

# Course of Events In 1904

## Another Year's Shifting of Scenes In the Endless World Drama Described For Busy Folks Who Want to Know How the Plot Is Working Out.

By EDWIN S. POTTER

### Divided Radical Forces Left the Republicans Supreme

Out of the year's political shakeup in America emerges one masterful figure of a man securely astride the proud and prancing steed of triumphant Republicanism—Theodore Roosevelt, president and president elect. With his rough rider hand he guides firmly that compact party organization. Democracy, neutralized at St. Louis as the party of "sanity and safety," under the leadership of men unwilling to antagonize vitally the existing order of things, suffered its greatest defeat.



President Roosevelt.

In this decree of a great popular majority, which places the reins of government more securely in the hands of the Republicans for another four year period, the arrival of a new force in American politics is signalized—namely, the advent of Socialism. In the Democratic breakup many radical voters evidently went to their Republican antipodes. Others protested with the Populists following Watson, encouraged by the lukewarm attitude of their radical leader, Hearst, toward Judge Parker, the candidate selected by the reorganizers. Some swelled the ranks of the Prohibitionists under Swallow. In all these diversions there was nothing new, but in the remarkable vote cast for Debs, the Socialist standard bearer, a new factor was brought into our political equation.

What the Roosevelt conquest left of the Democratic party, even shorn of its solid south by the Republican capture of Missouri, naturally turns once more to Bryan as its radical Moses. But the Democratic reorganizers are not likely to surrender their control of the party machine without a fight. In Folk of Missouri, who reaches the governorship on his reform record notwithstanding the Republican upheaval, the Democratic year has evolved one figure of promising stature. The possibility of his being able to reconcile the divergent wings or factions of Democrats causes his personality to loom up large alongside that of Bryan's on the Democratic horizon.



Joseph W. Folk.

The election of Douglas as a Democratic governor of Massachusetts was chiefly interesting as showing how organized labor could play a hand in the political game, the Republicans having displeased the labor unions by failing to put through the bill limiting hours of labor for women and children. The hand of labor was also evident in the Colorado result on the face of the returns, which showed a safe majority for Adams, and the disposition of Governor Peabody to contest these returns wrought the union sympathizers to a high pitch of popular excitement. The Maryland electoral vote was divided, seven going to the Democrats and one to the Republicans, the Gorman machine being considerably damaged in the process. Elsewhere in the north and west it was one continued story of "gone Republican with bigger majorities than ever before," while the south, excepting Missouri, remained Democratic. Roosevelt led Parker by a popular plurality of 2,546,470 votes and a majority of 196 votes in the electoral college, and a new congress was chosen with 118 Republican majority in the house.

### Making and Executing The Laws of Our Own Country

When the first session of the Fifty-eighth congress got under way last January the prospect of new legislation was very small in view of the approaching presidential canvass. The minority senators led by Gorman were pressing the president for an explanation of his Panama policy. In both houses the minority tried to force an airing of the postoffice department on account of the exposures made in the courts during the preceding year. An important nonpartisan event was the formation of an interparliamentary group headed by Mr. Bartholdt of Missouri, which subsequently entertained the interparliamentary union at the world's fair. Congress contributed toward the success of the great fair by authorizing a loan of \$4,000,000. The main legislative event of the session was the ratification of the Panama canal treaty, Feb. 23, by the senate, 65 to 14, after an extended debate. Next to this was the ratification of the

Cuban treaty of reciprocity, March 22. The amended house Philippine improvement bill passed the senate Dec. 16. Next to the president himself the men who have figured most prominently in the shaping of the nation's executive policies have been William H. Taft, who arrived from Manila in time to take Root's place as secretary of war Feb. 1, and Secretary of State Hay. Through his successor at Manila, Governor Wright, Secretary Taft has held the Philippines in line for the larger industrial future in which his recommendation of a tariff commission is the first step. In November he was sent by the president on a special mission to adjust our differences with the new government of Panama, the whole control of the canal zone having been placed in charge of the war department. General Alsworth became military secretary of the war department under the new law. Army maneuvers were conducted on a larger scale than ever before, Sept. 6, 7 and 8, on the historic battlefield of Bull Run, in Virginia.



