

WHAT CONGRESS MAY ACCOMPLISH

FACE HAS BEEN SET TO MAKE A RECORD FOR 1900.

Republican Leaders Hope to Lower the People's Taxes if Possible—The Democratic Attempt to Initiate a Political Campaign by Assailing Secretary Gage Proves a Dismal Failure—Folly of the Sulzer Buncome Resolution—Pennsylvania's Chat.

Special Correspondence of The Tribune.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 5.—Congress is here again, and the question is, what will it do, or rather how little will it do? In a presidential election year it has long been the practice of the dominant party to do as little as possible, and there is every indication at the outset of the impending session to adhere to that practice. Republican leaders agree that the country is doing prodigiously well under existing conditions. The pace is set to make 1900 pre-eminently the greatest and most remarkable year in the industrial history of the country. So that the new legislation of this congress, so far as the majority may be responsible for it, will be shaped to that end. There will be no money wasted this year. As already indicated in this correspondence, there will be no river and harbor bill, and the follow which very political existence depends upon an appropriation to extricate him will soon be an obscure statesman hunting for any sort of a job. And a like fate waits the member who assured his people that his re-election meant the erection of one or more public buildings in the district.

There will be no public buildings bill if the committee can prevent it. The obvious policy of the Republican leaders is to cut down expenses all along the line. They intend to lower the people's taxes, if such a consummation is possible. If affirmative legislation fails to accomplish it, they will try the most drastic negative.

There are two possible exceptions. The shipping subsidy bill of the last congress is one. It passed the house then and will pass again. A large expenditure is involved, but it has become a public necessity. It is not a prodigious use of the people's money, but a wise expenditure, necessitated by the expanding commercial and industrial interests of the country. Public enterprise demands it. The Pacific cable is a very important matter. There ought not to be any question about its authorization by congress, but there is. "Why not," is the question. It is the sure argument that confronts it. At least enough, the presidential election will then be a thing of the past. And how many important public enterprises thus sleep the sleep of the committee room while the nation's attention is turned to the election. It may have its day of resurrection. Public exigencies imperatively demand it, and, in the jubilant hour of the nation's triumph, following President McKinley's re-election, it may go through the short session with a whoop.

CAPITAL AND LABOR.

In the Opinion of a Veteran Miner of Long Experience Nothing Is to Be Gained for Labor by a Hostile Attitude Toward Its Employers.

The following has been received from one of the best and most respected miners in this valley. We commend his words to thoughtful workmen: Editor of The Tribune: Sir:—Being a humble citizen of the borough of Taylorville and having lived in the Lackawanna valley for nearly forty years and having followed the occupation of a miner for most of that time, I consider it my duty as well as the duty of all others of the sons of toil to pay the strictest and closest attention to the application going on today in regard to capital and labor. In the first place I believe that capital and labor should go hand in hand together, for one without the other is of no earthly value; but we must admit that it is the employer who invests all the capital, runs all the risks and assumes all the responsibilities, so that in reality labor is simply an handmaid to capital. But with all that, labor has its claim on capital, for capital will accomplish very little without the aid and service of labor. So, therefore, the best relations between capital and labor, and in order to reach that agreeable situation labor organizations should be established, for labor organizations mean discussion and higher intelligence among the workmen in which judgment will finally take the place of passion. Workmen reading their paper, talking in their branches and being instructed from the forum are better than workmen loafing on the street corner, gossiping and drifting away from pure motives. The laborer has the same right to combine for protection that people have to join a church or any other combination.

A GROTESQUE FAILURE.

The house had a brief session today and until the appropriation committee gives it something to do the session will continue to be brief. The perfunctory attempt to initiate a political campaign by assailing Secretary Gage proves a dismal and grotesque failure. The fact that a Tammany clown was selected to introduce the resolution was enough to discredit it. Up to the moment of its introduction there were even Democrats who did not believe that Sulzer would have the effrontery to take the initiative in the matter. But they didn't know Sulzer. There is but one of the kind. The records have been diligently searched and nothing could be found that approximates him in the slightest, and the fact that Sulzer would have the effrontery to take the initiative in the matter, that he may be perturbed in the interest of notoriety. There were scores of Democrats, however, who were eager that Sulzer should make a fool of himself, hoping that the unexpected might happen and afford an opportunity for policy and senseless denunciation. The average demagogue is always on the alert for the money monster.

A VETERAN'S ADVICE.

