelt, daughter of the President, was formally presented to society Monday night at a small dance given in the historic east room of the White House. In this same room her half sister, Mrs. Alice Roosevelt-Longworth, made her debut on the night of January 3, 1902.

This auspicious event, which has been so engerly anticipated by society. was attended by 600 debutantes and beaux of the season, guests being present from every section of the country Only one member of a family was invited and invariably the youngest one. No married people were present save the matrons of Miss Roosevelts immediste family.

At 10 e'cleck Miss Roosevelt took her place in the blue room beside her mother and received her guests. She looked very girlish and handsome, gowned in soft white satin trimmed with crystals. Her hair was in an effective coiffure and caught through the tawny brown tresses was a narrow Grecian fillet. Mrs. Roosevelt was gowned in dark blue satin. The room was tastefully decorated with palms

and chit flowers, A notable feature of the evening was the number of Harvard and other college students present. Besides the college boys, unmarried attaches of foreign legations and army officers in their gay uniforms made up the bulk of the male contingent.

Among the onlookers were Mrs. William Sheffield Cowles, Mrs. Douglas Robinson, sisters of the President; Representative and Mrs. Nicholas Longworth, Mrs. J. Ellen Roosevelt, the entire Kean family, Mrs. Nat Simkins, Mrs. Robert Bacon, Mrs. Charles A. Munn, Mrs. Richard Wayne Parker and Mrs. Herbert Wadsworth. President Roosevelt viewed the dancing for some time and then returned to his work. Miss Ethel's two brothers, Theodore and Kermit Roosevelt, were emong the dancers.

TRADE OF WORLD FALLS OFF.

United States Not Alone with De-

creased Exports and Imports. The United States is not alone in the record of smaller imports and smaller experts that will characterize the history of our fereign commerce in the year 1908. Of the twenty-five principal countries of the world all but four show a falling off in exports, and nearly two-thirds show a falling off in imports. Every country with the exception of Argentina, Spain, Greece and Sweden show exports of 1908 below those of 1907.

It will thus be seen that the falling off of approximately \$300,000,000 in imports and perhaps \$150,000,000 in exports in the commerce of the United States during 1908 is part of a general condition which prevailed the world over. An analysis of our foreign commerce this year shows that the principal decrease on the import side occurred in trade with Europe and on the America.

WITCHGRAFT AFFECTS WILL.

Children Testify Aged Father Was Indusered by Strange Belief. The will of Jacob Schonacker was set

aside by a jury in Common Pleas Court in Norwalk, Ohio, for the reason that the testator was income at the time the inyear. It is the first time in the history If the county that a will has been brok en. The will disposed of an estate val-ued at about \$10,000. The bulk of the property, two farms, was left to two was cut off entirely; a daughter was beprovided for, and five daughters were left \$400 each. The suit to break the will was instituted by the daughter to whom \$5 was bequeathed. The children testified that their father believed in witchcraft and frequently complained, in his younger days, that he was under the spell of witches. Physicians were put upon the stand to show that belief in witcheraft was a form of insanity.

PASTOR ENDS LIFE WITH RAZOR

Searching Party Finds Minister

Failing to arrive at church where his congregation had assembled for worship, a searching party was formed to search for Rev. Robert C. Dougherty, pastor of the Congregational church at Buchanan, N. D. Visiting his apartments over the Buchanan State Bank, the minister was found lying in a pool of blood, with the razor with which he had cut his throat gripped in his hand. A rambling note found on a table. This note was eviently written Dec. 23, on which day he borrowed a revolver from a neighbor, but his courage failed him then. Mr. Dougherty was formerly in Kansas City.

Wenrs Fur Cont; Killed as Bear. Mistaking a drunken man, clad in a long buffalo overcoat, for a bear, Thomas Deckmar, a farmer, shot and killed Thomas Andrews near Lafayette, Tenn. Andrews had been in jail, but was pa-roled that he might go home. Instead, he got drunk and sat down to sleep in

CURRENT NEWS NOTES. Cardinal Victor Lucian Sulpice Lecot,

archbishop of Bordeaux, died at Cham-Date culture in the Imperial valley,

California, is declared to be a success by J. W. Jennings, an experimenter. Justices of the Court of Special Sea

elons in New York sat almost all night in efforts to catch up on cases. Forty-two steam and thirteen sailing

vessels were built in the United States and officially numbered during November. A special commission from Porto Rice is in Washington for the purpose of induc-ing Congress to impose a duty of 5 cents s pound on foreign coffee, the principal industry of the island.

