

## Chicago Daily Tribune

THE WORLD'S GREATEST NEWSPAPER

FOUNDED JUNE 10, 1847

ENTERED AS SECOND CLASS MATTER AUG. 12, 1903,  
AT THE POSTOFFICE AT CHICAGO, ILL., UNDER ACT  
OF MARCH 3, 1879.

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1939.

THE TRIBUNE OFFICES.  
CHICAGO—TRIBUNE SQUARE.  
TORO—IMPERIAL HOTEL.  
LONDON—135 FLEET STREET.  
PARIS—1 RUE SCRIBE.  
BERLIN—HOTEL ESPLANADE.  
MEXICO CITY—QUETZALCOATL PALACE.  
PANAMA CITY—HOTEL CENTRAL.  
RIGA—STETTIN LELA 2.  
MILWAUKEE—110 EAST WISCONSIN BUILDING.  
NEW YORK—220 EAST 42D STREET.  
DETROIT—5-65 GENERAL MOTORS BUILDING.  
WASHINGTON—815 ALBEE BUILDING.  
LOS ANGELES—SPRING AND FIRST STREET.  
SPECIAL REPRESENTATION.  
SAN FRANCISCO—155 MONTGOMERY STREET.

### THE TRIBUNE'S PLATFORM FOR ILLINOIS AND CHICAGO

1. End the Parola Business.
2. Build Deathproof Highways.
3. Make Chicago the First City in the World.
4. Faster Suburban Service.
5. Up to Date Local Transportation.
6. A Lake Front Airport.
7. A Motor Ferry to Michigan.
8. Cut Taxes in Half.

### GEORGE WASHINGTON SAID:

"Europe has a set of primary interests which to us have none or a very remote relation. Hence she must be engaged in frequent controversies, the causes of which are essentially foreign to our concerns. Hence, therefore, it must be unwise in us to implicate ourselves by artificial ties in the ordinary vicissitudes of her politics or the ordinary combinations and collisions of her friendships or enmities."—From the Farewell Address.

### RUSSIA AND THE LEAGUE.

Firing Russia from the league of nations is child's play acting, no matter how many stern faces are made in doing so. Stalin used the league until he could get a deal with Hitler because it was to him a vestry of respectability important only as it enabled him to maintain relations with governments which might be useful until he could come to an understanding with the other despots. Soviet Russia adhered to the principle of collective security, of which the league became the broken down instrument, so long as Germany, Italy, and Japan maintained the anti-communism front and conducted the holy war against communism in Spain and in China.

This powerful triple alliance, if it remained realistically or fanatically on the square, was a great menace and so long as soviet Russia had to face it the game was for peace and democracy. Stalin cuddled up to the other powers and was accepted as a great liberal ruler—nowhere more affectionately than in the White House. Even when the league became notoriously a decaying futility, Stalin remained with it because, feeble as it was, it represented theoretically the front he had maintained with civilized people.

The alternative to this pretense of peace and democracy was an alliance with the other aggressive tyrannies. When Stalin got Hitler he broke down the anticommunism alliance. Mussolini might be indignant and Japan puzzled, but the danger to the communists was liquidated when the Nazis consented to release Red Josef upon a course of aggression, conquest, and expansion.

At that moment all the hypocrisy about peace and democracy, collective security, and the rights of small nations disappeared from the communist loud speaker and further connection with the league of nations became useless. Stalin didn't need a pretense of respectability. That was an irksome rôle from the beginning and he was relieved to throw it over and be himself.

The Argentine representative at the league said his country would withdraw if Russia was not expelled. That statement only emphasized the incongruity presented by the appearance of nations of the western hemisphere in a discussion of European affairs and in a decision which could have little meaning for American republics and might have considerable for small European nations uneasily sitting at the ringside of the European wars and trying not to offer any provocations to their unruly and threatening neighbors. This mixture of America and Europe is good for neither. Future arrangements for the promotion of peace in Europe should not contain it. The Americas would do a service to international relations if they would make use of the present state of affairs to withdraw within the confines of their own interests and to the proper sphere of their influence.

### THE DECAY OF FREE GOVERNMENT.

The secret session of parliament in London—the first of the war—is another indication that the present state of representative government in Europe is nowhere in the best of health. Even the American revolution, which was supposed to be raising anew the question of parliamentary independence in Great Britain, did not produce a parliament so submissive to the will of the government which was thought to be again invading the constitutional rights of Britons. What is known as his majesty's opposition then was a freer speaking minority than can now be found at Westminster, and it did not retire from the sight and hearing of the people.

