

will examine it closely, is responsible for Theodore Roosevelt's sweep into his present position as the idol of the nation, for the rise of Folk into world of prominence, for the Chicago victory for municipal ownership, and Hearst's tremendous race against McClellan in New York, for Jerome's magnificent victory as an independent candidate for district attorney in the same city, for the smashing of bosses in all the big cities, for the crushing of the great gambling ring in Missouri, for the general house cleaning in the haunts of high finance, for the New Year's news from all the railroad offices that the great transportation companies are going to discontinue the pass method of bribery. Will all its financial lunacy, the Chicago platform and the man who stood upon it have profoundly affected this nation, though not directly. Beyond all peradventure of dispute the challenge which that pronouncement and that candidate gave to wealth as the one worthy object of existence, and to wealth's right to dictate the policies of the nation awakened in men's minds the thoughts which have flowered into such splendid deeds as are of record in New York, Philadelphia, Cincinnati and other cities to the credit of the electorate."

**I**N THE NEW YORK STATE senate Mr. Brackett of Saratoga introduced and pressed for consideration a resolution demanding that Chauncey M. Depew resign from the United States senate. Mr. Brackett's resolution was defeated and many republican senators rushed to Mr. Depew's defense. When the vote was taken the democratic members refused to vote on the ground that, as they had had nothing to do with Mr. Depew's election to the senate they should express no opinion on the question of a recall. Thirty-five republican votes were cast on Mr. Brackett's resolution. Thirty-four were cast against it and one vote—that of Mr. Brackett himself—was cast for it. The resolution was therefore rejected.

**A**FTER A VIGOROUS contest the house passed the Philippine tariff bill January 16. The bill passed substantially as it came from the ways and means committee, the vote standing 258 yeas to 71 nays. Concerning this measure the Associated Press report says: "The bill admits goods the growth or product of the Philippine islands into the United States free of duty, except sugar, tobacco and rice, on which a tariff of 25 per cent of the Dingley rates is levied. It provides that after April 11, 1909, there shall be absolute free trade each way between the United States and the Philippines. It also exempts Philippine goods coming to the United States from the export tax of these islands. Merchandise from each country is subjected to the internal revenue tax of the country in which such merchandise is withdrawn for consumption."

**M**R. McCALL of Massachusetts, a republican, sought to amend the Philippine bill by defining the purpose of the United States to fit the Philippine islands for self-government, and to give them their independence whenever they show themselves capable of enjoying that boon. Mr. Payne, a republican member, raised the point of order that the McCall amendment was not germane to the bill. The chairman of the committee of the whole sustained this point of order. Mr. McCall appealed from the decision, but the decision was sustained by a vote of 198 to 123. Messrs. McCall of Massachusetts, Hoar and Fordney of Michigan being the only republicans voting to sustain the appeal. The democrats offered a substitute providing for immediate free trade with the Philippines, but this substitute was defeated by a vote of 321 to 106.

**A**LTHOUGH THE NORWEGIANS have chosen a monarchy, however constitutional, as the form of government rather than a republic, the Springfield (Mass.) Republican says: "They are running things just now in Norway in the most democratic fashion." The Republican explains: "They have dispensed with 'your majesty' for the king and queen, and with 'your excellency' for dignitaries. The sovereign is addressed as 'Mr. King,' just as in this country we say 'Mr. President.' Haakon has been spoken to in that way ever since he entered his kingdom, and seems to take it very kindly. In fact, he accommodated himself to the democratic spirit by landing in Christiania in plain civilian dress, with a fur coat and high silk hat, and carrying his two year old boy on his arm—for he knew that the Storting had decided that civil servants

of the state, cabinet ministers and all the rest, should wear no uniform, but only simple evening dress on state occasions. It is reasonably deduced that Norway's diplomatic corps will be governed by this, and reinforce the United States with another quiet region in midst of gold lace, medals and feathers. Also the Norwegians are averse to all orders and things of that sort, and the deputation from the Storting that went to Copenhagen to offer the crown of Norway to the Danish prince were much embarrassed by King Christian's conferring decorations upon them, and only accepted and wore them out of respect to the old monarch. Such, according to the reports, is the stern democracy of Norway, and very fine it is."

**A** DISPATCH UNDER DATE of Cleveland, Ohio, January 14, and printed in the Chicago Tribune follows: "On Dr. Osler, noted for his 'old age suicide' theory, is placed the blame for fifty suicides in Cleveland last year. Out of eighty-three cases of self-destruction in this city during 1905, fifty of those who killed themselves were past the age of forty years. In commenting upon this fact, shown by the annual report of the health department for 1905, Health Officer Friedrich expressed the opinion today that the agitation resulting from the announcement of the Osler theory was responsible for this condition. 'Many of these on reading the opinion of Dr. Osler concerning the age when men passed the period of usefulness and his theory regarding their being put out of the way when the period of usefulness was over, become despondent,' said he today."

**T**HE LIBERAL PARTY has made a clean sweep in English elections. Even Mr. Balfour who on the stump boasted that he had served his people faithfully for twenty years, has been retired. The opposition has resorted to phrases of that character with which the American people have become quite familiar, but those phrases have been of no avail, and the liberals have scored what is generally regarded as the greatest victory in history.

