



Cardinal Gibbons has issued a statement declaring that he is opposed to woman suffrage. He says, however, that the Catholic church has taken no position on the matter.

Governor William H. Mann, of Virginia, submitted to an operation for appendicitis. He is well on the road to recovery.

The Cuban senate and house, in joint session, have proclaimed Gen. Juan Mario Menocal and Enrique Jose Varona elected president and vice president of the republic respectively. They will be inaugurated at noon May 20.

One hundred miners lost their lives in an explosion in a mine near Finleyville, Penn.

The Montenegrins captured Scutari and the powers are having considerable apprehension over them. The Austro-Hungarian government has submitted proposals to the powers for the application of drastic measures to compel the Montenegrins to evacuate Scutari.

A Phoenix, Ariz., dispatch, carried by the Associated Press says: The judiciary committee of the assembly was instructed to draft amendments to Arizona's anti-alien land owner-

ship law, enacted last year and a situation similar to that in California is forecasted by expressions of opinion on the floor. Those favoring the amendment of the law in such manner as to make its provisions apply only to aliens ineligible for citizenship in the United States apparently were in the majority. The present law, prohibiting ownership of land in Arizona by any alien, has aroused vigorous protest among wealthy Mexicans in the state. Their attention was directed to the law by the California situation. The matter was taken up in the lower house and those who desired the rigid enforcement of the present law were outvoted. The amendment desired would exempt foreigners who have already established property rights in the state from the prohibitions of the law and legislators were of the opinion that the ineligibility clause would also be inserted.

A Los Angeles dispatch says that Ortie McManigal, the confessed dynamiter and informer, who has been a prisoner since April, 1911, will be released in thirty days.

A Pittsburgh, Pa., dispatch, carried by the Associated Press, says: The western insurance bureau, heading an annual convention here, decided to withdraw from the state of

Missouri because of antagonistic legislation which they assert has been enacted and which seriously interferes with their business. More than sixty-two insurance companies were represented at the meeting. The action of the western insurance bureau follows a similar decision taken recently at Philadelphia by the western insurance union. It is said the two organizations write about 90 per cent of the insurance in Missouri.

Governor Sulzer of New York, has appointed John Mitchell, labor leader, to be state labor commissioner of New York.

Railroad firemen were granted an increase in pay of from 10 to 12 per cent by the award of the Erdman act arbitration board of New York city.

THE HUMAN FACTOR

In reviving a practice out of use for one hundred and twelve years, President Wilson did not revive any of the state and ceremonial which accompanied the methods of Washington and Adams. These probably deterred Thomas Jefferson, the father of our historic democracy and the apostle of political simplicity, though personally one of the most fastidious of aristocrats, quite as much as the reasons he gave for not appearing in person as the vehicle of his own messages. Simplicity is also the Wilson ideal.

But that simplicity is made perfectly consistent with his keen desire to keep himself and his functions in the closest personal touch with the important business which is transacted in the two houses of congress. He wished, in his own experience, "to verify for myself the impression that the president of the United States is a person, not a mere department of the government hailing congress from some isolated island of jealous power, * * * that he is a human being trying to co-operate with other human beings in a common service." Such was the overture to the reading of his message, which was followed by his prompt exit from the hall of audience.

The intimate human factor as between the executive and the legislature, in its common spontaneous working, presents an ideal much to be commended. The two can work together, no doubt, with much better results, wherever and whenever, that can be done without encroaching on prerogative or seeming to do so, an alternative almost as bad. This danger, of course, can always be averted by political tact, one of the rarest of virtues, however. We all assume that President Wilson will develop this bland solvent and emollient as often as political intimacy, which would be so molded and colored by personal idiosyncrasy, breaks out in eruptions on the skin, as irritating sometimes as deep-seated disease.

Government certainly should be more than a machine, however perfect of its sort, its parts more vital and close related than mere mechanical parts. To bring this about in a degree larger than has hitherto been the vogue is assuredly a worthy ideal, creditable to a man of ideals who has shown himself a little disdainful of the humdrum and the petrified in public life, and determined to pierce to the heart of things. The president displayed a good deal of this as governor of New Jersey, and injected a vitality into affairs which they had not known for years, even though he sometimes flourished the "big stick" in one fist, while he brandished the olive branch in the other. He made things very interesting. The country will look forward with the liveliest curiosity and interest to that achievement on a great stage, which a man of such indomitable strength of character and wide in-

tellectual outlook projected on a small stage in his human and intimate relations with every department of government.—New York Commercial.

TRAINED IN DIPLOMACY

The new ambassador to England hath a very pretty wit. O. Henry's remark that "Walter Page can write a letter declining a contribution with thanks, and word it so sweetly that you can take it to a bank and raise money on it as an evidence of money to come," is confirmed by this letter of acceptance written by Mr. Page when he was editor of the Atlantic Monthly:

"My Dear Madame—You take rejection so sweetly that it is a positive sorrow to be forced to tell you that your story is enthusiastically accepted."

Diplomacy is nothing new to a magazine editor.—Baltimore Sun.

HEADED OFF

"Did you tell her when you proposed to her that you were unworthy of her? That always makes a hit with them."

"I was going to, but she told it to me first."—Houston Post.

A MODEL GRADUATE

"I wonder why that chap is always so quiet?"

"Well, you see, he graduated from the school of experience, and that institution has no college yell."—St. Paul Dispatch.

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