

current year will be 60,000,000 tons. One dollar per ton increase would make several men multimillionaires. These men, of course, saw the end from the beginning, and initiated an ordered sequence of events as logical as the tale of *The House That Jack Built*. Where the graft was faulty was in overlooking the tendency of the unexpected to happen. Proposals for government ownership of coal mines and the strike commission have boosted the cause of organized labor.

The people were careful to lodge the taxing power where it would be under the best control. Courts have power to find that the value of stocks and bonds is a fair basis for taxation, but organized wealth finds it easy to rob this wasp of its sting. Violation of equity in this point is presumptive evidence of conspiracy, to the same extent as the determination to strike on the part of organized labor. The court shows a disposition to treat everybody alike in the same way as the Almighty, who does not do for us what we can do for ourselves.

A commission to study government by injunction would be as sensible as a tariff or finance commission.

The injunction having issued against a body of strikers the latter are in contempt if they dare to violate the judge's ipse dixit. It affects others as well as the strikers, who happen to be driven into the industrial whirligig. Suppose the judge who brings forth the injunction could be an eye witness to a head-end collision between the contending forces, in which a striker commits murder. Would the striker be punished for contempt, or would he be reserved for the criminal court to make a horrible example of? It cannot be a doctrine of American jurisprudence that a man must commit murder in order to be entitled to trial by jury.

JAMES E. FREE.

## NEWS

Week ending Thursday, Feb. 25.

Russia has made reply to the American diplomatic note (p 729) with reference to limiting the sphere of hostilities in the war be-

tween Japan and Russia in China. The reply was made public on the 19th. It acquiesces in the American suggestion, but definitely insists that Manchuria must not be considered as excluded from the field of military operations.

Regarding hostilities in Manchuria China has addressed both Russia and Japan. She reiterates her intention to maintain strict neutrality, but warns the combatants that they must respect the sanctity of the royal tombs in Manchuria.

Although the American newspapers have been full of "headline news" of the war (p. 727) during the week there has been no trustworthy war news of importance. That important events have occurred at the seat of the war is not improbable, but the military censorship on both sides is so rigorous that no correspondent can forward really reliable information.

Complaint was formally made on the 23d by Russia to the other Powers, respecting Japan's manner of conducting the war. Russia charges Japan with violating the fundamental rules of international law in five particulars, as follows:

(1). Before the opening of hostilities against Russia Japan landed her troops in the independent empire of Corea, which had declared its neutrality.

(2). With a division of her fleet she made a sudden attack on February 8, that is, three days prior to the declaration of war, on two Russian war ships in the neutral port of Chemulpo. The commanders of these ships had not been notified of the severance of diplomatic relations, as the Japanese maliciously stopped the delivery of Russia's telegrams by the Danish cable, and destroyed telegraphic communication of the Corean government.

(3). Shortly before the opening of hostilities the Japanese captured as prizes of war certain Russian merchant ships in neutral ports of Corea.

(4). Japan declared to the Emperor of Corea through the Japanese minister at Seoul, that Corea would henceforth be under Japanese administration, and she warned the Emperor that in case of his noncompliance Japanese troops would occupy the palace.

(5). Through the French minister at Seoul Japan summoned the Russian representative at the Corean court to leave

the country, with the staffs of the Russian legation and consulate.

Accompanying the foregoing statement is a protest in these terms:

Recognizing that all the above facts constitute a flagrant breach of international law, the Russian government considers it its duty to lodge a protest with all the powers against this procedure of the Japanese government; and it is firmly convinced that all the Powers, valuing the principles which guarantee their relations, will agree with the Russian attitude. At the same time the Russian government considers it necessary to issue a timely warning that, owing to Japan's illegal assumption of power in Corea, the government declares all orders and declarations which may be issued on the part of the Corean government to be invalid.

Since this protest it has been announced that Japan and Corea have made an alliance under which Japan guarantees the independence and integrity of Corea, and Corea in return gives to Japan the right to operate her military forces at will in Corean territory.

The first important decision of the international arbitration tribunal at The Hague (p. 417) was announced on the 22d. It adjusted the priority of claims made against Venezuela (vol. v, p. 728), by 11 nations—Great Britain, Germany, Italy, Spain, the United States and six others. The first three had jointly attacked Venezuela to enforce payment in behalf of their subjects. In consequence Venezuela made a treaty setting aside 30 per cent. of her customs receipts for the benefit of all foreign claimants. A question of priority of payment thereupon arose, the three belligerent nations asserting their right to full payment before any payment to the nations that had asserted their claims peacefully. This is the question that was submitted to arbitration at The Hague. The arbitration tribunal has by its decision of the 22d awarded the priority to the allied assailants—Great Britain, Germany and Italy,—doing so upon the theory that the preliminary negotiations between Venezuela on the one hand, and Great Britain, Germany and Italy on the other, for raising the British-German-Italian blockade, gave the blockading Powers a preference

which no later action could annul, and that the words "all claims against Venezuela," used at that time, included only the claims of the allied Powers. Having placed this construction on the preliminary negotiations the arbitrators avoided a decision of the questions that were raised as to the character of the warlike operations of the blockading Powers or whether they had exhausted all pacific means before employing force.

This decision is criticized in official quarters at Washington on the ground that an award favoring nations that resort to war is calculated to put a premium on war. But Wayne MacVeagh, who represented the peaceable powers before the arbitration tribunal, is reported as saying:

The principal value of the Venezuelan arbitration was in securing the presence before The Hague tribunal of eleven independent nations agreeing to submit their controversy to its decision, and when that was accomplished the only really important result aimed at was secured. The discussion of the question submitted was of no great importance even to the creditor nations and of still less importance to Venezuela, as the decision would be only as to the order of the payment of the various claims, and not at all as to the extent or validity of them, which questions were to be settled by a mixed commission sitting at Caracas.

