

very handsome seal ring which he handed over to his friend for inspection.

"How do you like it?" he inquired. "Rather odd, eh? It was given to me the other day by a client I had done a good turn in a real estate deal. All right, eh?"

"The ring? Yes," answered his companion puffing his cigar judiciously; "but the story of the generous client? No, my boy, that's pretty bad; fishy, worse than Jonah and the whale, awful. Say, who's the lady?"

"Lady," snorted the other, with some show of indignation. "I'm telling you the truth on the level. Truth is stranger than fiction. I let this chap in on a good thing, and he did the handsome. Decent fellow; showed his appreciation. Well, what are you laughing at?"

"Grateful clients," gasped his visitor, "who give romantic looking rings to-o-o their agents. Oh, Charlie, how can you? Come out with it."

"Oh, well, if you're on," was the despairing answer as Charlie replaced the ring. "I thought it sounded good. It's like this," he began lamely. "While my wife was away this summer I er struck up a friendship with a mighty pretty little 'hello' girl and we grew right fond of each other. I had to cut it out, of course, when my wife returned yesterday, but the little girl cried and insisted upon giving me this as a -er-souvenir. Now, I can't wear it without telling the lady of the house something, so I dug up that grateful client yarn out of my fertile brain. I thought I'd try it on you first to see how it took, but--oh, hum--it's no use I see."

CONVENTION CLOSES

Y. W. C. A. Organization Completes Sessions in This City Today.

STATE COMMITTEE NAMED.

Prof. Elbert Russell of Richmond gave a most interesting address on the "Need of the Twentieth Century," before the Y. W. C. A. convention at Earlham college last night. Before the address by Prof. Russell the state committee was appointed which consisted of Mrs. Armstrong of Kokomo, Mrs. R. W. Furnas of Indianapolis, Mrs. George Wiesman of South Bend, Mrs. Crowell of Franklin, Mrs. McCrea of Indianapolis, Mrs. Davidson of Indianapolis, Mrs. Mansfield of Greenfield and Mrs. Mendenhall.

Today's program will conclude the convention and the delegates will start leaving Monday for their respective colleges and homes.

All the delegates state they have been treated in a most royal manner during their stay in Richmond.

"SHRIEKS OF A DROWNING" MAN

Sheldon Thus Characterizes Bryan's Charges on Contributions.

New York, Nov. 7.—George B. Sheldon, treasurer of the Republican national committee told reporter today that the list of contributions to the Republican campaign fund would be made public about Nov. 15 and that it would contain the name of every individual who had contributed to the fund.

Mr. Sheldon characterized the charge of William J. Bryan that the Republican congressional committee was the blind pool into which secret contributions would be dumped, as "the shriek of a drowning man."

"Will you comply absolutely with the New York state law in accounting for the expenses of the national campaign," Mr. Sheldon was asked.

"Of course I shall," he declared.

"The republican party always keeps its pledges—but you need not print that. Why? Because it is so obvious a truth and it is unnecessary after the verdict of last Tuesday."

Garfield Notes

The close of the second month of school finds things in a very satisfactory condition. The loss of time for tardiness and absence has been much reduced, by the application of more stringent rules, from the loss during the same time last year.

The boys' basketball and polo teams were organized last week. There are sixty-nine boys enrolled to play basketball and sixteen to play polo.

The captains of the senior basketball teams are Frank Metzger, Herbert Swan, Noble Gehr and King Brumfield. The junior captains are Mary Shofer, Lloyd Dye and Lawrence McConaha. The polo captains are Karl Reid and Clarence Runge.

The teachers Friday on their annual visiting day, saw some excellent work in neighboring cities. Miss Williams, Miss Reese, Miss Lesh, Mr. Boggs and Mr. Heironimus visited Indianapolis schools. Miss Test, the Misses Schultz and Mr. Conrad went to Dayton. Mr. Hiser saw work in Piqua, Ohio.