A bridge three miles in length will be ilt by the Pennsylvania road over Hell York, to Long Island. The center arch will be 1,000 feet long.

The Rev. John P. McCloskey, assistant stor of the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Toledo, in the pulpit announced that his days were numbered, according to doctors, but he would labor to the

PRESIDENT OF FRANCE ATTACKED IN STREET

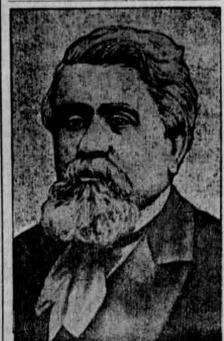
Man Throws Arms About Fallieres' Neck and Tries to Pull His Beard.

ROYALIST PLOT IS SCENTED.

Insult Generally Believed to Be Act of Vainglorious Seeker After Notoriety.

While Armand Fallieres, the Presifent of France, accompanied by M. Ramondou, his secretary, and Colonel Lasson, military attache at the Elysee palace, was taking a morning stroll near the Rue de l'Etoile in Paris, a poorly clad individual, who evidently had been lying in wait, suddenly jumped upon the President from behind and threw his arms about M. Fallieres' neck in an effort to seize his beard. Colonel Lasson and Secretary Ramondou sprang to the assistance of the President, dragged off his assailant and turned him over to two special detectives who had been following the party on bleycles. President Fallieres' cane was broken in the struggle, but beyond a scratch on the ear he was not injured and insisted on continuing his

walk. As the detectives slipped the handcuffs on the man he cried: "I am unarmed. I simply wanted to pull the President's beard." At the station



PRESIDENT FALLIERES. house the President's assailant proved to be Jean Mattis, a cafe waiter, 24 years old and a native of the department of Savole. Medals of General Mercler, the former Minister of War; stamps bearing the head of the Duke of Orleans, a card of membership in the Patrie Francaise and other Royalist documents were found on his person. During the examination Mattis

boasted of being a Royalist and talked confusedly of having done his "duty" and obeyed the dictates of his "con science." Quantities of Royalist reactionary literature were found by the police when they ransacked his resi-

The investigation reveals the facthat Mattis was in close relation with the Royalist organization, and this gives color to rumors that he was the instrument of a Royalist plot. Serious evidence in this direction, however, is lacking up to the present time.



No football game will be played between Iowa and Minnesota next fall and negotiations have been practically ended, as the Gophers insist that the game be played at Minneapolis and Iowa insists that it be played at Iowa City or not at

Alfredo De Oro of Cuba is the three cushion billiard champion of the world, baving won the third block of the match with Thomas A. Hueston of St. Louis by the score of 50 to 38. The final score for the three blocks game is, De Oro 150,

Now that Demarest and some of the other stars are out of amateur billiards. owing to the showing up in Chicago, it should be possible to arrange an unusually interesting amateur tourney, for the lesser players will have a chance now they did not have before.

Negotiations are on to take the Cornell, Yale and Harvard rowing crews to Seattle during the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific exposition next summer. It is planned to hold at least one regatts on Lake Washington each mouth during the exposition, which epens June 1 and closes Oct. 16.

The State board of control of high school athletics will not decide on the place for the annual meet of the Iows high schools, but the different institutions will be given an opportunity to choose the location of the big yearly event. Des

Moines expects to capture the meet. A fine row has been stirred up in base ball circles by statements from Umpires Klem and Johnstone that an attempt was made to bribe them at the deciding game between New York and Chicago at the New York Polo grounds. National League officials are investigating and prosecutions may follow,

Harry Pulliam was unanimously elected prosident of the National Baseball League at the annual meeting of the as sociation. John Heidler was re-elected to the secretaryship.

Freeport wants to stay in the Wiscon-sin-Illinois League. A committee is now busy in the Illinois city raising the difference between \$1,800 already subscrib-ed and the total \$2,500 deficit.

The crowds attending football games are increasing every year. An attendance of 30,000 or more at big games is not uncommon this year. The smaller college es are drawing proportionately large

INVITES I'MO NATIONS.

President Roose veir Asks Canada and Mexico to Aid in Conservation.

