Hirsch in an interview made two especially interesting statements. One was that the Pharisees of Jesus' time were really the Jewish patriots, the party of nationalism, as opposed to the priesthood of Rome. He declared that it was Christ's attack on the 'money trust,' which these priests had organized in the temple itself, that led directly to His crucifixion. By driving the money-changers from the house of prayer He sealed His own death warrant, for the priests immediately set on foot a conspiracy with the Romans that brought about His death."

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IN MISSISSIPPI charges of bribery in connection with the election of Senator Percy are being investigated for the state senate. A Jackson dispatch carried by the Associated Press says: "After a nearly continuous day session, the senatorial investigation into the bribery scandal was continued until a late hour tonight. The star witness was Mrs. C. J. Neil, who swears that she arranged the meeting between Senator Bilbo and Dulaney. When asked her business, she replied: 'Bookkeeping, handling real estate and selling Mississippi senators.' She described how she introduced Bilbo to Dulaney; how the latter told her to 'feel out the weak legislators and see if they could be reached.' She swore that she was to be paid 'in proportion to the crop,' and said she naturally desired a 'big crop.' Mrs. Neil told how she went to New Orleans to confer with those interested, how she was followed by detectives and asserted she believed her life was in danger. She was cross-examined during the entire afternoon in an effort to affect her creditibility as a witness. She said she did not know it was a crime to bribe an official, and believed she did no wrong, for the men she sought to bribe were already corrupt. An attempt to get her to name some other senators was voted down by the senate on the ground that the investigation was into the Bilbo charges only. No witnesses were present at the night session and the sergeant-at-arms went on a hunt for them. The quest was unsuccessful and the senate adjourned."

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IN THE PITTSBURG investigation "men higher up" are being brought to the bar of justice. A Pittsburg dispatch to the New York World says: "Charles W. Friend, millionaire president of the Clinton iron and steel company of Pittsburg and a banker of prominence, reeled before the court today and confessed that he, as one of 'the men higher up,' had bribed Pittsburg councilmen. President Friend is eldest son of the late James W. Friend, millionaire steel car manufacturer, who lent Cassie Chadwick about $800,000. Charles W. is also director in the Pressed Steel Car company, also of the Workingmen's Savings and Trust company, as well as the close business associate of Frank N. Hoffstot of New York. Mr. Friend said that about two years ago he had given Councilman Charles Stewart, $500 in his father's office. 'What was it for?' asked the court. 'Mr. Stewart told me that there was so much fuss over our company getting a bridge across the street at our mills that $500 was necessary to keep the newspaper men quiet, and I—' 'That is not the case, your honor,' said Councilman Charles Stewart, taking his stand beside the confessing banker and steel man. 'He knows there was nothing said about newspapers; that the money was offered and given for the bank ordinance.' Mr. Friend said later that he had been mistaken through his excitement as to the reason for which the money was given. He said that the arrangements for paying the money had been started by his father, now dead, and that he had only carried out the wishes of his father in paying the money. 'That too is untrue,' interpolated Mr. Stewart, with bitterness. 'I have no recollection of ever having dealt with Mr. J. W. Friend, his father, in this matter.'" F. N. Hoffstot of New York, president of the Pressed Steel Car company was indicted by the Pittsburg grand jury on the charge of bribery. The grand jury also indicted Max G. Leslie a tax collector for bribery. Editor Moore went before the grand jury and gave extended testimony.

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REFERRING TO the proposition to abolish Barbara Frietchie, the Omaha World-Herald says: "But the treatment of Stonewall Jackson in the poem as a whole is such as to cause us to doubt whether it is offensive to southern sentiment. It is certainly quite as much a testimony to the leader's sense of chivalry and deference to woman as it is a rebuke to his cause—an import that would not be appreciated more anywhere in the world than in the south. Without any violence of interpretation the words, 'A shade of sadness, a blush of shame' may be eliminated as casting any reflection on the honor of the leader, for just before this the column had riddled with shot the flag hanging from the window without the knowledge that it had been placed there and was being watched by a gray-haired woman within whose loyalty, by the display, was manifested with the gentleness and privilege of a mother. The leader's shame might well have been not shame for his cause, but shame that, through ignorance, the sensibilities of the venerable woman had been wounded. It is true that the inference is plain that the woman's deed and word awoke the nobler nature that had been dead in the leader in his occupation as one of the chieftains of the 'rebel host,' but can not this design in the bard of Haverhill be forgiven for the fine gallantry attributed to the general in the lines: 'Who touches a hair of yon gray head dies like a dog! March on!' he said? Or, if not, we may claim that compensation is made in the magnanimity and tenderness expressed for the leader in these lines: 'Honor to her! and let a tear fall for her sake on Stonewall's bier.' If Barbara Frietchie is the heroine of the poem Stonewall Jackson is its hero."

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BEFORE THE League of Republican Clubs at Washington Mr. Taft delivered a spirited address in which he said: "Tonight we are reading nobody out of the republican party. We want all in the ranks and all have the opportunity to establish their claims to republicanism by that which they shall do in both houses of congress in helping to enact the legislation before them. By their fruits ye shall know them." Here the president pounded the table and looked a defiance which he assured his hearers that he did not feel. "Those," he continued, "in the senate and the house who stand for the legislation we seek in order to redeem the pledges of the party have the right to stand with the party as republicans. If they don't we won't quarrel with them. They have a right to their opinions. But we desire their aid as republicans and I do not wish to assume that they are not as sincere as I hope I am myself in republicanism. The republican party is not rigid in its demands. It is so broad and liberal that it permits differences of opinion." The president plainly told that he meant that insurgents must get in line or there would be some reading out of the party. Representative Longworth, son-in-law of Theodore Roosevelt, was present and he declared that he is a strong Taft man.

