



### A Year Rich in History.

More history has been made in the year just closing than in any similar period for a generation. There is hardly a country of importance which has not been the scene of notable events.

It would have been difficult a year ago to find anyone credulous enough to believe that so complete a revolution as has taken place in Turkey could have happened without bloodshed; yet Turkey to-day has a constitution which guarantees personal liberty, religious toleration, freedom of speech and of the press, and establishes a two-chambered parliament.

Almost simultaneously many branches of what is known as the Eastern question were reopened. Austria proclaimed the annexation of the Turkish provinces of Bosnia and Herzegovina; Bulgaria declared its complete independence of Turkey; and a movement was undertaken to detach Crete from Turkey and add it to Greece.

Revolution attempted in Portugal resulted only in slaughter. King Carlos and the crown prince were murdered. The surviving son of the king succeeded to the throne, and the old regime continues.

In Russia the peaceful revolution is making progress. The third Duma, after passing a few laws at its spring session, met again in the autumn and resumed its legislative work. The Duma is far from being so representative as the friends of freedom might desire, but it has demonstrated that there are in Russia men capable of legislative co-operation with the executive departments.

In Germany the indiscreet remarks by the emperor regarding foreign relations were followed by unprecedented public criticism of his action, and he was severely condemned by the press and in the Reichstag. Many persons believe that this incident may ultimately lead to a constitutional change, and make the German ministers responsible to the people's representatives rather than to the sovereign.

The death of the emperor and the Dowager Empress of China has not changed the program of reforms arranged for the great empire. Decrees have been issued by the regent, directing that the work of preparation for a constitution in nine years be continued. To the people of this country a matter of great importance is the mission which China sent to America to thank this country for the remission of part of the indemnity levied to recompense Americans for losses growing out of the Boxer uprising. Such a mission is a new thing in the world, for no nation ever before remitted any part of an indemnity under such circumstances.

The British premier resigned and died early in the year, and was succeeded by Mr. Asquith, who has been carrying out the program of the Liberal party, so far as circumstances permitted. He has been thwarted to a great extent by the opposition of the House of Lords, encouraged as that body has been by a series of government defeats in by-elections. But the government has carried through its measure granting old-age pensions. The other great measures—the licensing bill and the education bill—have failed. The British colonies in South Africa have agreed upon a plan of federation.

The Congo Free State has been transferred from the control of the King of the Belgians to that of the Belgian parliament. A new Sultan has been proclaimed in Morocco. The constitutional experiment in Persia has failed. The Cubans conducted their

presidential election peacefully and conformed to the conditions fixed by the United States as a precedent to surrendering control of the island. A revolution has taken place in Haiti. The relations between Venezuela and the rest of the world have grown steadily worse.

A new President of the United States has been chosen. The fact that he is of the same party as President Roosevelt, and has been a member of his official family, gives promise that there will be no business disturbance as a consequence of the change of administration.

In the international relations of the country the most important event is the exchange of informal statements of policy by the United States and Japan, which, so long as that policy is pursued by both countries, insures peace in the Pacific Ocean. But that was not the only peace measure, for the Senate has ratified a series of arbitration treaties for the peaceful settlement of disputes with other nations. The successful cruise of the American fleet round the world, now drawing to a close, is also an international event of the first importance; and so is the establishment of two-cent postage between the United States and Great Britain, and between this country and Germany.

Temperance reform has progressed so far that prohibitory laws become effective in five new American states. The campaign against licensed gambling has been continued, with the result that in New York the business of the professional race-track gamblers has been made illegal.

Congress passed an emergency currency law, and the country recovered from panic conditions of last year. The Supreme Court held that the laws against combinations in restraint of trade apply to labor-union boycotts.

The greatest sporting event of the year was the holding of the Olympic games in London. An American won the Marathon race, and the athletes of this country made a better record in the track events than those of any other nation.

The conquest of the air is not complete, but aeroplanes have been made by the Wright brothers which will travel at the rate of fifty miles an hour and remain in successful flight for more than seventy minutes under favorable conditions.—Youth's Companion.

### W. H. Taft, Total Abstainer.

As the first day of the new year approaches and we hear a good deal about the "water wagon" and men swearing off, we are reminded that William Howard Taft, the next President of the United States, made the public statement several weeks ago that he will never take another drink of liquor as long as he shall live.

Mr. Taft has never been what might be called "a drinking man." Neither has he been a total abstinence. He has been one of many millions of Americans who have taken a drink on occasions, but have never made drinking anything approaching a habit. It was probably unnecessary for him to take the extreme step which he has taken in regard to liquor, but we think it will be generally conceded that it is just as well that he has done so.

The office which Mr. Taft is soon to assume is the highest and most important civic office on earth. For four years, at least, he will bear upon himself the responsibility of the government of the foremost of all the nations. Every mistake that he may make will react upon the country, and

for every misstep of his the country will have to suffer. He will, therefore, need his full senses unassailed and unendangered.