The excuse of war has been pressed to extremes in forcing even temporarily the abandonment of first principles of self-government. Not since the days of absolute and unlimited monarchies in Europe has the parliamentary system suffered such a loss of prerogative and power as it suffers today. The fate of the German reichstag and of the Italian chamber of deputies seems not to have made the profound impression which might have been expected on other peoples who say they are fighting for their liberties. Both France and Great Britain have suspended the operation of free government and of political action, deferring to what are called national emergencies and postponing the exercise of political rights for the duration of the war. Peace, it may be feared, will bring a set of problems which themselves will be used

as excuses for a further suspension of popular government in favor of the autocracy which will be defended again as the only means by which national emergency can be met.

Without war we have had a great deal of that sort of thing insisted upon in this country already and can perceive the easy slope by which a people, feebly consenting, can slide down to a debased level of political incompetence and insecurity. It is easy to descend and difficult to make the recovery.

### THE MUNICIPAL COURT.

The terms of twelve judges of the Municipal court expire in 1940. Candidates for the twelve places on the bench will be nominated next April. The Chicago Bar association is already circulating its members to obtain their opinions regarding the character and fitness of the incumbents.

This is good as far as it goes, but it is to be hoped that much more aggressive action will follow and follow promptly. The simple truth is that the Municipal court of Chicago stinks. Only a minority of the judges can measure up to any reasonable standards of integrity and competence. Of the chief justice and 36 associate judges perhaps a dozen are fit for the bench. The rest are tenth rate lawyers who wouldn't be given desk room in any decent law office in the city; political hacks put on the bench to serve the men who put them there; cheapsters who want the job for the \$10,000 and perquisites that go with it and couldn't hope to make that much money in any other way, and downright crooks and companions of crooks who ought to be in jail and may yet land there.

The Municipal court today is a disgrace to the city. Such of the rotten members of the court as cannot be sent to the penitentiary should be retired as rapidly as possible to private life. In addition, the court should be reorganized. Some time ago the bar association put forward a plan for the reform of the court, which seemed to have merit. If the lawyers really meant to get action, now is the time to push their plan. The community has been shocked by recent revelations regarding the court and will support any measure which seems to offer a good chance of cleaning up the mess.

### THE WIRE TAPPING CASES.

The two opinions by the Supreme court, refusing to allow evidence obtained by wire tapping to be used even indirectly in criminal prosecutions, may prevent the conviction of a few criminals who deserve conviction. This is a slight price to pay for the further safeguards that the opinions place around the right of privacy of all citizens.

Wire tapping evidence gained the approval of the Supreme court during the prohibition era. The tyranny of the practice was of a piece with the other tyrannies to which the country was subjected in the effort to enforce the unenforceable.

The court in the present cases did not cite the constitution in protection of the right to privacy in telephone conversations, but instead the federal communications act, which forbids interception of telephone, telegraph, or radio messages without permission of the sender. The statute sufficed, and the court was saved the task which jurists usually consider unpleasant of overturning the opinion of a predecessor. The prohibition cases denied that the protections of the fourth amendment against unreasonable search and seizure extended to telephone conversations.

The constitution of the United States is not a horse and buggy document. The fact that modern means of communication did not exist when it was written does not preclude the extension of its protection to those new facilities that science and invention give us.

The constitution cannot be construed broadly without so construing it in all fields. If its clauses are to be stretched to give government increased power over the activities of citizens, they must be stretched an equal distance to protect citizens against misuse of those new powers.

### THEY'VE GOTTA DRAG.

The list of automobile owners in Illinois who have been given the license numbers from 1 to 100 should not be read as a list of the distinguished citizens of the state. Far from it. Low numbers are sought and frequently obtained by persons who wish to violate the traffic laws without being penalized for doing so; the possession of a low number is valued by these persons as an intimation to the police that the possessor has a powerful political pull. Hence the phrase, "I gotta drag." If all the gentlemen holding low numbers are not aiming to get away with something enough of the first hundred are in that class to cast suspicion upon the whole lot.

### Editorial of the Day

#### FLOOD CONTROL COSTS.

[Pittsburgh Post-Gazette.]