William H. Taft.

both militia and regulars participating and Adjutant General Corbin in charge of the whole affair. Secretary Hay's large share in the chief executive's attentions was due to the prominence of foreign affairs in connection with the eastern war, with the promulgation of the president's invitation to a second Hague conference and in the negotiations of special arbitration treaties with all the leading nations of the world. The exchange of Panama canal treaty ratifications took place at Washington Feb. 23, and the terms were proclaimed by the president, who appointed a commission of noted engineers headed by Rear Admiral Walker. The abrogation of the Moro treaty ended the so called alliance with slavery. Secretary Hay gave official sanction to the use of "America" instead of the "United States" as the official designation of our country in diplomatic parlance.

Notwithstanding that the administration has been animated with the spirit of peace and arbitration in its international relations, there has been no halt in the progress toward a greater American navy. During the year the following warships have been successfully launched: The battleships Virginia, Nebraska, Louisiana, Connecticut, Georgia and Tennessee, the cruisers Charleston and Milwaukee, the gunboats Dubuque and Paducah and several training ships. Under the direction of the new secretary of the navy, Paul Morton, plans have been matured for continuing the construction of first class battleships and cruisers. The president approved of the navy having control of all wireless stations. Secretary of the Treasury Shaw had the distinction of paying over the \$40,000,000 to the French Panama company to secure its title May 9; also approved the policy of smaller revenue stamps for imported cigars. Gold was made legal tender in Panama. The treasury began its new fiscal year with a gradually decreasing deficit, but it became expedient to call upon the bank reserve in November. The most important single act in the interior department was the promulgation of the age pension order. Commissioner Ware resigned Nov. 14.

### Applications and Infractions of the Law

It would require whole pages like this to record all the murders, lynchings, larcenies, defaults, embezzlements, bribes, conspiracies and assaults which have been reported in the newspapers in the twelvemonth past. It need only be said that this apparently increasing volume and intensity of crime is a disease for which society as a whole begins to see that it is somehow responsible. What solutions will the new year offer?

Several notable efforts to reduce the volume of crime will be readily recalled, including the fights against bribery in St. Louis, Chicago and Buffalo, the war on race track gambling, forcing the withdrawal of Western Union service; the conviction of policy sellers in New York, Philadelphia and Chicago and of Gambler Canfield at New York. The most striking instance of criminal financing was that of Mrs. Chadwick of Cleveland, involving the failure and disgrace of several bank officials, by hypotheating fictitious securities based on Mr. Carnegie's name and running into many millions. Another American woman, Mrs. Maybrick, emerged from a British prison, purged of the murder charge under which she had rested for fifteen years, and has told her story in book form. Foremost among court decisions stands the supreme court's five to four



Mrs. Maybrick.

invalidation of that cunning structure, the Northern Securities company, by which the Morgan and Hill railroads were hitched together financially without being combined as to management. In this decision President Hill acquiesced, but his plan of pro rata distribution of stock was held up by Mr. Harriman's litigation. Other supreme court decisions were that jury trial does not extend to the Philippines, excluding periodical libraries from second class mails, Alabama disfranchisement of negroes sustained in the Jiles case and exclusion of John Turner, the British philosophical anarchist.

### Employers Federated Against Labor's Closed Shop

Looking at the sum total of the year's economic activity from the standpoint of the laborer and of the mechanic, we see the rapid development of a new force directed against the very Gibraltar of unionism as it stands today, especially in America. It is the full fledged federation of the principal employing interests of our country, a movement which had its beginning the preceding year in the formation of the Citizens' Industrial Alliance, headed by D. M. Parry. Through this national organization nearly every industry in the country has lined up on the ultimatum for the open shop, a demand squarely re-enforced in the post election message of President Roosevelt.