Announcement has been made at the White House in Washington of a proposed plan for a conference looking ral resources of North America, to be held at the White House Feb. 18 next, toward the conservation of the natu-

Letters suggesting the plan have been addressed by President Roosevelt to the Governor General and to the Premier of Canada and to President Diag of Mexico. They will be delivered to the officials in person by Gifford Pinchot, chairman of the National Conservation Commission and chief forester of the United States whom President Roosevelt has chosen as his personal representative to convey the invitations and to confer with the authorities of the two governments. Mr. Pinchot first will visit Canada. He then will carry the invitation to President Diaz at the City of Mexico.

The proposed North American conference is the outgrowth of the two conservation conferences held in Washington, in which the governors of the States and Territories were the principal conferees. The representatives designated by the Canadian and Mexican governments will, under the proposed plan, consult with representatives of the State and other departments of this government and with the National Conservation Commission. The main object of the conference, as announced, will be to point out that natural resources are not limited by the boundary lines which separate nations, to develop a better knowledge of the natural resources of each nation on the part of the others, and to invite suggestions for concurrent action for the protection of mutual interests related to conservation.

WILL GIVE UP CUBA JAN 28.

Provisional Government of Island to Terminate on That Date.

Answering Governor Magoon's request for authority to convene the Cuban Congress and give formal possession to the Cuban government on Jan. 28, the following was received the other day from Washington:

Magoon, Havana :- Pursuant to instructions from the President, the Secretary of War directs:

1. That you assemble the Cuban congress on a convenient date, to be selected by you, to act on the credentials of members-elect of the Senate and House of Representatives,

2. That, having passed on the credentials of members-elect and completed their organization, they assemble in joint session to canvass and declare the result of the vote of the electoral college for President and Vice President, and thereafter be in recess until reassembled by you for the purposes specified in the following paragraphs:

That the terms of office of the President-elect and Vice President-elect of Cuba shall begin on the 28th of January, 1909, on which day they shall be inaugurated; that congress shall be assembled during the forenoon of Jan. 28. 1909, the call therefor specifying the initial duty of congress to be the induction into office of the President and the Vice President, and thereafter the consideration of all matters within the jurisdiction of congress at its regular sessions; that the President be inaugurated and the provisional government terminated at 12 o'clock noon on said Jan. 28, 1909.

This means the complete approval of the plan submitted by you, EDWARDS.

GROSS-EARNINGS TAX IS LEGAL Minnesota Wins Cases Against Great

Northern and the Maple Leaf. The State of Minnesota won a double victory in the Supreme Court in St. Paul when that court, by Justice C. L. Brown. filed opinions in its favor in both the Chicago Great Western and the Great Northern railways tax cases. The court upholds the validity of the law increasing the railroad gross-earnings tax from 3 to 4 per cent, which the roads attacked as unconstitutional. Attorney General E. T. Young personally fought the roads' contention that they could not be made to pay a gross-carnings tax larger than the 3 per cent, which was provided for in their territorial charters. The Great Northern case nominally involves \$120, 737.38 for 1905 taxes. The Great Western case involved about \$25,000. The amount at stake, however, is really more than \$150,000 a year to the State treasury, if the decision is sustained by the United States Supreme Court, to which it will undoubtedly be appealed.

RIVALS FIGHT DUEL TO DEATH.

Girl Rejects Both, Challenge Follows

and One Is Killed. Because Julia Pico, aged 14, would accept neither as her husband, Powell Formich and Michael Milanovitch fought a duel with short knives in a darkened room in Cleveland. Formich was killed after be had buried his knife in the neck of his opponent. During the fray several boarders in the house formed a ring about the contestants, "Repeatedly the girl for whom the men fought attempted to interfere. Not until they paused long enough to knock her sense less did she desist in her attempts at peacemaking. Both men loved the girl Both proposed marriage to her. She refused both, saying that the man she loved was far away. Milanovitch supposed that Formich was the lucky man and challenged him to a duel. Milanovitch was taken to a hospital after he had been charged with murder.

Low Water Delays Coal Ships. A shipment of 1,000,000 bushels of coa left the Kanawha diver the other day for Cincinnati and Louisville. The river at dam No. 6 lacked one foot of enough water to start the Pittsburg fleet of over 25 000,000 bushels for the South on Tues-

Shaves Man; Kills Self with Razor. Taking the rezor with which he had just finished shaving a man in the Port Jervis, N. Y., barber shop where he was employed, Paul Graff, 31 years old, cut of the interior. his own throat, dying instantly

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WORLD'S GREATEST DISASTER

EXTENT OF CALAMITY

Province of Calabria Scene of A ful Engulfing Seismic Disturbance.