In connection with the possibility that the whole financial structure of the flood control program may be reviewed at the next session of congress, advocates of a sound policy should be on guard against one of the proposals.

Rightly flood control has been recognized as a national problem, but care was taken in the earlier measures to put a share of the cost upon state and local governments to guard against irresponsibility in demands or injection of the political pork barrel. State and local governments were to provide the storage reservoir sites and the federal government was to construct the dams. Eventually this condition was modified and finally the entire cost of the reservoirs was placed upon the national government. Besides, the President was given authority to waive 50 per cent of the local contributions for such projects as flood walls in the Ohio valley.

Now a group in the house proposes that the cost of flood control, for city flood walls as well as for the reservoirs of the general system, be placed in its entirety upon the federal government. It is recognized, of course, that such defenses as levees or walls in the lower Mississippi and Ohio valleys are properly parts of a national flood control system. It is pointed out, however, that if every bill in the name of flood control could be sent to the Washington treasury, there would be the danger of a rush to get approval of projects for which there is little, if any, need.

There is another objection from the standpoint of the larger states. They would be put in the position, thru the federal treasury, of having to pay for the bulk of the purely local flood control projects throughout the country. Pennsylvania pays at least one-eighth of the national taxes.

#### ARRIVAL ASSURED.

Departing Guest [to chauffeur]—I do hope I won't miss the fast train.  
Chauffeur—No fear of that, gov'nor. The master told me I would be instantly dismissed if I brought you back.—San Francisco Chronicle.

### A LINE O' TYPE OR TWO

How to the Line, let the  
quips fall where they may.

Reg. U. S.  
Pat. Off.

### LET THE CONTRIBS SAY IT.

Thumb-nail reviews of the Line Book of 1939 are pouring out of this column's mail bag. They come, for the most part, from contributors who are represented in this annual compilation, and so may be regarded as having a favorable bias. Nevertheless they are worth quoting, so here goes:

"The more I read, the more my wonder grew that 64 pages held so much worthwhile and new. You haven't omitted anything that I remember as worth perpetuating, and the book begins, it goes places, it arrives—or as the French say, 'It marches!'—Quizzical.

"She's a pip. I can but offer the good old line out of Tom Morton's otherwise forgotten play, 'Approval from Sir Hubert Stanley is praise indeed'."—Jim Bowers.

"The best dime's buy in print."—Dow Richardson.

"I consider it a real honor to be in such brilliant company, and feel that this year's book is a really superlative collection."—Helen C. Bond.

"It's good for a laugh or a poignant thrill a minute; I doff my chapeau to the Line Book, altho I'm not in it."—Burt Broderick Shulkins.

"The book is delightful in every way—a cure for the dyspeptic fed up with war news, and hate, and despair."—S'Amuser.

"Congratulations on the latest edition of the Line Book. In every way it deserves a prominent place on the shelf of its grandparents, parents, sisters, and brothers."—That Fella Down in Streator.

"I am flabbergasted with pleasure. Also, I know that in the coming year the competition is going to be really tough. It behooves a second rate rhymester to get busy and show improvement. And, doggoned if I don't do it."—Evan S. Tolan.

"It seems to be just the right combination of sweet and hot, and sad and humorous."—Gaycelle.

Etc., ad lib.

### DECEMBER DANDELION.

December tenth, when winter should be here,  
You bravely bloom beside my garden walk  
To laugh at withered leaf and ghostly stalk  
Of proud aristocrats you used to fear;

You gaze upon those others, brown and sere,  
And smile as though you'd winter's coming balk;  
Your brazen brilliance dares defy the talk  
That snow and ice and bitter winds are near.

Defiantly you stage your small revolt—  
Disciple of the few who do not care,  
Who calmly say that precedent's a dolt,  
Who scorn the well-worn path, who ever dare

To do the things men say cannot be done—  
All hail, bold dandelion in the sun!

Casual.

### A Rose Is a Rose When It Recalls Patti.

John Kelley is not the only surviving reporter of the opening of the Auditorium in 1889 [Dec. 8]. Another is Chevalier Alessandro Mastrovalerio, now retired and living on the Bay of Naples. From 1883 to 1933 he was owner-editor of the Tribuna Italiana Transatlantica, published during all those 50 years in the neighborhood of Hull house.