Having had a little experience in labor organizations in the past years and feeling a great interest in the rights and welfare of my co-workers that earn their bread by the sweat of their brow, therefore I desire to say, let us move on slowly and for our way before we enter into a great strike and contest with capital, for we must realize that if we do we will be coping with a formidable foe, as experience of the past has proven. The fact that the "specimen" is over, I was grieved to the core the other day by reading in one of the Scranton papers that there had been a "score of strikes" in the Lackawanna valley during the past six months by the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western employes, and today the talk among the mine workers in its employ is full of strike on an extended scale. I think that there has not been a word nor a sentence uttered in our district to give the slightest idea of such intention, at least for the present. And as I understand the situation, there has not been a strike inaugurated by the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western employes since the year 1885. The little trouble of misunderstanding between the boys' runners and drivers and the officials did not assume the appearance of a strike for a moment, and I wish to tell you plainly that I am not called upon to suspend work by the United Mine Workers. They simply quit work under the impulse of the moment and the little irritation that existed was settled amicably and satisfactorily to both parties in less than time than you could say "Jack Robinson." The Delaware, Lackawanna and Western miners throughout the district have been working longer and longer during the past six months than in several years, which means more money earned, as there has been no reduction in pay.

LESSONS FROM EXPERIENCE.

But in regard to the talk among the mine workers, let me repeat my statement: The rank and file of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western employes are in total ignorance of such an intention. Perhaps President Mitchell and Gompers and other great magnates are meditating and planning to take such unwise, disastrous steps as to inaugurate a strike and put the entire district to a disastrous stop from past experience, and in order to substantiate my assertion I will go back and begin with the beginning and come all the way up to the year 1885, when the last strike of any magnitude occurred. In the year 1885 the Lackawanna valley inaugurated a strike and it lasted three months. The parties that were involved in that strike were the Pennsylvania Coal company, the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western company and the Delaware and Hudson company, and after losing and sacrificing the three long months we humbly knocked at the door of the three corporations and they, like the father of the prodigal son, opened their arms and permitted us to resume work on exactly the same terms that we had taken out our tools three months previous; but they did not do so on return, kind the fatted calf and put them on our fingers. Oh, no! we had to contend ourselves with more humanity for our harsh act and blundering step.

My next letter will come down to the seventies and see how we fared then. Taylorville Miner.

GALLEN'S. REMOVAL SALE. OUR NEW STORES WILL BE LOCATED AT 225-227 LACKAWANNA AVE. Prices Slashed Right and Left

The regular season is over—now is the time we begin to clean up odds and ends from the busy season. You get a double reduction on every article now—our removal makes it imperative that we should dispose of the balance of our stock at once. Everything that is here must be sold regardless of cost or value. We will commence business in our new stores with new stocks. Therefore, all of this season's goods remaining must be sold here and now. Three months of wintry weather are before you yet. There is no need of further delay on your part if you need Winter Clothing—buy here and now, and take advantage of the best opportunity you ever had to buy High Grade Tailor Made Clothing at almost half the regular prices. We can't begin to enumerate the many bargains worthy of mention—but suffice to say that you will have the opportunity of buying better values than you ever had before.

Men's Suits. We are showing a big variety of Men's Suits in single and double-breasted sacks in neat checks and stripes or plain black, blue and brown effects, in cassimere, worsted and cheviot materials. There are not many of each size, but all styles are here. Every suit warranted tailor-made and stamped with the maker's name (a proof against sweat-shop labor.) The prices are reduced one-third to one-half. All Wool \$5 to \$12.80 All Wool Suits. \$6.90 \$10.90 \$12.80 \$14.98

Usters for Men. The demand for these coats is greater this year than ever. They are the only coats that give real comfort in cold weather. We have about 100 of them left in Irish Frieze and Chin-chilla, in black, blue, brown and the fashionable Oxford grey. The prices are nearly half of their former value. \$10 \$15 \$18 \$25 Coats. Coats. Coats. Coats. \$6.90 \$10.90 \$12.80 \$14.98

Overcoats. We haven't many overcoats left—but the assortment is quite varied—if you find your size here your pocket will find luck with it. The materials are English Kersey, Freize, Rough Cheviots and Montagnacs, in blue, black, brown and Oxford shades; some lined plain or as elaborately trimmed as one would wish to have. The reductions are more than half in some cases. Worth \$4.90 to \$12.90 Worth \$10 to \$25

The Greatest Offer Ever Made. Your choice of all Fine Novelty Suits in Vestee, Reefer and Blouse Effects, sizes 3 to 10, that were \$3 to \$10, for \$1.97, \$2.97, \$3.98. No higher; \$3.98 buys the best suit in the house—that means the best in Scranton. Can you match these values? Your money back if you can.