MANY THOUSANDS MEET DEATH

Sicily in Ruins and Entire Kingdom Terrorized, Fearing Greater Disaster May Come.

One hundred and fifty thousand persons of a population of 1,750,000 in the Italian departments of Calabria and Sicily devastated by the earthquakeone in every twelve inhabitants-are dead in the most disastrous catastrophe of modern times, in which Reggio, a city of 50,000, vanished from the face of the earth, leaving but five mad survivors. Another city was almost entirely washed into the sea and the whole face of a nation was changed in the space of thirty-two seconds. The measure of havoc cannot accurately be toppled from the perpendicular and The city had vanished as completely estimated. No accurate figures on the death list are obtainable, but apparent- sites. That was the experience of Mes- cian's spell. Observations indicate that difficult. The tidal wave wrecked the ly reliable estimates place the fatalities sina. That of Reggio, on the opposite Reggio was completely swallowed by as high as 150,000. The calamity is side of the strait, must have been more the earth's collapsing beneath it and the greatest in the history of the violent, for scarcely one stone remains the yawning site was filled by the sea sea. The news caused a deep impresworld.

From several towns near the center of the disturbance no word came, and there seemed reason to fear that there are no survivors to vivors were unable to approach the ed Cattanzaro and Palmi half de-sides of the strait of Messina have describe their fate. The destruction of coast, owing to the changed configura- mented by fright. One of these was been leveled to the ground and nothing

FIRST AID TO THE STRICKEN.



Chaotie Rocks Replace City.

Warships ordered to relieve the sur-

violence of the shock seems to have | tion of the straits of Messina. Ultibeen unprecedented except by volcanic mately a torpedo boat ran close to the eruptions within a limited area. The coast, but was unable to discover a buildings of Messina were not merely trace of the city. Where a few days shaken down-their foundations liter. before stood the homes and works of ally were yanked from beneath them men and busy strets there was found tion of the strait of Messina, showing to one side or to the other, until they nothing but chaotic rocks and earth. fell in ruins alongside their original as Aladdin's palace under the magion another in that once flourishing which advanced in a huge wave there, as at Messina. Only five of the city's from commercial and military points 50,000 inhabitants have been account- of view will be incalculable, ed for. These unhappy wretches reach-

TOWNS WRECKED BY THE QUA

The towns in Sicily and southern Italy reported wrecked by the earthquake are as follows:

Messina, Sicily-Population, 150,000; wrecked by earthquake and swept by tidal wave; loss of life enormous.

Catania-Third largest town in Sicily, n ruins. Paterno, Sielly-Ten miles northwest

of Catania, 15,000; a heap of smoldering Vittoria, Sicily-Town of 17,000, on

the Camarine river; wrecked. Naro, Sicily-Population, 11,000; half destrayed. All-Fifteen miles southwest of Mes-

sinn, one of the most ancient towns in island; population, 2,600; badly dam-Mineo, Sicily-Ninety-six miles northwest of Catania; badly damaged.

Patti-On the north coast of Sicily; wrecked. Castorenl-Population, 7.600; twelve miles southwest of Milazzo; badly

Palmi, Calabria-On the southwest coast; population, 14,000; in ruins.

Reggio, Calabria—Population, 4,500; across the Strait of Messina from the city of Messina; reported completely de-

Scilla, Calabria-Reported destroyed. Bagnara-Sixteen miles northeast of Reggio; population, 7,000; reported wiped

an army officer who telegraphed to Rome that the city had been entirely destroyed and that the dead were numberless

The ministry of marine at Rome received wireless reports of the obstrucits safe navigation to be impossible until it is recharted, while its future navigation is likely to be extremely lighthouses in the strait, including Fare beacon, and they crashed into the sion in Rome, for Its consequences

Other towns and villages on both

TYPICAL ITALIAN CITY AND MAP OF EARTHQUAKE REGION WHERE THOUSANDS MET AWFUL DEATH.



VALPARAISO EARTH QUAKE IN 1906 THE SAMI MEASURES ARE BEING USED

but ruins are left to indicate where

they formerly stood. \ Messina Warned Often.

Messina experienced a similar disaster in 1788. She had then the same preliminary warnings during the previous four or five years that she had recently in 1905 and 1907. Both Messina and Reggio are on the seismic line of contact or boundary between the primary and secondary formations which separate Mount Etna and Mount Vesuvius. It is a veritable storm center of earthquakes, yet Messina stayed for this last lesson in the light of modern scientific knowledge. Messina probably will not rise again from her ruins and ashes.

