BATTLE IS NOW ON

Political Control of Next Congress the Issue.

How the Congressional Committees Work and the Men Who Direct Them—Tons of Literature Sent Out.

Washington.—The two powerfully organized political bodies, the congressional campaign committees of the Republican and Democratic parties, have opened their quarters for the fall campaign and from now on the fight for the control of the next congress will be in full swing. The Republicans will wage their battle from headquarters both in New York and Chicago and the main office of the Democrats will also be in the Illinois metropolis.

In a broad sense, the fight for the control of congress is going on all the time, with Washington for its headquarters. The Washington offices are the great supply depots, and from them literature is being constantly

William B. McKinley.

sent out to districts from Maine to California. But with the opening of western and eastern headquarters by the congressional committees, the struggle takes on an intensified form and in every district from coast to coast there is a stand up fight, which continues until the polls are closed in November.

The congressional committee is without doubt one of the most powerful organizations in the American political system. It is distinctly the creation of congress itself. The members from each state select one of their number as a member of the committee, and the committee in turn selects its officers and an executive committee. The campaign is run by the officers of the committee, and it becomes a campaign along the lines desired by the party as it is represented in congress. To that extent the committee is almost a close corporation for the perpetuation of the existing organization of congress.

It is true that it cannot always dictate the local issues in various districts, and that it often fails to "bring a candidate through" because of the peculiarities of his home fight. It is nevertheless behind every one of the 390 or more congressional fights throughout the United States; and its counsel, the plans it has formed, and the active support it gives the candidate and the newspapers of its party wield a tremendous influence in the congressional results everywhere.

The candidate may kiss the babies, pass the time of day with the feminine members of the family, and argue political tenets with the voter himself; but it is the congressional committee that lays down the general scheme of

James T. Lloyd.

the year's campaign, decides what form political discussion shall take, and prepares the literature upon which American voters are to be educated for many months previous to the polling days of November.

This work has been going on in Washington since early in the year. It was in full swing before the last session of congress was half over. Leaders of both parties in congress poured forth speeches upon the issues of the forthcoming campaign with the idea that those speeches should become the ammunition of the respective parties in the fight, and the congressional committees have increased the stock of that material many thousand fold.

Tons of Literature.

Tons of literature have been printed and sent out from Washington and tons more are to go. The Republicans are sending out the product of Chairman McKinley himself, a tariff speech which he delivered in congress early in the session. Also Congressman Nicholas Longworth's speech on the tariff, and following that is the Lincoln day speech of President Taft. More than 2,000,000 post cards, containing "speeches boiled down," are being sent out.

Democratic resources embrace a dozen important speeches made in both houses of congress, bearing upon the tariff and other live political issues.

To send out this enormous amount of literature from the two headquarters would require much more money than the congressional committees can put their hands on, were it not for the beneficent provisions of the government franking laws. The reason why most of the campaign "thunder" is made in congress will be better understood when it is known that such thunder goes postage free to any part of the nation.

The speeches and extracts of speeches now being sent from both the Democratic and Republican offices are mailed under the franks of members of congress, and within the full authority of the law. The magic words: "Part of Congressional Record—Free," will carry words of political wisdom into the hands of almost every voter in the country before the campaign is ended.

The men who are openly at the head of the two big committees are not of more importance in the scheme of the congressional campaign than are the political sages in the background. In the Republican headquarters the work will be conducted from New York by Congressman Henry C. Loudenslager, of New Jersey, secretary of the committee through many campaigns. From Chicago, Congressman William B. McKinley from Illinois will run western affairs and direct the operation of the speakers' bureau. The latter will be run entirely from the Chicago offices, while the literary bureau will operate from New York and Washington.

In the background is the staff of "consulting experts," consisting of such men as Cannon, Tawney, Fassett and others long identified with national campaigns.

The situation is much the same on the Democratic side. Congressman James T. Lloyd of Missouri, chairman of the committee, will have charge of the Chicago quarters throughout the campaign. In the background, however, is the complete congressional organization of former years, and the counsel of Congressman Champ Clark, Ollie James, Swager Sherley, Oscar W. Underwood, Gilbert M. Hitchcock and other successful party leaders.

VALLEY FORGE IS RESTORED.

A few years ago Valley Forge was one of the most neglected of the nation's historic places. Visitors saw Washington's headquarters and then wandered around aimlessly, regarding with disappointment the rubbish-choked ditches that were pointed out as the entrenchments dug by the patriots of '77. A few vagrant looking signboards informed the tourists that the almost obliterated lines were forts, constructed by Washington's soldiers; but the entire camp ground was rapidly dissolving itself into the scenery, and landmarks were becoming more and more difficult to find.

All this has now been changed. The trenches have been cleared of rubbish, the forts restored, monuments erected, markers placed to show where the men of the various states had their headquarters, and the entire camp fairly bristles with signposts to guide the patriotic visitor.

Most notable of all is the Memorial chapel and Patriot's hall, erected on the spot where Washington knelt to ask divine aid for his difficult and seemingly hopeless campaign.