In the face of all this the unions in detail and the American Federation of Labor for the majority have contested every inch of the way for their right and purpose to refuse to work with nonunion men. In this clash of forces the year's record shows gains for the open shop, notably with the garment workers, harvester trust, lake pilots, typefounders, molders, iron and tin plate workers, sheet metal workers, butchers and helpers, boiler makers and in many minor contests generally as the result of a strike in which wage reductions also figured. The open shop may be said to be the immediate outcome of the terrible conflict between the miners' federation and Governor Peabody of Colorado, whose soldiers aided in crushing the strike by arbitrary arrests and deportations, especially after the murderous dynamite outrage against nonunion men at Independence June 6. After all was over, Nov. 15, the operators conceded the eight hour day.

The Chicago Press Feeders' union was placed by the courts in the hands of a receiver. In New York the conviction of Weinselmer for extortion figured in the strike and lockout of the building trades, and under arbitration agreements much work went on. The strike of Fall River operatives, Jan. 25, against a 12 1/2 per cent wage cut has broken all records. Empire Wright decided for the miners in the check weightmen dispute. Soft coal miners accepted a cut.

### Problems and Policies Of the Foreign Governments

THE WAR IN THE EAST, involving the very life of a rejuvenated Japan and obliterating the prestige of Russia's governing autocracy, while rousing her people to new visions of representative government—a frightful struggle which still goes on as the year draws to its close, like a horrible nightmare to the peace aspiring conscience of civilization—has held the front and center of the international stage constantly since Feb. 7, when Togo's fleet surprised the Russian ships at Port Arthur with a night attack, fruitless negotiations having been broken off by the milkado. The long expected and long dreaded event had actually come to pass. From that day forth the preparedness of the Japanese as well as their fighting and strategic qualities on sea and land has shone out in telling contrast to their more pretentious adversary in a long series of victories. Before Russia had fairly recovered from the shock of that first attack a second naval blow was struck at Chemulpo, Korea, by Togo, and as in the twinkling of an eye the Russian navy was placed on the defensive. At the same moment Japanese armies were set in motion and Russia began sending re-enforcements via the Siberian railroad. While the Japs ships tried to seal up Port Arthur, General Kuroki led the first army through Korea to a decisive victory at the Yalu May 1, pushing on to Fengwangcheng May 6, Korea, the chief bone of contention, was fully in Japanese hands. On May 7 another Japanese army, under Nogi, landed on the Liautong peninsula, won the bloody victory at Nanshan hill and began the long siege of Port Arthur, so costly in human life. The Russian forces northward, under General Kurapatkin and Viceroy Alexeief, steadily retired or were driven northward before the advancing Japs, under Oyama, a series of minor engagements culminating Aug. 31 to Sept. 2 at Liaoyang in the greatest battle in history, with 500,000 men engaged. After frightful losses on both sides Kurapatkin was forced to retreat to Mukden, closely pursued by the Japs. There, Oct. 9, the Russians, re-enforced, turned on their pursuers and fought the indecisive battle of the Sha River, where the two armies prepared to go into winter quarters face to face. In the meantime Russia's naval strength had been crushed in two great battles. After losing their command, Makaroff, with the mine sunk battleship Petropavlovsk, the remnant of the Russian fleet dashed from Port



Admiral Togo.

Arthur Aug. 10 only to be scattered by Togo at long range, ships not taken being forced back to the harbor, where later they were pounded to pieces by Nogi's siege guns on Two Hundred and Three Meter hill Dec. 8. In trying to connect with the Port Arthur fleet the squadron from Vladivostok was met in the sea of Japan by Kamimura and driven back, the cruiser Kurik sunk and her mates crippled. In all this time several Japanese battleships, cruisers and gunboats were sunk by floating mines. The activity of Russia's volunteer fleet from the Black sea in holding merchant vessels caused neutral powers to protest. Then came the departure of the Baltic fleet, with its inexplicable attack on the British fishing fleet in the North sea Sept. 22, which aroused England to white heat, but which was finally left to arbitration.