Some of the teachers who went to Indianapolis, remained there Saturday the guests of Supt. Mott at the meeting of the Indiana Superintendents' association. They also saw the Indiana-Notre Dame gridiron contest.

The Twilight of Life.

The muscles of the stomach in old age are not strong or active in youth, and the consequence of poor diet is subject to constipation and indigestion. Many old men have a bowel movement without artificial aid. Many of the stomach after earlier. All this can be avoided by the use of Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Peppermint, which easily regulates the bowels so that passage comes easily. It is a strong stimulant to the stomach that food is digested without discomfort. Druggists sell it at 20 cents or \$1 a large bottle.

BATTLESHIPS ARE NOT MERE JUNK

Naval Commission Reports That Criticisms Are Unjust.

SERIOUSLY CONCERNED.

POSSIBLE UNDER PRESENT CONDITIONS FOR ANYONE TO LEARN CONDITION OF AMERICAN MEANS OF PROTECTION.

(Special to Palladium.)

Washington, D. C., Nov. 7.—Six months or so ago there was so much criticism of our battleships that many people became convinced they were little better than floating heaps of junk. The critics told us they were built on plans fundamentally wrong and direful predictions were made as to what would happen to them were they ever called upon to go into battle. Naval officials at first were inclined to scoff, but the criticism were so insistent and so detailed that finally the navy department got worked up and ordered a conference of naval experts to convene at Newport and thrash out the whole subject. These experts spent weeks in deliberation, and their report is just in. They find, in effect, that the criticisms are wholly unjustified, but that in some of the vessels there are defects in design that should be remedied. The armor belt is to be widened and the ammunition hoists on a number of ships changed so as to afford better protection to the magazines.

The most important recommendation of the experts is that the maximum of armament be increased from 12-inch to 14-inch guns. It has been believed for many years that the 12-inch guns represented the limit in caliber. The recoil of large guns, it was believed, would be more dangerous than the shells of an enemy, but the contention of the experts is that increase in the size of the ships makes both possible and desirable increase in the size of the guns. With 16,000-ton battle ships 12-inch guns were the limit, but with an increase in the size to 20,000 tons the guns may be increased to 14-inch. The prediction has been made that within another decade we shall have 40,000-ton battle ships, and it is to be supposed that the guns will increase in caliber accordingly.

Though naval officers are relieved that the commission of experts has not sustained the criticisms, they are seriously concerned that it is possible for such criticisms to be made. If it is to be possible for Tom, Dick or Harry to discover defects in our national defense and to publish those defects to the world the American navy is obviously placed at a very serious disadvantage. In case of war our enemy would know just where we were weak and where we were strong and could gage its attack accordingly.

No other nation would permit such free exposure of its military secrets. In high naval circles the advisability has been discussed of asking congress to establish some sort of a censorship of such matters, but even should the request be made it is not likely congress would heed it. In the first place, it would be contrary to the spirit of things American; and in the second place, the navy would be told that when congress votes the people's money for building battle ships the ships built ought to be above criticism. Congress undoubtedly would think that the navy went a bit to far when it asked that a law be passed to prevent its own shortcomings from seeing the light of day.

Few people outside of military circles realize how much has been done during the past few years to increase the efficiency of the national guard of the several states. At the breaking out of war with Spain our national guard, neither in equipment nor in training, was of large value. Army officers were of the opinion that raw recruits could have been taken and in thirty days made as efficient as the guard. Now, not only has its equipment been modernized, but its training is largely in the hands of regular army officers and should another war come it would be ready almost at a moment's notice to take the field.

CONSTITUTION MUST BE ADOPTED BY CLASS

Seniors of High School to Re-organize.

Prof. Knouff, principal at the Richmond high school, has prepared the constitution for the Senior class at the high school and will present it at a meeting which is to be held Monday evening. The class will accept it, for if they don't it is very probable that they will not be permitted to reorganize.

At the beginning of the term officers were elected, but owing to the factional feeling among the various members of the class they disposed of their official togs. The class hopes to get started right Monday and they have the best wishes from the members of the under classes.

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