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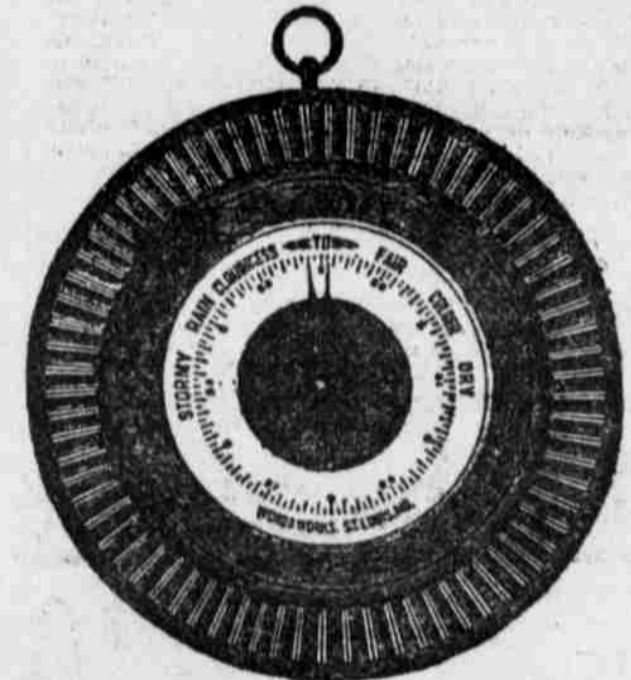
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A flood at Austin, Pa., wrecked the town, killed 150 people and destroyed property valued at \$6,000,000.

In the course of his jubilee sermon at Baltimore Cardinal Gibbons delivered an address in the cathedral denouncing the initiative and referendum, the recall and the election of senators by the people. An Associated Press report of the address follows:

Defining the duties of his brethren of the laity he exhorted them to be faithful in the practice of their religions and urged them as citizens of the United States to take a patriotic part in every measure that contributes to the progress of the commonwealth.

"No man should be a drone in the social beehive," said his eminence. "No citizen should be an indifferent spectator of the political, moral and economic questions that are agitating around him.

"At the present moment there are three political problems which are engaging the serious attention of our public men.

"It is proposed that United States senators should be elected by popular vote instead of being chosen by the legislature, as is prescribed by the constitution.

"It is proposed that the acts of our legislature, before they have the force of law, should be submitted to the suffrage of the people who would have the right to vote.

"It is proposed to recall or remove an unpopular judge before the expiration of his term of office.

"No one questions the ability, the sincerity and patriotism of the advocates of these changes in our organic laws. But I hope I may not be presumptuous in saying that in my opinion, the wisdom of the proposed amendments must be seriously questioned.

"The election of senators by the votes of the people involves the destruction of a strong bulwark against dangerous popular encroachments. The reason given for the contemplated change is that many of our state legislatures are charged with being venal, and that it is easier to corrupt the legislature than the whole people. In reply I would say: If you can not trust the members of the legislature how can you trust their constituents from whom they spring? If you can not confide in our legislatures you can not confide in human government, nor in human nature itself. If a few of our legislatures have been found guilty of bribery, it is most unjust to involve all the others in their condemnation. I have sufficient confidence in the moral integrity of our legislatures to be convinced that the great majority of them have never bent the knee to Mammon.

"To give to the masses the right of annulling the acts of the legislature, is to substitute mob law for established law.

"To recall a judge because his decisions do not meet with popular approval, is an insult to the dignity, the independence, and the self-respect of our judiciary. Far less menacing to the commonwealth is an occasional corrupt incompetent judge, than one who would be the habitual slave of a capricious multitude, who has always his ear to the ground trying to find out the verdict of the people.

"The constitution of the United States is the palladium of our liberties and our landmark in our march

of progress. That instrument has been framed by the anxious cares and enlightened zeal of the fathers of the republic. Its wisdom has been tested and successfully proved after a trial of a century and a quarter. It has weathered the storms of the century which is passed, and it should be trusted for the centuries to come. What has been good enough for our fathers ought to be good enough for us. Every change, either in the political or religious world, is not a reformation.

"Better to bear the ills we know, than fly to those we know not of." Do not disturb the political landmarks of the republic."

Maine's anti-prohibition majority is now said to be 21.

Thirty thousand shopmen on the Harriman railway lines went on a strike for the purpose of enforcing recognition of their federation.

Italy declared war on Turkey Friday, September 29th. The cause of the war is stated in a nut-shell in the Omaha (Neb.) World-Herald in this way:

The trouble between Turkey and Italy, which culminated this afternoon in a declaration of war at Rome, dates back to 1878, when with the making of the treaty concluding the Russo-Turkish war, the powers are understood to have agreed to permit Italy a "pacific penetration of Tripoli."

Turkey claims that this right has been respected ever since.

Italy has colonized Tripoli until her interests in that Turkish African province are very great. She has asserted, however, that her subjects have been mistreated by the Ottoman authorities and constantly discriminated against. Italy at last decided to establish a protectorate, and this Turkey opposed.

In a speech at Ottumwa, Iowa, President Taft said he was in favor of lower tariff on wool.

A London cablegram says: No sooner had the time limit fixed in the ultimatum expired than, ignoring Turkey's conciliatory request for a period of delay, Italy declared war. The Turkish representatives in Italy were handed their passports. The Turkish commander at Tripoli was asked to surrender the town, but declined, and the Italian forces immediately occupied Tripoli and Benghazi.

Apparently the Turks offered no resistance, but this is only an assumption, as immediately on landing the Italians evidently seized the telegraph lines. From the hour of their landing no message of any kind has been received from Tripoli, and dispatches sent to that place remained unanswered.

It should be noted, however, that a Constantinople dispatch announcing Italian occupation of Tripoli, makes no mention of resistance and a mere protest by the governor would be in line with Turkey's announced policy.

The Turkish cabinet, which had been for some time insecure, resigned as soon as war was declared and a new ministry was formed under Said Pasha, but retaining the former able war minister, Mahmoud Shekret Pasha.

Turkey continues her efforts to

secure intervention by the powers. In the meantime Italy is actively pursuing hostilities. Italian battleships are reported to have appeared off Smyrna and Salonika.

An Italian cruiser landed troops at Prevesa after destroying a Turkish torpedo boat destroyer and the Italian fleet has blockaded the whole Tripolitan coast. There are unconfirmed reports that Turkey intends to send an ultimatum to Greece to abandon her claims on Crete and is massing troops on the Thessalian frontier.

The greatest activity ensued in all the European chancelleries on receipt of the announcement that war had been declared and notification of a blockade. It is expected the various governments will issue the customary notices and will devote their diplomatic efforts as far as possible to localizing hostilities to the combatant powers and especially to avoiding complications in the Balkans.

In great Britain more than in any other European country, outside of the combatants, the war between

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