

ON THIS SUBJECT a United Press dispatch from New York says: "The New York Press, which gives the detail of the recent changes in the magazine field, says that J. P. Morgan is the most active in the trust. Thomas W. Lamont, newest partner of the Morgan firm, says that concern can now dictate the policy of periodicals with a circulation of 3,000,000. Lamont controls the Crowell Publishing company, which markets the Woman's Home Companion, the Farm and Fireside and which last week secured possession of the American Magazine. Lamont's two most important assistants in the Crowell concern, says the Press, are George H. Hazen, president, and Joseph P. Knapp of the American Lithographic company, who is a director of the Associated Sunday Magazines. This periodical has a circulation of more than 1,000,000. The Press states that the Curtis publications of Philadelphia, the McClure publications, Hamptons, John Wanamaker's periodicals, Robert J. Collier and Condensat's magazine will not enter the combination. Thomas F. Ryan also is to be a potent factor in the periodical literature field monopoly, if rumors in the financial world are to be given credence. It developed that it was not alone to muzzle the magazines that the big financiers were in the market to buy but that they have discovered that by applying trust methods fully as enormous profits are to be extracted as have come from oil, sugar or tobacco. This will precipitate a fight between the financial interests who want control and will materially benefit those publishers who are willing to sell. With the big magazines controlled by a single group of interests, the club plan of selling will be developed. Magazines will be grouped as follows: Woman's magazine, a current affairs magazine, and a fiction publication. To this group will be added a set of books and the canvassers will offer the entire lot on the usual installment plan. The canvassers' commission will be fifteen per cent, five times the amount he would get from the magazine alone and will give the combination a monopoly of the best canvassers. The big distributing companies which put the magazines on the market are also to be the objective of the financiers, it is said. The ideal circulation of a successful magazine is fifty per cent stand sales and fifty per cent subscription. Therefore, the men who want to form the magazine trust would like to get hold of the distributing agencies and offers have already been made for controlling stock. Another report given wide credence is that notes for upwards of \$3,000,000 are held by the paper company which has a monopoly of furnishing paper for printing the standard magazines. This company is alleged to have connection with Morgan and company, but at its offices no one would discuss the matter."

THE SEATTLE, Washington, recall law passed two years ago, provides for a recall election upon the presentation of a petition signed by twenty-five per cent of the voters at the previous general election. After this petition is certified to, the city council sets the date for the election, which must be within thirty days. Under the provisions of this law an election was held February 8, and Mayor H. C. Gill, who had been elected by 3,500 majority, was ousted by 4,000 majority. A Seattle dispatch, carried by the Associated Press, says: "George Dilling was elected mayor to succeed Gill, and will take the oath of office tomorrow. One of the big surprises of the election was the enormous vote polled by the socialist candidate, which it is certain will exceed 5,000. This is the first thorough test of the principle of the recall of a public official who failed to do his duty. Gill's stipulated term of office has only half expired. A total of about 62,000 votes were cast, nearly half of which were by women. This was the first time that women, under the new law, could vote and 30,000 of them registered for the election. The women seemed to know as much about the voting as the men. They stood in orderly lines at the polls and were as quick in voting as their husbands and brothers. They established the fact that their votes are cast for a clean city as against one governed by partisanship, the redlight district and the criminal element. Dilling was elected because the people refused any longer to stand for Gill and his wide open town policy. His platform was as follows: 'I want to get this vice business clear out of sight. Clean it up and put it away. I want to drive it out of politics. I don't want people to have to keep on thinking and talking about vice. Get it under control and out of the way of the city's growth.' As against this Gill advocated a wide open town for 'business rea-

sons.' He has permitted gambling under protection. The city was full of assignation houses. There was no control of saloons. Vice was openly flaunted."

GILL WAS ELECTED mayor last March. Plans to recall him were begun last October. The petition for that purpose which was circulated declared, in brief: "That Mayor Gill has shown himself incompetent and unfit; that he has abused the appointive power by selecting, for personal and political reasons, men personally unfit for office; that he has wholly neglected to enforce the criminal laws; that he has permitted Seattle to become a home and refuge for the criminal classes; that his continuance in office is a menace to the business enterprise and morality of the city." The Seattle dispatch says: "When Gill was nominated for mayor he was president of the council. His business outside of the council was that of a lawyer. Much of his practice was among the disorderly elements of the city. It was a common practice for him to leave a meeting of the council to go to the aid of one of his clients who had been arrested. In the race for the nomination Gill had as an opponent a man of foreign birth, new to politics, a poor campaigner and by many considered dangerous because of his radical opinions. William Hiskman Moore, nominated to oppose Gill, made a strong race, although he was the candidate of a weak minority. Gill was a good campaigner. He was a hail fellow well met. People who despised and abhorred his principles, liked the man. All downtown Seattle knew 'Hi' Gill. He was the hero of the underworld, the toast of the midnight cafes. And Gill, when speaking in the residence districts, promised well. A good 'business administration,' segregation of the restricted district, efficiency in all departments—this was the pledge made by Gill uptown—his bid for respectable votes. It is said for Gill that he intended a better administration than he gave, but that in the hard contest he had for election he was forced to make promises that recoiled upon him."

