

ciety was without a president for some years, when the venerable Daniel Coit Gilman, formerly head of Johns Hopkins university in Baltimore, took the place. There are twenty-one vice-presidents, many of whom have never attended a meeting. The board of managers consists of thirty-six laymen of whom at least twenty-four must be residents of New York under the constitution. At the monthly meetings of the board the average attendance is small. Theophilus A. Brouwer, who is sixth on the list of vice presidents, usually presides at meetings. He is chairman of the committee on general reference and of the committee on agencies. The chairman of the finance committee is Elbert A. Brinkerhoff, who keeps a book store in the Bible House. The resources of the American Bible society are said to be at least \$200,000, but the annual report sets the assets at \$712,412.75. In the balance sheet, however, the item of real estate is only \$391,000, the cost of the Bible House presumably. This property has been assessed for taxes at \$600,000 and Chairman Brinkerhoff once said that an offer of \$750,000 had been made for it. He added the society was holding off for \$1,250,000. The financial statement in the annual report has been the despair of many business men who have tried to understand it. The item, 'Investment of trust funds, \$877,752.16,' is carried on both sides of the balance sheet, but does not appear in either the debit or the credit total."

SENATOR ALLISON of Iowa says that many friends of the president hold the opinion that Mr. Roosevelt is serving his first term and intimates that Mr. Roosevelt will be nominated again in 1908. Senator Depew also says that Mr. Roosevelt will be the standard bearer next year. The Sioux City Journal points out that it is argued that Mr. Roosevelt would keep both the conservatives and radicals in line. The Journal, however, says: "This newspaper does not doubt the wisdom of the precedent which limits the president to two terms. It applauded the president for his declaration in 1904, and it is not prepared to reverse its judgment. Party conditions are not as favorable as they were then, but it may still be questioned whether the question should be disposed of on grounds of temporary expediency. In saying this it is well to add that the conclusion is not based on hostility to the work of the administration. It would be unfortunate to have reversal under a republican or a democratic administration. But if the precedent cited by the president is wise it should be preserved. It ought not to be set aside in order to salve the unhappy factionalism from which the party is suffering. The responsibility for good government is with the people, and it is of the highest importance to emphasize this fact."

AT A meeting of the Tippecanoe club at Cleveland, Ohio, Representative Burton delivered a speech in which he highly eulogized Secretary of War Taft. The newspaper dispatch referring to this speech says: "This is looked upon here as the opening gun of the Taft campaign. It is known that an organization is being perfected to advance Mr. Taft's candidacy not only in Ohio, but throughout the United States, and it is stated by leaders close to the secretary and to the Roosevelt administration that the campaign will be waged aggressively until the national convention meets next spring."

THE ENGLISH PRESS has treated the outspoken determination of the California people to check the inflow of Japanese labor with great respect and the Milwaukee Sentinel explains why. The Sentinel says: "The fact is, the British government has an analogous and equally embarrassing situation to deal with in the colonies. In Australia and British Columbia the Japanese laborer is unwelcome; and now the proceedings of the first Transvaal parliament under the recently enacted constitution make it evident that the 'Asiatic ordinance' against oriental labor which was recently disallowed by the imperial state secretary for the colonies will be re-enacted. The ordinance was aimed specially at the Chinese contract laborers who were imported in gangs (under a proviso for segregation and repatriation after the expiration of the contract period) to work the mines of the Rand. But it is intended also to exclude Japanese who are going to South Africa in increasing numbers. Of this ordinance, Sir Gilbert Parker says that the imperial government will hardly venture again to disallow it 'as more than 99 per cent of the whites in South Africa thoroughly approve it.' They are determined to have a 'white man's country.' So in the Transvaal there is an economic anti-Japanese sentiment, or a movement to exclude Japanese labor, similar to the exclusion sentiment in California; and there

the central or general government is that of Japan's ally. With this embarrassment on her own hands England is in no position to please her ally by taking a strong, moral stand against the sentiment in California."

THE NEW YORK SUN recently referred to Mr. Roosevelt's railroad policy as something that "staggered imagination." Whereupon the New York World says: "The president's corporation policy may be radical, but it is almost reactionary in comparison with other proposals that have been ably and eloquently commended to the intelligence of the American people. For example: 'We denounce as dangerous to our republican institutions those methods and policies of the democratic and republican parties which have sanctioned or permitted the establishment of land, railroad, money and other gigantic monopolies; and we demand such governmental action as may be necessary to take from such monopolies the powers they have so corruptly usurped and restore them to the people to whom they belong. We demand congressional regulation of interstate commerce; we denounce pooling, stock-watering and discriminations in rates and charges, and demand that congress shall correct these abuses, even if necessary by the construction of national railroads. We also demand the establishment of a government postal-telegraph system.'" The World explains: "These planks are taken from the platform on which the New York Sun in 1884 supported Benjamin F. Butler for president of the United States."

SENATOR SHELBY M. CULLOM, of Illinois, recently visited the White House. Later Senator Cullom speaking to the Washington correspondent for the New York World said: "I would put Harriman in the penitentiary for the Chicago and Alton deal. I told the president this is what I would do with Harriman, but I do not care to say whether or not the president agreed with me. But the people know Theodore Roosevelt very well and they can imagine what he would do to Harriman for the manner in which the railroad magnate treated the stockholders. Harriman milked the road dry, and the people who will suffer by this wicked transaction will be those who purchased the bonds. There is no doubt about the rascality of the deal. The people at large are not interested in this transaction, but those who purchased the bonds are vitally interested. They have been swindled. That is the only word that will describe the high finance methods which marked the Alton deal. It has been clearly demonstrated that there is nothing behind the paper issued by direction of Harriman, who profited by the investment of those who bought the Chicago and Alton bonds."