RUSSIA'S war reverses and sacrifices, which included the forcing of unwilling thousands from their homes and families and ruinous taxation of other thousands, stirred as never before the aspiration of the middle classes for a share in the government. This powerful undercurrent must have impressed the czar, so that when the popular hatred of the reactionary minister De Plehve culminated in his assassination July 28 a man of broad and liberal tendencies, Prince Sviatopolk-Mirsky, was called to the vacant place Sept. 8. The new minister had but given the zemstvo men the privilege of a public meeting at St. Petersburg when they took the bits in their teeth by making a revolutionary programme for a representative form of government. Many popular uprisings were repressed with a ruthless hand. The one bright spot in the year for the czar was the birth of a male heir Aug. 12, after which the knot was abolished and amnesty granted to political offenders.

GREAT BRITAIN'S only new moves of international consequence were the disciplinary expedition of Colonel Younghusband to the forbidden Tibetan capital, Lassa, and the negotiation of arbitration treaties with France, Germany, America and Portugal. Tibet's resistance ceased after her defeat at Gyantse, and the terms made amounted to a virtual British protectorate, besides indemnity. Mr. Balfour's ministry hung on with wonderful tenacity in the face of Chamberlain's protective tariff campaign for the colonies, and a big deficit was met by tea and tobacco taxes.

CANADA projected a great transcontinental railway system, and her elections sustained Laurier and the Liberals with increased majorities. Earl Grey was named governor general to succeed Lord Minto.

AUSTRALIA'S new federation came under the sway of the Labor party, with Watson as premier, but the Watson cabinet was succeeded Oct. 1 by a coalition of free traders and protectionists, labor obstructing legislation.

FRANCE, led by Premier Combes and his Republican Socialist coalition, began by prohibiting all forms of religious teaching April 3, broke off all relations with the Vatican July 30, and ended with the denunciation of the concordat Oct. 23, after the two recalcitrant bishops went to Rome. Foreign Minister Delcasse was credited with three striking achievements, the treaty which meant the virtual absorption of Siam, the treaty settling all disputes with England and the reciprocal labor convention with Italy.

ITALY seethed in a Socialistic ferment, culminating in general strikes Sept. 16, suppressed by military force. In the subsequent election the Socialist gains were offset by the participation of the clerics, the pope not objecting, with the result that the Conservatives retained power. The king and queen were rejoiced by the birth of a male heir Sept. 14, christened Humbert of Piedmont.

GERMANY coquetted with war troubled Russia by taking big loans and concluding a commercial treaty July 28. A big deficit was due in part to the suppressing of the revolt in southwest Africa. The kaiser was attacked by a throat disease resembling cancer.

AFRICA'S various political divisions were not materially altered by the competing powers. In Cape Colony Dr. Jameson succeeded Sprigg as premier. The Transvaal under British guidance cured its labor famine by admitting 200,000 Chinese coolies. Lord Milner resigned. First German and then Portuguese colonies in the southwest were paralyzed by native uprisings, still in progress. Despite the missionary outcry about slave horrors in the Congo, Belgium's sway was unchecked. Abyssinia came into closer trade relations with America by treaty. British rule in Somaliland was unquestioned after the battle of Jan. 11, in which 1,000 dervishes fell. Morocco's condition, bordering on anarchy, came to the attention of the civilized world in connection with the kidnaping of Mr. Perdicaris, the American citizen, and his British nephew, Varley, by the tribesman Raisuli May 24; released by the sultan's compliance with Raisuli's demands under American and British pressure.

LATIN AMERICA'S event of greatest interest to us was the erection and successful operation of the republican government of Panama under President Amador, who was elected Feb. 16, and the beginning of surveys for the Panama canal. Colombia acquiesced in the loss of Panama and chose General Reyes president. Venezuela's congress gave President Castro a year's dictatorship, and he began damage suits against the American asphalt trust for causing revolution. Nicaragua gave up the turtle fisheries to England. Peru and Brazil agreed to arbitrate Acre dispute. Unsuccessful rebellions occurred in Uruguay, Brazil, Haiti and Santo

Domingo. The Paraguay government was overturned by General Ferreira Dec. 9, after many fights. Mexico resumed relations with the Vatican and amended constitution so as to give Ramon Corral the vice presidency in line of succession to Diaz, who entered his seventh term. The gold standard was recognized in Mexico.