JONATHAN HIGGINS of Bignell, Nebraska, writes to the Omaha Daily News to say: "Political parties have been the curse of this nation since the day of the Jackson edict, 'To the victors belong the spoils.' Deceptions, fraudulent practices and chicanery have been the potent factors in party political methods for more than fifty years. There have been exceptions. The heart of the great Lincoln beat in unison with that of the masses, but he was so hedged about by designing, corrupt exploiters of the nation that he once declared: 'I wish they had their devilish heads shot off.' It is too recent history to recount the corruption funds, the briberies, deceptions and billingsgate resorted to defeat Bryan, the nation being bought with millions of the 'system's' cold cash. Consequent upon that purchase the people are being exploited as no other nation on the globe could endure and not become bankrupt. This has become so intolerable that men of old parties are in revolt—revolting democrats led by Bryan and revolting republicans by LaFollette. The people are forcing the primary method of nominations. In this, and the initiative and referendum and recall, the exploiters see their finish, and are making superhuman efforts to hold party shackles upon them through the closed primary method, virtually saying to the people: 'So long as you wear the party yoke, you can make nominations by this method.' But to what purpose? The New York World recently said: 'No man can be elected president without the electorate of the state of New York.' There we have it hot off the griddle. No man can carry the state of New York without the slums of New York City. So, according to the World, more than 90,000,000 people must be ruled by the slums of the most corrupt city on earth. Bryan is my first choice for president. Who in this supposedly free country should have the right to dictate that with Bryan I must take innumerable 'system' democrats? My second choice is LaFollette. With LaFollette must I take Aldrich, Cannon, Morgan, Taft and the mighty straddling hunter? A mighty revolution is looming up."

AN ATLANTA, Georgia, reader of the New York World writes to that newspaper to say: "I want every sufferer from cancer throughout the world to know the beneficial results to be obtained by the use of kerosene oil applied to the affected parts by means of cotton tampons saturated with the pure oil, or if too

severe for some cases, mixed with lard. The relief from pain is almost immediate and the improvement wonderfully rapid. I have had experience with this disease and this treatment and feel that it should be thoroughly tried out in hospitals and sanitariums and the public given the benefit of the experiments at once. I hope you will do all in your power to bring this to the attention of all sufferers, that they may try the remedy for themselves."

COLLIERS WEEKLY prints this interesting story: "Some three years ago George S. Loftus of Minneapolis, a reformer of the 'do-it-now' type, turned up at the office of James Manahan, his lawyer. 'Jim,' he said, 'I want you to sue the Pullman company.' 'What for?' 'Oh, just sue them, and charge that their rates are exorbitant. I got in from Chicago this morning. I had an upper berth, and couldn't sleep, and they charged me just as much as I would have had to pay for a lower.' Manahan drafted an innocent looking complaint, saying, in a few words, that Pullman rates were unjust. There was no technical verbiage. He mailed this to the interstate commerce commission at Washington. Three months later Manahan was notified by mail that in ten days a special examiner would be in St. Paul prepared to hear Loftus' case. Up to that date all the evidence Loftus and his lawyer had was Loftus' one sleepless night on the train. On the morning of the hearing the court room was filled with ex-Pullman porters. It was proved that the porters received \$25 a month, out of which they had to pay for their meals on the road and their uniforms. They were compelled to replace all towels, combs, and other lost articles. The public practically paid their salaries in tips. This was the small beginning of one of the largest results yet achieved in the prosecution of any trust. There was no loud proclamation of the setting of government machinery in motion. One humble citizen had merely started to saw wood. It was proved that the Pullman company earned \$9,000 annually on cars that cost them \$15,000; that the porters made up ten million beds annually, and the company made in 1907 over \$32,000,000 gross. Its capital had increased from \$100,000 to \$150,000,000. The end has now come in an order from the interstate commerce commission, reluctantly agreed to by the Pullman company, reducing its rates twenty-five per cent, about five per cent on lower berths and about twenty per cent on upper berths. It may have significance for some of our readers that George S. Loftus is the close friend and political disciple of Robert M. LaFollette, while Manahan is the close friend and apostle of the Nebraska commoner. These two reformers, working together, have saved travelers at least \$2,000,000 annually."

A CONTEST TO DECIDE the question, "What are the twenty-five most beautiful words in the English language," was held before the New York Y. M. C. A. The prize winner was John Shea, a lawyer. Twenty-one of the twenty-five words submitted by Shea were accepted. The words are: Melody, splendor, adoration, eloquence, virtue, innocence, modesty, faith, joy, honor, radiance, nobility, sympathy, heaven, love, divine, hope, harmony, happiness, purity and liberty. Three of the words rejected were grace, justice and truth. The two former were stricken out, it was explained, because of the harshness of the "g" in grace and the "j" in justice. The word "truth" was eliminated because of its metallic sound.

TO FIGHT FOR THE RIGHT

Associated Press dispatch from Washington, February 6: Conspicuously hung in the lobby back of the house tonight was a placard bearing a quotation from a speech by Minority Leader Clark, June 7 last, the placard having been placed there by a republican to call attention to Mr. Clark's opposition to any amendment of the reciprocity bill. The placard read: "I do not know how long we shall stay out here, but as long as I am here I intend to fight for the right to amend every section of every great bill which comes into this house, and I do not care a straw whether the democrats control the house or the republicans."