Among his souvenirs Chevalier Mastrovalerio still keeps a rose given to him on that eventful night in 1889. Patti had been invited to attend an after-performance reception at the Press club. When she got there Adelina balked, because the stairs were too steep, she was tired, and there was no elevator. The chevalier picked her up and carried her upstairs. His reward was the rose.

J. M. Valerio.

[Arthur W. O'Neill of Casopolis, Mich., is another press survivor of that occasion. He also attended the last performance of the Civic Opera company there on Jan. 26, 1939.]

### The Rain Maker of Oberlin College.

To add to the legends of the early presidents of Oberlin college [Dec. 7]:

When Charles G. Finney was president, northern Ohio suffered from such a severe drought that prayers for rain were offered in the old First church [still in use]. The prayers were long and fervent, and before adjournment the heavens opened and rain poured down. But President Finney was the only member of the devout group who went home under an umbrella. H. M. O.

### FINLAND MUST NOT FALL!

O, weep, ye Nations, for Bohemia, weep!  
Shed tears for ravished Poland, tears of shame!  
But if Finlandia dies, betrayed, then reap

A harvest of abhorrence and ill fame!  
A kindly, honest people, placed by Fate  
On frozen, stony wastes, they yet succeeded,  
In prospering by toil, to rouse the hate

Of jealous neighbors and their envious greed.  
Shall Freedom be denied to weak and small?  
Are industry and probity of no repute?  
Shall rapine flourish and uprightness fall,

While Justice trembles, timorous and mute?  
Democracies, display your righteous rage,  
And force the bloody bear back in his cage!

Gaycelle.

### World's Tallest Tree Has Perished.

The Journal of Forestry reports the uprooting of what is believed to have been the tallest hardwood tree in the world, in the Toorong forest, north of Noojee, Australia. It was a eucalypt [Eucalyptus regnans], uprooted by the gales which accompanied the forest fires of Jan. 13, 1939. It measured 331 feet in length to where the top had been broken off at a point three inches in diameter. Its approximate age was 300 years.

Roberts Mann.

### The Lads Are Getting Technical.

When the Tribune's graphic chart magician wants to show that one army is twice as big as another, and does it by drawing a man twice as high—and of course eight times as heavy—no doubt that's propaganda for something or other. But when he draws the 79,280 ton Normandie just 6.7 times as long as the 10,000 ton Deutschland, or 300 times as heavy, what's it supposed to prove? Harryrandall.

Clipped from an evening paper:  
Divorce suits filed: Hilda Verdun vs. John Verdun.

The second battle of? C. O. R.

We rise like a parrot gentil knight in defense of a fair cooking editor called Mary Meade. "Welsh rabbit" is correct, and "rarebit" is only a common error. See the big Webster, under Welsh. [And don't criticize our spelling of "parrot gentil," either, because that's the way knights used to be.] CHARLES COLLINS.

## How to Keep Well By Dr. Irving S. Cutter

To the limit of space questions pertaining to hygiene and prevention of disease will be answered in this column. Personal replies will be made to inquiries, under proper limitations, when return stamped envelope is enclosed. Dr. Cutter will not make diagnoses or prescribe for individual diseases.

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### CAN'T SWALLOW? CHECK YOUR BLOOD.

EVERY physician has encountered a fair number of instances of what may be termed an emotional phenomenon—a sensation described as a "lump" rising up in the throat. The patient is obliged to swallow constantly altho there is complete inability to dislodge the obstruction. The condition is termed "globus hystericus." Most cases, under the influence of mild sedatives and a calm, contented environment, will recover promptly altho the symptom may recur whenever nerves become overwrought or should the individual become "jittery."

Many of these victims will consult a specialist—convinced that a tumor has formed in the throat. A drawn, careworn expression is characteristic, altho when quiet and at ease, the countenance will light up and the patient will exclaim, "Why, it's gone now."

Occasionally, however, some one will experience trouble in deglutition (swallowing), which is tantamount to an actual spasm of the upper portion of the esophagus—the tube which leads from the throat to the stomach. But here we are facing something real and great care must be exercised in excluding the "globus" referred to above. Long series of cases of this affliction have been reported mistakenly as nervous and it was not until Henry Plummer studied these manifestations intensively that a curious state of affairs was revealed. He found that practically all of these persons exhibited anemia and sore tongue, and that the secretion of hydrochloric acid by the stomach glands was deficient. He began by administering hydrochloric acid and iron whereupon the blood became normal and the consciousness of the lump disappeared.