This last overwhelming calamity will alter the future history of Sicily and southern Italy. It will be regarded as certain that a considerable portion of the population of this fair land will bow before the wrath of the gods and seek homes elsewhere. Next to Italy itself, America will feel the effect of this calamity more than any other country, for a large proportion of the stricken population will seek refuge there as soon as the means of flight can be secured.

MANY HURT IN THEATER PANIC.

A TYPICAL COAST TOWK.

property could not be as great as at

San Francisco, for Messina and Reg-

gio, the two principal cities destroyed,

were not rich or magnificent from the

Face of Country Is Altered.

As a great cataclysm of nature, how-

ever, this disaster is on a far vaster

scale than the California phenomenon.

The whole face of the country and the

const line have been altered. Even

Scylla and Charybdis have changed the

positions they have occupied since

Aenas' legendary voyage. The three

provinces where the greatest damage

was done were Messina and Catania,

in Sicily, and Reggio di Calabria, on

the mainland. They comprise about

4,400 square miles. The rock of Cha-

rybdis now blocks the entrance to the

strait of Messina. Several hundred

persons perished and much damage

was done outside of these provinces,

but within them the devastation was

so complete that scarcely a human

Unbeaval Lasts 32 Seconds.

All accounts agree that the time oc

cupied by nature's gigantic spasms was

but thirty-two seconds. Some minutes

later a great wave completed the

havoc in the ill fated coast towns. The

habitation remains.

metropolitan point of view.

Fire on Stage at Altoona, Pa., Routs Spectators in Hurry. Following the close of an act at the Keith Theater in Altoona, Pa., where a moving picture show was being presented, Dayton, Ohio. fire started on the stage. There was a mad rush for the exits by the panic stricken spectators and many received painful bruises. While the firemen were responding to an alarm the flames spread rapidly, consuming the stage nad much

BURGLAR GETS \$29,000.

Bank Theft Due to Faulty Repair Work.

But for the reversing of a spring in the vault time lock a burglar could not have carried away \$29,700 from the First National Bank of Monrovia, Cal. Four days before the robbery an expert locksmith from Los Angeles overhauled the lock. He did his work faultily and left Shaves Man; Kills Self with Razor. the lock outwardly in good shape, but actually useless. The fact that the burg-

Commits Suicide in a Tub. Despondent from a long illness, caused by a cancer of the throat, David Hart, 80, a Civil War veteran, committed suicide by drowning himself in a bathtub in the hospital at the Soldiers' Home in

GREATEST DAMAGE.

PALERMO

At Frankfort, Ky., Justice Lassing, in the Court of Appeals, rendered a decision giving horsemen a sweeping victory, holding that betting or wagering on a horse race is not gaming and cannot be construed as a felony.

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Taking the razor with which he had just finished shaving a man in the Port lar had still to open an ordinary combi-nation lock has caused the belief that he was skilled in the handling of locks.

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TONIAN

PALMI

SYRACUSE.

BOGNARO

handle CASTROREAL TALL METITO

PATERNO CATANIA

MAP OF SICILY AND LOWER ITALY, SHOWING LOCATIONS OF TOWNS WHICH SUFFERED

Date culture in the Imperial valley. California, is declared to be a success by I. W. Jennings, an experimenter, Justices of the Court of Special Ses-

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pastor of the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Toledo, in the pulpit aunounced that his days were numbered, according to doctors, but he would labor to the

Beaten, Robbed, Cremated. A. Gollahon, 75 years old, of Broadford, Va., was beaten, robbed and incinerated in his own house, which was set afire by tramps, who are thought to have known that the old man had money around the premises.

Entombed Miners Found Dead. Entombed in the Pennsylvania colliery at Mount Carmel, Pa., by an avalanche of coal, the bodies of Frank Logan and Stanislaus Mortsvage were found in a manway by a rescuing party.

Black Hand Wrecks House. Because he refused to pay \$1,000 de-mandedfi the Black Hand is believed to have attempted to kill Joseph Cacolici and his family in Cleveland. Dynamite was exploded at a corner of his house and considerable damage was done, but no one

Disbarred Attorney Loses Office. Judge Jones of the Circuit Court in Sloux Falls, S. D., has decided that George W. Egan, who was elected State's Attorney after his disbarment by the Su-preme Court, is not eligible to hold the