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ON THE SAME evening on which the president spoke at Washington Attorney General Wickersham spoke at Chicago. He made a bitter speech denouncing Mr. Taft's critics. He said that every republican must choose which side he was on. "He that hath no stomach for the fight, let him depart," quoted Mr. Wickersham, in a shout which emphasized the sentiment. "The time of running with the hares and the hounds is over. Treason has ever consisted in giving aid and comfort to the enemy. If anyone wishes to join the democratic party, let him do so, but let him not claim to be a republican and work in and out of season to defeat republican measures and to subvert the influence of the republican president."

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THE JAMES R. RANDALL Literary and Memorial Association of Maryland is intending to do honor to the author of the famous song, "Maryland, My Maryland." The Baltimore Sun says: "The James R. Randall Literary and Memorial Association of Maryland has lately been formed, with many of the most prominent Baltimoreans as its early members. It represents a movement designed to honor the memory and genius of the author of 'Maryland, My Maryland.' As recently stated in the Sun, Augusta, Georgia, is preparing to erect a monument to Mr. Randall in that city as well as one at the grave of the poet, though Georgia is not Randall's native state. Maryland is now giving evidence of more extended recognition of her own poet. His portrait painted by Miss Katherine Walton and provided for by state appropriation, was unveiled at Annapolis last year. The James R. Randall Literary and Memorial Association aims to extend this appreciation and make it more general in understanding and expression. Devotees of literature have approved of it, not only in Maryland, but in New York. The constitution and by-laws contain the following provisions: 'Aims—To secure a wider knowledge and appreciation of James R. Randall as the author of 'My Maryland,' and through him, as a representative writer, to add to the fame of Maryland, and to gain greater literary recognition of the state. Dues—There are no dues or financial obligations. Membership—Open to all proposed for membership and thereto invited who have an interest in the welfare, ethical and material, of their native or adopted state of Maryland.' The members are, with few exceptions, men; but the ladies are gladly welcomed, as it is clearly understood by the founders that no good enterprise can be carried on successfully without them. The officers of the association are: Honorary president, Dr. Samuel C. Chew; president, Mr. Matthew Page Andrews; secretary, Miss Lillian McGregor Shepherd."

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DISPATCHES from Washington and dispatches from the correspondents who accompany Mr. Roosevelt persistently say that when Mr. Roosevelt returns to America he will defend Mr. Taft. Some of these Washington dispatches also say that Mr. Taft will re-organize his cabinet to suit Mr. Roosevelt and that the ex-president will then take the stump in defense of his protegee. The Washington correspondent for the Chicago Record-Herald says there has been no understanding between Messrs. Roosevelt and Taft and that there are no changes in the cabinet now contemplated. It is generally believed, however, among politicians that Mr. Roosevelt will, upon his return, give his support to the Taft administration.

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AFTER MR. ROOSEVELT had refused to accept the vatican's terms for a call upon the pope a reception for him was arranged by the Methodists, and other Americans. One Methodist clergyman issued a public statement in which he said the Roosevelt incident was the beginning of a war against Catholicism. Mr. Roosevelt promptly cancelled the other reception. Walter Wellman, correspondent for the Chicago Record-Herald, and several other correspondents who were with Mr. Roosevelt, insist that he has broken with Taft and upon his return he will fight the administration. The Associated Press correspondent who is with Mr. Roosevelt says he will support Mr. Taft.

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

The most notable result in the municipal elections was the election in Milwaukee of Emil Seidel, socialist candidate for mayor. His majority was 8,000, the largest ever given in Milwaukee. The socialists also elected another alderman to control the city council.

In Chicago the democrats elected twenty-one out of thirty-five members of the city council. This is taken to mean repudiation of Mayor Busse. One newspaper dispatch referring to the Chicago election says: "In addition to local issues Colonel James Hamilton Lewis and former Mayor Edward F. Dunne injected national issues into the campaign. Both assailed the tariff and the high cost of living, and told the voters that even in a municipal election they could rebuke the republican administration."

In Hartford, Conn., Edward L. Smith, democrat, was elected mayor. The Connecticut democrats are greatly encouraged by this victory.

In Jefferson City, Mo., Frank St. George, democrat, was elected mayor.

On the liquor question in the municipal elections the result was generally a stand off. Although in Illinois and Wisconsin the anti-saloon forces failed to hold many of the important cities which went dry two years ago, while the wets succeeded in preventing a number of important towns and cities from going dry in which the question had never been contested until this spring.

THE FULL DINNER PAIL

Here is a full dinner pail story from the Kearney (Neb.) Democrat: "What," asked the teacher of her class in mathematics, "would three and one-eighth pounds of beef steak come to at 41 cents a pound?" "It," exclaimed Johnnie Wise, "wouldn't come to our house."

The American Homestead, a monthly farm journal of national scope, will be sent to all Commoner subscribers, without additional cost, who renew their subscriptions during the month of April. Take advantage of this offer at once and send in your renewal.