The malady usually appears in women past the age of 40. While some may be younger, the majority will be 45 or older. There is but one chief complaint—dysphagia [difficult swallowing]. Many state that it requires so much effort to get food thru the esophagus that they are fearful that they may choke to death. The first symptom may be coughing which comes on at the table. When treatment is begun these patients are advised to eat alone so that they can take plenty of time and employ a generous amount of fluid to wash down the chopped or sieved edibles.

While the blood disorder is not severe in some cases, it is quite so in others. The mucous membranes are pale and the tongue may present a smooth, shiny appearance. In a few, the disturbance may be so pronounced that mechanical dilatation is advised. For the most part, the iron physician will detect a drop in the hemoglobin and then recognize the lack of acid in the gastric juice.

Liver—used so effectively in pernicious anemia—affords little help but the patient seems to blossom into new life under the influence of iron and hydrochloric acid. It is necessary to continue the iron for some time and also to provide a diet which will supply a generous amount of vitamins.

In the meantime the tongue may need considerable attention. As the hemoglobin decreases the marks of the teeth on the sides of that organ will become more pronounced. The atrophic look will usually clear up with additional nutrition. Rarely will one of the subjects display more than 50 to 60 per cent hemoglobin, which indicates that the loss of iron from the tissues has been extensive.

Minor symptoms are sometimes so emphasized by the sufferer that they may be the main issue, which again calls to mind the importance of a blood examination with practically every patient. For example, a high additional abdominal cramps, constipation, and hoarseness. But these are all signs of malnutrition. As we know, when the stomach fails to produce free acid there is likely to be an upset of the entire digestive chain. It is quite possible that the disability has been developing for many months with the result that indigestion is marked.

Not these individuals are not hysterical. They are victims of a blood condition which is easily remedied. The essential thing is to recognize it before health has been impaired.

### MORE POISE NEEDED.

L. K. writes: I am not a good mixer. I have a few boy friends, but no girl friends and this makes me feel badly. Ever since childhood I have been subject to day-dreaming. Do you think this is the cause of my trouble? What can I do to help? I am 21 years old.

### REPLY.

A lack of self-confidence can be overcome by developing poise and a firm belief in yourself. With success in a few little things you will launch into more important ventures. After a bit you will rid yourself of the complex.

### PROBABLY NOT.

Mrs. J. B. writes: Would an underactive thyroid gland in a pregnant woman affect the mentality of the offspring?

### REPLY.

Probably not, altho the attending physician may deem it wise to administer a certain amount of thyroid gland substance during the period of pregnancy, in order to maintain the endocrine balance.

### IT WILL NOT.

V. writes: Will an X-ray show if the roots of tonsils are diseased?

### REPLY.

No.

### Test Your Facts

Below each of the following questions are listed three answers. Make your choice, turn to page 45 in the Want Ad section for the correct answers, and mark your score:

1. What is an impresario?  
[a] An amateur making his professional debut, [b] the manager of an opera company, [c] a composer of operas.
2. Next to Brazil, what country is the leading producer of coffee?  
[a] Colombia, [b] Salvador, [c] Guatemala.
3. How old must a person be to become a United States senator?  
[a] Twenty-five, [b] 30, [c] 35.
4. In what mountains would you travel thru Brenner pass?  
[a] Alps, [b] Sierra Nevada, [c] Carpathians.

## TRYING TO HOLD BACK THE AVALANCHE



## VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Writers should confine themselves to 200 or 300 words. Give full names and addresses. No manuscripts can be returned. Address: Voice of the People, The Tribune.

### BIRTHDAY BALL HOOEY.

Keokuk, Ia., Dec. 11.—Of all the ballyhoo since the days when white men, smeared with paint and feathers, sold from the rear ends of wagons in rural communities certain good for snake bites and other life-saving remedies, the birthday ball radio recitations today are, in my opinion, entitled to the award of the all-time all-American hokey—five words about the disease, a hundred words about the birthday, and a hundred about the money desired.

If this crowd that is pushing the third term and the money collection is the same as engineered the "Tugwell castles in the weeds," invented the northern farmers' fizzle policy, ruined the cotton export market for the south, incensed the relations of labor and capital by the Wagner act, kept 10 million people out of employment, and presented the taxpayers with a bill for 30 billion dollars for "service," why should we not say, as an old German friend of mine, who wished to disavow the results of his old tactics, "Ve have to change our tick-tacks." BIRDWELL SUTLIVE.