### Work of Medical Men Heads Scientific Procession

The number and brilliance of the investigations directly or indirectly bearing on the prevention of human and animal ailments which have been conducted by the leading medical men of the world during the year 1904 clearly entitle this department of science to the first place in popular interest. In most of these experiments the trend of effort is toward the prevention of disease and preservation of health rather than toward curative methods. In this direction lay one of the most striking achievements of the year, that of successfully demonstrating the utility of copper solution in destroying typhoid and other germs in bodies of water for the use of cities. Credit for this discovery and for its quite general introduction in this country belongs to Professor George T. Moore of the department of agriculture. Coincident with the positive identification of a serum cure for tuberculosis by Dr. Maragliano in Italy, the medical profession in this and other countries has organized a worldwide campaign of education and prevention against the "great white plague." The experiments made by Professor Chittenden of Yale with his diet squad, showing that people eat twice as much as they should, and the experiments of Dr. Wiley and his poison squad at Washington, indicating the dangerous effects of common food preservatives, are both impressive efforts in the direction of disease prevention rather than cure. Dr. Noguchi of Japan confirmed his recent discovery of an antidote for snake poison. Dr. Castellani of Spain has identified the bacillus of dysentery. The Koch theory that tuberculosis is not given to man by animals was discredited by the British royal commission, but sustained by a German set of experts. Dr. Schron of Italy differentiated the microbe of phthisis from that of tuberculosis.

Professor Baskerville of the University of North Carolina became world famous in April by the announcement of his discovery of two new elements which he called carolinium and berzelium. They were obtained by reducing thorium. Radium was found in minute quantities in various parts of this country.



Professor Baskerville.

Lord Kelvin declared that radium's energy came from without itself. Professor Ramsay said we were on the eve of a new theory of elements.

While the world's fair brought together the greatest collection of would be air navigators on record, only two of them gave satisfactory tests as to dirigibility of balloon supported cars. These were Thomas S. Baldwin of San Francisco and Thomas Benbow of Montana.

One striking achievement of science in the field of industry was the perfection of the seedless apple by John Spencer of Colorado. Another effort was the unavailing attempt to check the cotton boll weevil through the introduction of the Guatemalan ant into Texas. Luther Burbank evolved a plant whose blossoms retain form and color indefinitely.

### Facts and Forces Of Commerce and Industry

If I were asked what was the most impressive industrial achievement with which the year 1904 would be associated in memory I should say offhand New York's rapid transit subway, which was completed Oct. 27 by the man who four years ago took up the \$40,000,000 contract for its construction, John B. McDonald. But if I were to tell you the event which would have the most far reaching effect on the business of the world my mind would pick up the historic scene at Schenectady, N. Y., Nov. 12, when a regulation train of normal gauge was drawn over a four mile stretch of rails faster and easier and steadier than the Empire express can go. Both events had to do with the problem of transportation. In the first the mobility of a great modern city was vastly increased; in the second the steam locomotive saw its inevitable doom on the scrap heap. It meant that in the near future all suburban lines and eventually all railroads would be electrified, immensely to our advantage in speed, comfort and economy. A fitting accompaniment of the subway was the boring of the first tunnel under the Hudson for the use of trolley cars. The Pennsylvania terminus was in progress, and other tunnels were projected by the Lackawanna and Erie. Other great works finished were the sea wall at Galveston July 29, the Wabash terminal at Pittsburgh June 1 and the creation of the 630 foot twin steamers Dakota and Minnesota as adjuncts to the Great Northern. These were second in size only to the White Star Atlantic liner Baltic, which made her maiden voyage to New York in June.

