



A dispatch under date of Montgomery, Ala., November 21, says: "The senate today passed a bill to prohibit the sale, giving away or possessing of liquors in clubs. It prohibits exactly what the Georgia law allows. The act will become effective January 1, 1909, in counties where the sale of liquor is to continue till then. In all others January 1 next."

The Nashville municipal league, in session at Providence, R. I., elected officers as follows: President, Charles J. Bonaparte, Baltimore; vice presidents, Charles Richardson, Philadelphia; Thomas N. Strong, Portland, Ore.; Henry L. McCune, Kansas City; Walter L. Fisher, Chicago, and James P. Baxter, Portland, Me.; secretary, Clinton Rogers Woodruff, Philadelphia; treasurer, George Burnham, Jr., Philadelphia.

The national prohibition convention for 1908 has been called to meet during the first week of June at Columbus, Ohio.

A special dispatch from Chicago, Ill., to Sioux City, Ia., Journal says: "The cause of prohibition received a tremendous impetus by a sweeping decision of the Illinois supreme court today. The court held that the owners of property rented for saloon purposes are liable for damages in cases of illegal sale of liquor by their tenants. The court further holds that 'not only actual damages, but also vindictive or exemplary damages, may be had against an owner of a building who had no knowledge of the illegal sale of liquor made by his tenant if the violation of the law is established against his tenant.' Prohibitionists declare that the decision is the most important affecting the liquor traffic made in many years, if not the most important ever made in any court in the United States. The decision was on a case in which a seventeen-year-old boy had been killed by a train while drunk. His father sued not only the saloonkeeper who sold the boy the liquor, but the owner of the building. The owner of the building attempted to evade responsibility by asserting that he had no knowledge that his tenant was a saloonkeeper."

Jacob Gould Shurman, president of Cornell University, declares that Governor Hughes of New York is willing to be a candidate for the presidency and adds that the governor is the strongest man the republicans can nominate.

Washington dispatches say Congressman Burton is not to be allowed to become a member of the house ways and means committee. Speaker Cannon regards Mr. Burton as "irregular" on the tariff question.

John D. Rockefeller issued through the Associated Press this statement: "I am informed that there have appeared in several newspapers recently reports that I possess \$100,000,000 of United States government bonds, which I have refused to loan or sell for the purpose of helping the situation or of aiding additional circulation by the banks. I do not own at the present time, nor have I owned at any time during the recent crisis any United States government bonds whatever."

An Auburn, N. Y., dispatch carried by the Associated Press follows:

"The court of appeals today decided that the act passed at the last session of the legislature providing for a recount of the votes cast at the mayoralty election in New York City in November, 1905, is unconstitutional. The contest was instituted on behalf of William R. Hearst to unseat Mayor McClellan on the ground of fraud in the counting of the votes. The decision was unanimous."

An Associated Press dispatch under date of Montgomery, Ala., November 19, follows: "The senate this afternoon passed the prohibition bill 32 to 2. The law is to become effective January 1, 1909. When two carloads of Mobile women came to the city today to lobby against the bill, they found that delegations from Montgomery, Selma and Birmingham, who favor that measure, had filled the senate galleries until not a seat was left. It was a plan to crowd them out and it succeeded. Little children stood in the lobbies and pinned ribbons on every one who came in. The scene was one of the most spectacular in the history of the state. When the Mobile ladies arrived they found that they had to stay outside in the already overcrowded lobbies. Children were kept out of school today to work against whisky."

## MR. BRYAN AND THE NOMINATION

Minneapolis Journal (rep.)—The party will start with a candidate whose personality is engaging, whose character is above reproach, whose patriotism is proved. It will not have the advantage of a candidacy which has in it any element of novelty or surprise. The party will not have to learn anything about its candidate. But the country will lose the romance of politics which is, to a large extent, involved in the springing up of new men. Mr. Bryan was one of those surprises himself. Twelve years ago he went to Chicago, a delegate whose seat was contested, and returned home the standard-bearer of the democracy. In the interim Mr. Bryan has talked almost incessantly and written when his audience, wearied, had retired to slumber. There is nothing new to say about him. He is a veteran now, not a colt.

New York World (?)—Announcing his readiness to accept the democratic nomination for president, Mr. Bryan, in the course of a 1,100-word statement, says: "It only remains for the democratic party to convince the people that it can be entrusted with the work of reform." A trifle; a mere detail. After eleven years of Mr. Bryan's leadership the people are so well satisfied with the democratic party's trustworthiness that there are only two democratic United States senators north of Mason and Dixon's line, and one of them is a silver republican. In state after state not a single democrat represents a district in congress. There are only six democratic governors north of Ohio, and four of them were elected on local issues in solid republican states. Even Kentucky has gone republican. Of course Mr. Bryan will accept the democratic nomination! A formal statement to that effect is superfluous. But why should the democratic party accept Mr. Bryan? Is the party so infatu-

### A KINGDOM FOR SALE

A monarch by the name of Yborshi is advertising a kingdom for sale in several continental newspapers. He offers his throne, crown, scepters, dominions, and subjects for sale, with thirty wives thrown in, for the modest sum of \$200,000. His realm is that of Aysbonia, a strip of land in Africa 250 miles long and ninety miles wide. The power of life and death is the king's prerogative, and goes with the crown, as does the granting of all concessions. A special attraction of the offer is the royal crown, which is a neat diadem made of human skulls. The throne is made of skulls and thigh bones. Thus far his dusky majesty appears to have had no offer.—New York Tribune.

### CUT DOWN THE SURPLUS

No schemes for providing elastic currency, no plans for shackling the individual states by national charters for corporations, will avail to remedy our troubles. Nothing will effectively serve except putting an end to over-taxation. The government must stop drawing a needless revenue through the customs and internal tax collectors. When that is done, it will not be necessary to resort to complicated ways of getting the treasury's unneeded money back into circulation.—St. Louis Republic.

### MR. MORTON SAFE

The evidence of the Santa Fe's carelessness in certain little matters must make Mr. Paul Morton very glad that he is now connected with a company that never did anything out of the way.—Ohio State Journal.

ated with defeat that it would not exchange the certainty of disaster for even the possibility of victory?

Denver News (dem.)—To the News the statement of the case appears both fair and dignified. For Mr. Bryan to declare himself a candidate would be ungenerous and unwise. He has been honored by the party, as he well says, and can not in fairness ask it to take any action for his personal sake. But for Mr. Bryan to refuse to be a candidate under any circumstances would simply be to sulk in his tent, at a moment when every fighter is needed by the democracy. He has done neither of these things. He has simply said that he is a loyal democrat, ready to serve in the ranks or to lead the charge, just as the party shall decide. It is hard to see how any fault can be found with that. It may be objected that Mr. Bryan knows this makes him practically certain of the nomination. This is true. Mr. Bryan can not help knowing that he is away and beyond the most popular democrat in the party. But this only makes it the more imperative that he act with fairness to that party—and this he has done. His strength is at its service, to use as the party may dictate. It does not detract from the dignity of that statement to say that its maker well knows where that strength is likely to be used. We question very much if Mr. Bryan will be personally pleased by the nomination which we believe is coming his way. It is the cause that interests him, and his loyalty to that cause no man can doubt.

Cedar Rapids (Ia.) Gazette.—Mr. Bryan will undoubtedly be the democratic nominee. He will be if pledges of support count for anything. But whether he is or not, he will continue to be a well beloved citizen, a man whom the people admire. (Continued on Page 14)

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