The story is told that, upon one occasion, a farmer in the neighborhood of the desolate camp at Valley Forge, observed the commanding general dismount from his horse and disappear within an adjacent grove. Drawing nearer, the awed farmer-patriot beheld Washington kneeling upon the frozen snow, his hat removed, and his face lifted in the reverent attitude of prayer. It is easy to trace the unfaltering patience and determination with which the great man upheld the shivering, starving soldiers who loved him, to his own reliance upon the source of all strength and wisdom.

HITCHCOCK EXPLAINS SAVING

In a statement explaining how more than $11,000,000 were saved the post office department during the last year, Postmaster General Hitchcock says $1,000,000 of this amount resulted from economical reforms in city deliveries.

About $2,500,000 was saved through reforms in post office management. More than $2,000,000 was saved by better handling of money-order and registry departments. In spite of the big decrease in the deficit, the number of employes was increased.

Reorganization in the rural delivery service was responsible for about $1,900,000 of the savings made in the deficit, and this was accomplished without any curtailment of service. A reduction of $900,000 is credited to the star route service, including miscellaneous transportation of mail other than on railways.

The combined savings made in the cost of handling the mails in post offices and in all branches of the service other than railway transportation, including an item of $450,000 for supplies and miscellaneous expenses, made an aggregate reduction of $6,150,000.

As for the cost of railway mail transportation, the preliminary records for the year indicate a reduction of about $4,700,000 in the excess of expenditures over receipts.

STORING CELERY IN WINTER

Excellent Method Recommended for Farmer and Small Grower Because of Its Simplicity.

A great deal of celery is now being grown on the farm, more than ever before, as farmers find this crop not difficult and always salable.

Where but a small quantity is to be stored for winter sale or use in the family it can be banked up with earth where the plants are grown.

The earth should be placed around the base of the plants to hold them in good form and where they can remain without further banking until there is danger of a hard frost.

The earth should be turned up to the very top of the plants, almost covering them and then as the weather becomes colder the ridge should be covered with coarse stable manure, straw or corn fodder held in place by means of boards fastened with sticks.

A very good method for the farm is to dig a pit, say 24 inches deep, 3 feet wide and the necessary length. The soil in the bottom should be loosened to form a bed in which the roots of the celery may be set.

Pack this trench with fully grown plants, placing the roots close together, with considerable soil adhering to them.

As the celery is placed in the trench it should be well watered and then allowed to remain open long enough for the tops to become dried off.

Unless the soil is very dry at the time of storing, or extended warm weather should follow, it will not be necessary to apply any more water.

Place a 12-inch board on edge along one side of the trench and bank up the surplus earth on the outside; cover the trench with a roof of boards, sash, straw on poles or corn stalks from which the tops have been removed, placing the stalks across the pit with one end resting on the board and the other on the ground; spread over this a light covering of straw or other material which will pack close, and as the weather becomes colder increase the covering to keep out the frost.

Celery stored in this manner will keep until late in the winter, and while the method is too laborious for application on a large commercial scale, it is to be recommended for the use of the farmer and small grower because of its simplicity.

KEEPS COUNTRY ROADS GOOD

One of Best Implements Devised for Repairing Highways Is the King Split Drag.

One of the best implements devised for repairing roads is the King split log drag or some modification of it which may be made either of wood or steel. The roads should be dragged with this implement as soon after a rain as possible; when the drag squeezes the water out of the soil leaving a smooth layer of puddled soil on the road surface which bakes hard when dry and "sheds water like a duck." The effect of the drag is accumulative in a way very much similar to the application of paint on a building—for, the thinner the coats and the greater the number the more lasting is the paint. Every time the drag is used a new layer of puddled soil is smeared on top of the previous one until, after several years of the accumulative effect of dragging, a road crust, consisting of a large number of thin layers of puddled soil is formed that will support the heaviest traffic without breaking up. The drag not only keeps the road smooth and well crowned, but also keeps the ditches clean so that, if outlets are provided for them as there should be, water will run away from the roads and the grade thus remains firm.

FACTS ABOUT DUCK RAISING.

Never set duck eggs under a duck—they are poor mothers. Put them under a large hen.

The water troughs should be deep enough to allow the ducks to plunge their heads entirely beneath the surface.

Duck runs should be kept perfectly clean.

Provide plenty of shelter for the youngsters to which they can run during sudden storms.

Round up the young ducklings before the storms. Sometimes they will sit on the ground with their bills open wide, pointing upward during heavy storms.

Mischief Wrought by Squirrels.

In some portions of the west there are a great many big, gray squirrels and these animals have become a great nuisance to the public and a serious loss to both the telephone and telegraph companies.

Many hundreds of wires are enclosed in large leaden pipes and the squirrels have begun a general attack on these pipes—gnawing myriads of both small and large holes into the wires. Just why the creatures should commit this serious damage is a general puzzle.

Snow and rain fall into these holes gnawed by the squirrels, causing the wires to rust and likewise seriously interrupting the general public service. The loss thus far caused has been very heavy.

Good Farming.