**T**HE "ONLY LIVING EX-PRESIDENT" is given a valuable hint with reference to the unhappy experiences of another ex-president when the Springfield (Mass.) Republican says: "Making Mr. Cleveland a rebate referee at a salary of \$12,000 a year can find no other adequate explanation than that it is a scheme of Thomas W. Ryan to provide him with a handsome salary at the expense of the policyholders of the three big companies to serve as a trustee of Ryan's Equitable stock. The ex-president is allowing himself to be tied up with Ryan as Grant became tied up with Ward."

**I**T IS ANNOUNCED by the Chicago Record-Herald that Walter Wellman, who has had some experience in searching for the North Pole, and who is now Washington correspondent for that newspaper, will lead an expedition in an attempt to reach the North Pole by motor airship. Mr. Wellman will have as his aeronautic expert Alberto Santos-Dumont. Various opinions as to the outcome of this voyage are expressed. Willis L. Moore, chief of the national weather bureau, expresses the opinion that Mr. Wellman's project is feasible. General A. W. Greeley says: "The airship should be tested between New York and Leavenworth before being used for a polar expedition." Professor Irl Hicks, of St. Louis, says: "Just what can be accomplished with the airship we do not know, but we do know that no airship has yet been built which the operator can steer in any direction he wills to go." In the meantime the Record-Herald and Mr. Wellman are getting considerable advertisement from the press notices concerning the remarkable project.

**W**RITING TO THE Providence, Rhode Island, Journal, a Pawtucket reader, using the name "Observer," says: "The whirligig of time brings its revenges. In today's Journal I read an editorial deploring the fact that there is likely to be an overproduction of gold and that the United States alone produced a gold dollar for each of us. Being in somewhat of a reminiscent mood I cast my memory back to the campaign of 1896, and brought to mind the reams of editorials written in the Journal in favor of the gold standard and the stability of gold as a measure of value. How Bryan was sneered at and ridiculed as an ignoramus because he insisted upon the truth of what is known as the quantitative theory of money, that is, the value of the dollars is

based upon the number of dollars in circulation, and not upon the material of which they are made. Mr. Bryan maintained in 1896 that there were not enough gold dollars in the world to carry on the business of the world, and, therefore, it was necessary to increase the number of dollars by the free coinage of silver. Today the production of gold is greater than the combined production of gold and silver in 1896, and the result is the dollar has fallen in value in relation to other things just as Bryan said it would if free coinage of silver were adopted. The unlooked-for increase in the production of gold has vindicated the quantitative theory of money and rendered the free coinage of silver unnecessary. As things look now there will, in the near future, be a veritable flood of gold and all the arguments of the gold standard papers, to the effect that the gold dollar is a dollar of stable value, will be proven fallacious. It is not improbable that before many years the annual production of gold in the world will reach \$1,000,000,000, which, when added to the existing stock will so cheapen it that the men who have insisted that the principal and interest of all bonds should be payable in gold will feel that their editorial teachers have taught error instead of truth. I expect before a great while to see the Journal, with all the solemnity and superior wisdom for which it is noted, proclaiming that the gold dollar is a dishonest dollar, and its coinage, except in limited quantities, prohibited. It is seldom that time vindicates a man as soon as it has vindicated Bryan, but in the enormous production of gold in the past nine years it has vindicated him with a vengeance."

#### A CHAPTER ON RATE LEGISLATION

(Continued from Page 5)

the rate on lumber from La Crosse, Wis., to this same market. The commission decided that Eau Claire was being unjustly discriminated against and ordered that the rate from Eau Claire should not exceed a prescribed differential higher than the rate from La Crosse. The road serving Eau Claire promptly reduced its rate in compliance with the commission's order, but this reduction was as promptly met by the roads serving La Crosse, and the latter served notice that any further reductions in the rate from Eau Claire would be met by similar reductions in the rate from La Crosse. In commenting upon this case the commission added that: "Eau Claire is still suffering from the effects of this discrimination." This is still another instance showing how delicately rates are adjusted to conditions. The only remedy for discriminations between localities is the power to fix minimum as well as maximum rates.

Another illustration showing how delicately rates are adjusted to conditions will be given. On December 5, 1905, the railroad commission of Illinois promulgated an order that on and after January 1, 1906, freight rates between points in Illinois should be reduced, the reduction being about 20 per cent. Mr. E. H. Seneff, general attorney for the Chicago & Eastern Illinois R. R. Co., in outlining the policy of the railroads, said:

We recognize there is some justice in the action of the commission. Some of the rates are too high, but to order a general horizontal reduction will work injustice to the companies and make some rates too low. Our remedy is injunction, and the railways will act together, as they have in the past in the rate matter.

The delicate adjustment of rates to conditions must have jumped a cog in fixing rates in Illinois, for here is an open acknowledgment by a railroad representative that "some of the rates are too high," and then puts forth the claim that some of them will be too low if the order of the commission goes into effect? How would it do to equalize things a little. If "some of the rates are too high" now they have been too high for years, and if some of them are too low for a time it will just about even matters up. Then, this attorney acknowledges that "our remedy is injunction." That is the remedy Senator Foraker proposes for the people, but for well known reasons the "remedy" will not work as well for the people as it works for the railroads. It is quite reassuring to the people to also have it made known that "the railways will act together, as they have in the past in the rate matter." Here is the secret of the delicate and complicated adjustment of freight rates which requires experts to deal with! If an open confession is good for the soul, this railroad attorney must be a changed man. He has performed a great public service just when it was most needed.