On Boys' Fine Clothing. Your choice of all Fancy Reefers and Top Coats in our stock, sizes 3 to 10, that were \$3.00 to \$7.50, for \$1.97, \$2.47, \$2.97. In Silk Astrakhan, Freize, Kersey and Melton. They come in blue, black, brown and light shades. Shoes, Hats and Furnishings at reduced prices.

Penn Clothing and Shoe House, 137 and 139 Penn Ave.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS OF THE POOR For the Year Ending Dec. 31, 1899. Showing the receipts, disbursements, accounts, of secretary, treasurer, tax collector, superintendent and resident physician, profits of the farm and an inventory of the real and personal property of the district as required by the Act of Assembly incorporating the district, approved April 9th, 1892.

TRIASURER'S ACCOUNTS. Dr. John Von Bergen, Treasurer, 1898, in account with Scranton Poor District. To cash on hand Jan. 1, 1899, \$16,900 15. Auditor's report \$ 5,000 00. To cash from— John Von Bergen, treasurer, 1898, in account with Scranton Poor District, \$ 2,948 58. By warrants paid and audited \$ 19,948 50. By cash paid E. M. Vernoy, treasurer, 1899, \$ 2,948 58. E. M. Vernoy, treasurer, 1899, in account with Scranton Poor District, \$ 21,506 13. To cash from— John Von Bergen, treasurer, 1898, in account with Scranton Poor District, \$ 2,948 58. W. M. Finn, collector, 1898, \$ 771 69. Wade M. Finn, collector, 1898, \$ 5,000 00. Edward Farr, collector, 1898, \$ 41,900 00. G. W. Keener, superintendent, \$ 8,106 67. State Auditor General, \$ 20,125 28. Chapter Four District, \$ 90,678 28. C. J. Gillespie, secretary, \$ 3 20. \$ 99,352 99. By warrants cashed Jan. 1, 1900, \$ 27,710 98. Balance on hand Jan. 1, 1900, \$ 21,642 01.

INVENTORY OF PERSONAL PROPERTY OF THE DISTRICT. Administration building \$ 8,821 19. Male building \$ 13,321 21. Female building (paper) \$ 3,811 12. Male building (old) \$ 5,842 25. Female building (old) \$ 5,842 25. Octagonal barn \$ 1,849 25. Shed \$ 1,171 00. Engine's house \$ 314 00. Blacksmith shop \$ 2,314 25. Power and heat plant \$ 26,312 50. Bakery \$ 308 25. Laundry \$ 1,822 49. Morgue \$ 6 00. Stone shed \$ 212 00. Cold storage building \$ 200 00. Conservatory \$ 200 00. Director of Volsburg farm \$ 55 00. Green house \$ 10 00. Directors house, Scranton \$ 1,285 50. Total of Personal Property \$ 78,921 57.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT GEORGE W. BEEMER, FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1899. The average number of inmates at Hill-side Home during the year was 418-25-25, and the per capita cost of maintaining patients at the Home, including food, clothing, light, heat, medicine, salaries of Superintendent, Resident Physician, Attendants, etc., exclusive of farm products, was \$10.12 per week. The total of the board of inmates, sane and insane, is equal to the board of one person for 15,122 days; besides this, there was taken at the superintendent's and employes' table, during the year a number of meals equal to the board of one person for 11,600 days, and by workmen employed on improvements and repairs meal equal to the board of one person for 590 days, making the total number of days of board at the Home 17,842. Number of inmates in the Home Dec. 31, 1899, 42. Admitted during the year, sane, 154; insane, 109; born, 11; total, 264. Discharged during the year, sane, 146; insane, 67; died, sane, 31; insane, 27; total discharged and died, 231. Remained in the Home Dec. 31, 1899, 42, classified as follows: Sane, 18; insane, 24. The above figures include epileptics, idiots, criminals, etc. Value of produce raised on the farms during the year, 1899, \$9,528.31; cash received for board of patients was \$9,004.29; cash received for beef hides sold, \$46.30; total \$19,578.90. Respectfully submitted, GEORGE W. BEEMER, Supt.

TRIBUNE WANT ADS. BRING QUICK RETURNS.