The first turbine liner crossed the Atlantic in June, but later in the year the new Cunard turbine liner Victorian failed to attain contract speed. Ger-

many launched a turbine cruiser April 2. The publication of a regular international daily newspaper was begun on the Cunard ships May 15 by means of the Marconi wireless telegraph.

The great world pendulum of commerce and finance swung haltingly toward shrinkage of values and industrial intransigence during the first three-quarters of the year, especially in our own land, where the presidential campaign was in progress, with its elements of uncertainty. During the latter quarter the pendulum has swung back toward business confidence and renewed activities all along the line, barring some unusual crashes in speculative stocks on the exchange. Without taking sides as to the issues involved, it is safe to say that the most disquieting influence in Wall street was Thomas W. Lawson of Boston, with his series of fierce onslaughts on copper, steel, insurance and other interests of the Rockefeller-Morgan groups. These same groups, however, continued steadily on the path toward a complete harmony if not actual unity of American railway systems. While rivalry between the railroads continued, Gould's Wabash being particularly aggressive for new territory looking toward its cross continent connections, it is not doubted that the breaking of the Northern Securities company by the supreme court served to check the formal expression of further railway transfiguration. The trust tendency was less notable in other lines of industry than in preceding years, the most important combinations of the year being in tobacco, locomotive works and banks. The purchase of the Ontario and Western by the New Haven gave New England a direct connection with the anthracite region. Many of the mills and factories which slowed down or shut down early in the year have resumed operation since the election, but so far without restoring wage cuts generally. The ruinous rate war between the ship trust and the independent transatlantic lines, which carried steamer rates down to \$10 and even \$7.50, beginning March 1, was settled amicably Nov. 14. Cotton, too, had its high tide of 17.55 Feb. 2, after which the crash came with King Sully's bankruptcy March 18. The price went on down toward its low tide in December after the government report disclosed a crop that meant 2,000,000 bales surplus.

The world's fair ended Dec. 1, a financial success, having met an expense account of over \$30,000,000. Wheat rose to the record price of \$1.20 Sept. 13 and then fell off, but remained strong on a short crop. Corn and other cereals were plentiful. The list of business failures was unusually heavy.

### Church to Survive Must Become More Vital

This is the handwriting on the wall in letters of living light which the conscience of Christendom reads on the religious horizon at the dying of the old year: Denominational barriers must give way before the sunlight of Christian fellowship and unity along lines of more vital sympathy for the world's suffering and more active demand for justice, liberty of thought and equal opportunity for education, social enlightenment and culture. In various forms and guises this spirit of a new evangelism unencumbered by the hard and fast lines of the older creeds has characterized the work and policies of nearly all of the great church organizations. The broad fraternalism emphasized by the visit and utterances of Archbishop Davidson of England well illustrated this tendency in the Episcopal church, which aspires to lead in a worldwide movement for Christian unity. Its general convention at Boston in October decided, among other things, to permit the remarriage of the innocent party in a divorce based on infidelity. Bishop Potter endorsed the model subway saloon at New York.



Archbishop Davidson.

The various Presbyterian bodies got nearer to a basis of organic federation. Union Theological seminary dropped the Westminster creed. Congregationalists at Des Moines voted for pushing the honest evangelism along lines of the higher criticism.

### Great Educational Event Was World's Fair at St. Louis

Over 18,000,000 persons matriculated during the year in the greatest popular university and kaleidoscope of human progress that the world has ever known—the Louisiana Purchase exposition at St. Louis, the president and creative genius of which was David R. Francis. In that huge collection of typical objects, representing the history, art, science, industry, commerce and government of every land and clime, the visitors saw and felt the magnitude and complexity of our racial life as they could not in a lifetime of ordinary study and travel. To that shrine came in successive groups not only the leading educators themselves, but the scientists, the philosophers, the engineers, the mechanics, the captains of industry, the artists, the religionists, the reformers, the lawmakers, to commune in spirit and to express the sum total of the knowledge and truth which the race of man has rolled up from its beginning. Such was the great educational achievement of the year.



David R. Francis.