The danger that lies in the use of alcoholic liquors, particularly as far as public men are concerned, has often been illustrated. "When the wine's in, the wit is out," as the saying has it. The most illustrious example of the force of this argument that we have lately had is in the case of His Majesty, the Emperor of Germany, who was not long since regarded as one of the most forceful and able of rulers. But it has been pretty well established that when the Kaiser gave out his recent interview with Dr. Hale he was under the influence of liquor. As a consequence, he talked too much and said more than it was wise for him to say. Had he been sober, the interview would probably never have been given.

A couple of generations ago, the news came to a room full of drunken brawlers that one of their number had been elected President of the United States. When this man realized the great honor that had come to him, as he sat there intoxicated with liquor, his soul asserted itself, and he walked through the rain and the darkness of a stormy night many miles to his mother's grave, which he reached in the gray dawn of the morning, and on which he knelt to take a vow that he would never again drink a drop of intoxicating liquor. The vow was kept.

Mr. Taft has done many things and has given out numerous utterances since his election which go far to prove that the confidence of the people in him has not been misplaced. But nothing that he has done or said has impressed the country more than the fact that he has resolved to be a total abstainer during his term of office and the remainder of his life.—Los Angeles Times.

### The Small Town.

Someone attempted to improve on Cowper's "God made the country, and man made the town," by saying that "the devil made the small town." Of course that is an exaggeration and in the main does an injustice to the small towns and cities. And yet it indicates a danger that lurks in the smaller places of our land—that of parents not exercising sufficient oversight with their children when they are out of the house. The temptations of large cities are so generally recognized that vigilant watch is kept over the children, but in the small towns, where nearly everybody is acquainted and where temptations are supposed not to exist to any extent, parental watchfulness is too often relaxed, and frequently bad results follow. Although temptations may differ as to form they are found in one place as another, and the wise parent will be careful as to the whereabouts of his children when out of an evening, and as to the character of the company they keep.

Probably many boys during the long winter evenings would be kept off the streets and from undesirable associations if a little more care were taken to make their home life attractive. In many homes, while every care is rightly taken to give the daughters cozy and cheerful rooms in which it is a pleasure for them to meet their girl friends, the idea prevails that any kind of a room barely furnished will do for the boy. The mistake is made of thinking that a boy does not care about these things. The fact is a boy is just as fond of a pleasant room into which he may invite

his chums as a girl is, and it he has to put up with a little cupboard of a room and a stick or two of old furniture discarded by other members of the family he feels it and home is just that much less of an attraction. Wise parents will provide their boys with counter attractions to the demoralizing influences of the street, and a good comfortable room is one of the most effective we know.—Oregon City Enterprise.

### The Baptists' Annual Meeting

According to their custom the local Baptists held their annual meeting and roll call on New Years day which was an unusually profitable and enjoyable occasion.

The business of the church occupied the forenoon session, when reports from all departments were read, officers elected and plans for future work discussed and adopted. The treasurer's report showed that \$8036 had passed through his hands during the past year, and adding to this the amounts raised by the societies of the church raises the grand total to \$8645. The reports show that all departments are in a healthy condition. The budget for the present year provides for \$2000 for local and missionary work exclusive of amounts covered by pledges to reduce the debt on the building and also amounts to be raised by the societies of the church.

Two hours of intermission for dinner and social intercourse were most pleasantly spent. The Baptist ladies know how to prepare a good dinner to which fact an hundred and twenty-five witnesses who sat down to the tables on New Years day may be summoned to give testimony.

In the afternoon session the business was completed and a devotional service was held in which all participated. The roll was called and each member responded. Two new members were received and the climax of the day was the ordinance of baptism administered as the evening shades began to gather.

The officers elected to serve the church for the year were: six deacons, B. R. Bass, H. M. Williams, N. C. Christenson, V. A. Vincent, Miss Mary Williams and Mrs. Marietta Nelson; trustee, R. W. Harrold; clerk, T. E. Wright; treasurer, J. Carl Nelson; financial agent, C. H. Christenson; chorister, Mrs. F. C. Stannard; organist, Miss Elsie Mackie; assistant organist, Mrs. Jennie Williams; Sunday School superintendent, S. P. Timberlake; president of B. Y. P. U., J. Carl Nelson.

### Newberg Lady Married.

One of Newberg's popular young lady teachers who recently left for her former home state, Missouri, is married and we quote the following account of the event from The Braymer, Mo., Bee of date of January 1.

"T. O. Davis and Miss Mabel Blaylock were married last evening at the residence of Wm. Kennedy, at Ovid, Ray county. The ceremony was performed by Rev. W. J. Barron of South Haven, Kansas, who is an uncle of the bride.

Miss Blaylock is the daughter of Mrs. Mary Blaylock Cummins, who now lives at Newberg, Oregon, but is well known in Braymer her former home.

The bride was formerly a popular school teacher in this vicinity. The groom was for many years a successful teacher, having been principal of the school at Dawn for some time. He now holds a lucrative position with a Chicago publishing house. Both

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which we have just opened up. We still have a nice lot of china and expect more in a short time. Come in and get prices on our groceries.

**JOHN F. PETTENGILL**

have a host of friends who extend cordial congratulations. They will live on a farm near Black Oak."

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