Panama's final recognition by the United States on the 23d, through the ratification by the Senate of the Isthmian canal treaty between this country and the Republic of Panama (p. 554), completes the initiation of that country into the sisterhood of nations. The treaty not only cedes to the United States jurisdiction over the canal, but obligates them to guarantee the independence of Panama. The ratification of this treaty was made by a vote of 66 to 14, as follows:

#### YEAS.

Republicans: Aldrich, Alger, Allee, Allison, Ankey, Ball, Bard, Beveridge, Burnham, Burrows, Clapp, Clark (Wyo.), Cullom, Depew, Dietrich, Dillingham, Dolliver, Dryden, Elkins, Fairbanks, Foraker, Frye, Fulton, Gallinger, Gamble, Hale, Hansbrough, Heyburn, Hoar, Hopkins, Kean, Kearns, Kittredge, Lodge, Long, McComas, McCumber, Millard, Mitchell, Nelson, Penrose, Perkins, Platt (Conn.), Platt (N. Y.), Proctor,

Quarles, Scott, Smoot, Spooner, Stewart, Warren, Wetmore.

Democrats: Bacon, Berry, Clarke (Ark.), Clay, Cockrell, Foster (La.), Gibson, Latimer, McCreary, McEnery, Mallory, Money, Simmons, Talliaferro.

#### NAYS.

Bailey, Bate, Blackburn, Carmack, Culberson, Daniel, Dubois, Gorman, Morgan, Newlands, Patterson, Pettus, Teller, Tillman.

Immediately upon the ratification of the treaty a regiment of American infantry, regular army, was ordered to Panama. The official war department bulletin of the 23d read as follows: :

The Third Infantry has been designated for duty in Panama to relieve the marines now stationed on that Isthmus. None of the families of officers or enlisted men will be allowed to accompany the regiment.

Three days prior to the ratification of the treaty with the United States the recently elected President of the Republic of Panama, Dr. Manuel Amador (p. 730), was formally inaugurated before the national constitutional convention, the inauguration occurring on the 20th in the plaza before the cathedral. Following is President Amador's cabinet:

Minister of government and foreign relations—Tomas Arias, Conservative; minister of justice and public instruction—Julio Fabrega, Conservative; minister of finance—Francisco Espriella, Liberal; minister of public works—Manuel Quintero, Liberal.

#### NEWS NOTES.

—On the 20th Perry Heath resigned his place as secretary of the Republican national committee.

—The price of May wheat rose on the Chicago Board of Trade on the 23d to \$1.08½ per bushel.

—Bourke Cochran was elected to Congress from the Twelfth New York district on the 23d as the successor to Mayor McClellan.

—The first annual convention of the Citizens Industrial Association, of which David M. Parry is president (p. 487) was held at Indianapolis on the 22d.

—The original dispatches regarding the Baltimore fire (p. 713) were in error in reporting the destruction of the courthouse and the custom house. Neither was destroyed.

—Sir Leslie Stephen, president of the London Ethical Society and author of "History of English Thought in the

Eighteenth Century," died at London on the 22d at the age of 72.

—The national committee of the fusion and the middle-of-the-road wings of the Populist party decided at St. Louis on the 23d to hold a joint national convention in Springfield, Ill., on July 4.

—Congressman Charles A. Dick was unanimously nominated on the 24th by the Republican legislative caucus of Ohio as the Republican candidate for Senator to succeed the late Senator Hanna.

—The Russian government has abolished the censorship over outgoing news dispatches. Credit for this is given by Reuter's Telegram company to Melville E. Stone, manager of the American Associated Press.

—Senator Hanna's body was buried at Cleveland on the 19th, after lying in state on the 18th in the auditorium of the Cleveland Chamber of Commerce. The eulogy was pronounced by Bishop Leonard, who declared the keynote of Senator Hanna's life to have been his integrity. The pall bearers were Gov. Myron T. Herick, Samuel Mather, J. B. Zerbe, W. J. McKinnie, A. B. Hough, Andrew Squire, W. B. Saunders and C. A. Grasselli, all personal friends of the dead Senator. J. Pierpont Morgan was of the family party.

—On the 23d the Cook County (Ill.) special grand jury returned indictments with reference to the Iroquois theater disaster (p. 713) against George Williams, commissioner of buildings, charged with misfeasance in office and held to be directly accountable for the lack of protection in the theater; Edward Laughlin, building inspector, charged with palpable omission of duty in connection with his investigations of the theater; Will J. Davis, senior manager of the Iroquois, charged with manslaughter; Thomas Noonan, business manager of the theater, charged with manslaughter; James E. Cummins, stage carpenter, charged with manslaughter. Regarding its failure to indict Mayor Harrison, the grand jury explained that he personally had not received any report of the violations of the law at the Iroquois, and that "the contingency therefore upon which his liability would arise never happened as far as the jury were able to ascertain."

#### PRESS OPINIONS.

##### BRYAN AND THE KANSAS CITY PLATFORM.

The Commoner (Dem.), Feb. 19.—The reorganizers, with the dishonesty that has always characterized their political movements, are shouting that "Bryan wants to make 16 to 1 the paramount issue." They have read what he says and they have read the platform adopted at Kansas City, and they know that 16 to 1 is not regarded as the paramount issue by Mr. Bryan or by the other advocates of that platform. The money question was declared to be the paramount issue in 1896; in 1900 it was expressly declared not to be the paramount issue, but that it is an issue is perfectly