### IN THE "LAND OF THE FREE."

Chicago, Dec. 11.—Variety says this week:

"Thru complaint of theater authority, charges were entered by the American Guild of Variety Artists and allied show business talent, against Willie Shore and Gus Van, now at the Hi-Hat club in Chicago, for appearing at a benefit without an okay from TA."

"Both Van and Shore were found guilty and fined, but the fines were suspended with a warning issued to both performers."

"Today [Tuesday] a hearing will be held on complaint to the TA against Billy Carr and Joan Woods of the 606 club, and Helen Morgan, Ada Leonard, Slate Bros., and Stan Kavanagh of the 'Moulin Rouge' road show, for appearing without TA authorization at a neighborhood political rally."

And this is America, the land of the free! AN EX-PERFORMER.

### FED UP ON THE RADIO.

Chicago, Dec. 8.—Permit me to say in support of E. W. S. [Dec. 6] that I have worn out my ribbon writing to sponsors, broadcasters, and congressmen trying to get less barking over the radio and better programs. I am advocating a full hour of respectable music from every radio station each day without a single interruption for commercial or otherwise.

O, my Gawd, the spels on laxatives! We have a trio on the air morning, noon, and night, and I am fed up with them. You know them: Junk, Bunk, and Bull. J. J. E.

### THE WORLD WAR 25 YEARS AGO

(From Tribune Files.)

Dec. 14, 1914.

[139th day of world war; 105th day of present war.]

LONDON.—Correspondents in northern France expect a general allied advance with serious consequences for the civilian population of the towns occupied by the Germans. The sympathies of the civilians, the correspondents think, are likely to lead them to attempt to assist the allies, thereby compelling the Germans to take severe measures for their self-protection.

NISH, Serbia.—It is reported that all attempts by the Austrian army to halt its retreat have failed, and that the Serbians are continuing to sweep their country clear of the defeated Austrians.

PETROGRAD.—A dispatch from Armenia says: "Advices from the front at Erzerum, Turkish Armenia, describe the position of 20,000 Christians there as precarious, because of their Russian sympathies. Three hundred thousand Turkish troops are mobilized at Erzerum. Hundreds of Armenians have been imprisoned and many hanged in the streets without trial as examples."

PETROGRAD.—News from Odessa, Russia, indicates that a conspiracy against the life of Field Marshal von der Goltz has been discovered at Constantinople. Many people in leading positions are involved in the plot. Some arrests have been made, but the investigation is being carried out secretly.

### THE CLEANING RACKET.

Chicago, Dec. 11.—Now that the federal government is going to investigate rackets in Chicago, it should not pass the cleaning and dyeing racket. Once a tailor starts to deal with any cleaning company, he cannot change to any other even tho the work from them is unsatisfactory. If a complaint is made to the state's attorney with a request for protection so he can give his cleaning to some other concern, the state's attorney's office tells him they are sorry and can do nothing. So small tailors go out of business. A VOTER.

### SAFEGUARDING OUR SCHOOLS.

Chicago, Dec. 12.—Our hats should go off to Chicago and to its public school system. We should be thankful that our children are being reared in an educational system free from communistic domination. After reading about the New York school system we of Chicago should rejoice that our children are safeguarded by a school board that takes steps to prevent this peril from gaining a foothold here. AN APPRECIATIVE PARENT.

### A READER WANTS TO KNOW.

Chicago, Dec. 10.—What are the Republicans going to do about unemployment? What have they to offer that's better than offered by the Democrats? Remember, you can't beat something with nothing, as you tried to do in '32 and '36. J. A.

### BRICKER'S HIS FAVORITE.

Chicago, Dec. 9.—Some executive of a large state—of the John W. Bricker type from Ohio—would make a candidate the Republican party could be proud of. Gov. Bricker's record in Ohio stands out as a monument to good government, sensible economy, and humanitarian principles. HENRY GRUGER.

### CHURCH FOR SENATOR.

Chicago, Dec. 11.—We have read recently that what was needed in Chicago was a strong Republican party so that the evils in the miscounting of ballots would be averted.

This same idea could be carried still further and applied to the people's representatives