A CURIOUS situation is described in an Associated Press dispatch from Great Barrington, Mass., as follows: "Professor Charles A. Robair has been refused a registration as a voter by the local board of registration because he is totally blind. Prof. Robair was born blind. He was graduated from the Perkins Institute for the Blind in Boston. Under their system he can read and write with wonderful rapidity. When he appeared before the registrars the members were greatly surprised, as it was the first incident of the kind in the history of the county. Of course, he could not read the printed slip handed to him and he was disqualified. Prof. Robair informed the members of the board that he was a graduate of the Perkins Institute and could read and write under the blind system, and that he will procure a certificate from the institution. Judge W. B. Sanford, chairman of the board of registrars, is greatly puzzled over the case and has laid the matter before Secretary of State Olin."

A NEW interest is being taken in the Transvaal. The remarkable changes going on in that quarter are described by a writer in the New York World thus: "March 23, 1902, just five years ago today, the Boer leaders opened peace negotiations with Gen. Kitchener in Pretoria. Thursday the first Transvaal parliament under the new constitution granted by the British government met in Pretoria to legislate for the colony. Gen. Louis Botha, commander-in-chief of the Boer forces, is premier, and Gen. Schalkburger, acting president of the Transvaal republic after President Kruger's departure from South Africa, is a member of the parliament, in which the burghers have a working majority. No other conquered province in modern times has been so quickly restored by its conqueror as a self-governing state. It is a striking instance of British generosity in the face of partisan opposition and commercial intrigue. The Transvaal premier and his ministers are responsi-

ble to an elective assembly. But the nominations to the upper chamber or legislative council are made from London. In case a measure is passed by the popular assembly and rejected by the legislative council a joint session of both houses is provided for. The assembly numbers sixty-nine members and the council only fifteen, so that when a large majority of elected legislators demand a certain measure they are bound to prevail. The legislative system is far more liberal than that which Secretary Taft is expected to inaugurate in the Philippines next October. It comes nearer meaning representative self-government in its true sense. The Transvaal constitution was granted by the Crown through its ministers without act of parliament, but our own democratic congress shows no disposition either to give the Filipinos a constitution or to surrender its privilege of meddling in their affairs."

A SHORT DISTANCE in the rear of the office of John Swanson, a wealthy dry-dock owner whose plant is at the foot of Warren street, Jersey City, are two mounds about the size of those that cover the graves of children. On one the grass is withered and brown. On the headstone is the inscription, "Watt, son of Peno, born 1894, died 1906." The other grave is new. The inscription on the headstone there reads: "Peno, mother of Watt, born 1891, died 1907. Faithful servant and companion."

THEREBY hangs an interesting tale which was told by the New York World in this way: "Peno" was a prize St. Bernard and was raised by Swanson. She roamed the docks by day and at night she guarded the place from intruders. About twelve years ago Watt was born. No mother ever brought up a child with more concern than Penno showed for her offspring. She had been well trained herself and she knew what was right. The dogs, mother and son, were known throughout Jersey City. In the summer when the boys went in swimming off the docks the animals kept a watchful eye on their human companions. Several boys and half a dozen men owe their lives to the dogs. Several times they jumped into the river and pulled out workmen who had missed their footing on the piers and fallen overboard. After Watt died, about a year ago, and was buried back of the office, Penno slowly pined away; even her master could not console her. When snow covered the little mound she pawed it away and lay down on the cold ground, only going away to eat. A week ago she became ill with pneumonia. Tuesday morning Swanson followed tracks through the snow that led to Watt's grave. Penno was stretched out in the snow, dead. The dry-dock carpenters made a coffin, and that night and the next twelve men sat in the office as a guard of honor to Penno. Thursday morning all the employes gathered in the office, and sixty men were in the procession to the grave. When the grave had been filled, Swanson wiped away some wetness about the eyes, and told the men there would be no work in the yards until the next day."

THIS interesting bill was introduced in the Texas legislature and was defeated:

Section 1. That no person who is an officer or attorney of any person, firm or corporation owning or operating any railroad, electric road, street railway, lighting plant, telephone, telegraph, sleeping or dining car, water plant, or brewery shall be eligible for election or appointment to or hold any office of honor or profit under the government of the state of Texas or any county or municipality therein unless such business is owned and operated by the state or some county or municipality therein.

Sec. 2. No person who is ineligible to hold office under section 1 hereof shall be allowed to hold any such office if such person is ineligible thereunder at the time of his election or appointment or if he becomes so ineligible at any time while holding such office, provided, however, this act shall not be construed to apply to notaries public appointed by the governor.

Sec. 3. Any person holding or attempting to hold any office who is disqualified by virtue of the provisions hereof shall in addition to, upon conviction in a court having jurisdiction of the offense, having his office forfeited be fined in any sum not less than \$1,000 nor more than \$5,000.

Sec. 4. The fact that none but persons free from any kind of obligations to public service corporations should be the servants of the people creates an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days be suspended and the same is hereby suspended and this act shall take effect from and after its passage.