Fewer acres better fertilized and cared for would result in larger profits on many farms.

Poorly fed plants like poorly fed animals, are always lean, poor in quality and unprofitable

IN THE PUBLIC EYE

CLAIMS A SUBSTITUTE FOR GOLD IN FILLING TEETH

THE alchemists were the fathers of modern chemistry. Their efforts were largely directed to efforts to discover the elixir of life and the philosopher's stone in the existence of both of which they steadfastly believed. The former was a fluid of which a few dros would renew youth, enabling its possessor, no matter how old and wrinkled he might have grown by reason of years of labor, to become a Prince Charming, to realize the supposed felicity of the Oriental salutation, and "live forever." Without the philosopher's stone, there might come times when living would be a bore because of poverty; but with the philosopher's stone one could command infinite riches, for the philosopher's stone was supposed to have the power of transmuting the base of metals to gold.

Until recently modern science, while not denying indebtedness to the labors of the alchemists, has referred to their two chief quests with ridicule. A few years ago, however, Doctor Brown-Sequard, one of the most scientific physicians of Paris, devoted himself to researches for an elixir of life and found in a preparation of goats' lymph properties which encouraged him to believe that he was on the track of the elixir. He was an old man at the time, and died in 1894 at the advanced age of 86. However, the fact that a scientist of Brown-Sequard's repute would give himself seriously to this department of research had some influence in relieving one activity of the old alchemists from utter discredit. Later, in Paris, also, came the wonderful discoveries of the Curies regarding radium and helium giving rise to speculations which in the minds of many shook the foundations of the long established theory of irreducible chemical elements. If that theory is groundless—if what the chemists for more than a century have believed to be fixed elements are not stable but may under certain conditions be converted into others—all that is necessary is to ascertain and produce these conditions and change copper into silver or lead into gold at will.

Mme. Curie does not claim to have worked either of these wonders. Neither does Dr. William T. Wyckoff, the Philadelphia dentist whose portrait appears herewith. But Dr. Wyckoff, it is asserted, has devised a means by which he can make at a cost of 50 cents a pound an untarnishable metal that is as ductile as gold and that is claimed to be as good as gold for filling teeth.

SHE PAYS $25,000 YEARLY FOR HER HOTEL SUITE

IN THE case of ordinary mortals, especially in the larger communities, the matter of rent is something to be seriously considered and the providing of shelter makes almost if not quite as great inroads upon income as does the providing of food. In medium-sized cities it has become almost a rule for the head of a family to consider that one-fourth of his income must go for rent, unless he is one of the comparatively limited number owning their own homes. Thus the mechanic who earns $14 to $20 a week figures on paying about that amount per month for his flat. The man whose pay envelope contains $25 to $35 weekly will pay at least the smaller of these sums every month in rent and the $5,000 a year man will put up somewhere in the neighborhood of $1,000 in payment for his apartments. But when we come to consider the case of a woman who pays $25,000 a year for her hotel rooms alone, even when she is not using them for months at a time, we reach a financial stratum where money is no object and where the income is so large as to leave the possessor free from all bonds of economy.

This is the case of the Princess Lwoff-Parlaghy, a Hungarian, who prefers New York as a residence. She came to America some time ago for the purpose of painting the portraits of a few of our leading men—not for remuneration, but that she might add them to her private collection—and she has become so in love with the American metropolis that she proposes to make it her real home. She has apartments in one of the leading hotels and before sailing for Europe the other day signed a lease for three years at the rate of $25,000 a year. The suite for which the princess pays this fortune yearly in rent consists of 17 rooms on the third floor and include a private conservatory. For the annual $25,000 she receives nothing but the use of the rooms, paying extra for services and for the board of her retainers, who are several in number.

Singularly enough, the princess makes no effort to cut a wide swath in society. She lives unostentatiously, entertains regularly, but exclusively, and cuts no figure in the newspapers except on the occasion of her arrivals and departures, when she always willingly submits to an interview.

CONGRESSMAN WHO WAS ONCE A LUMBERJACK

FROM lumberjack to congressman is the record of Hon. Joseph W. Fordney of Saginaw, congressman from the Eighth district of Michigan. Congressman Fordney, who is serving his sixth term, was born on a farm near Hartford, Ind., 56 years ago, and quit school at 15. In '69 the family moved to Saginaw, and young Joseph began his business career as grocer's delivery boy.

The winter he was 16 he went to one of the northern Michigan lumber camps as chore boy. For nine winters he "followed" the woods, handling the peavey and swinging the ax on the giant pines.

Young Joseph was ambitious. Instead of spending his earnings in a month's riotous living when the drive was over, he saved his hard won dollars and stayed in the woods during the summer, helping timbermen in their plans for the next winter's cutting. In the picturesque vernacular of the camps, he became a "timber cruiser" or "land looker." He was a good story teller and a mixer. He had the robust temper of his grandfather Fordney, a hot-headed German who left his beloved Rhine to fight for the cause of American freedom in the American revolution; but he kept it under control.

The hard-headed old chaps who were ptting money into Michigan pine were attracted by Fordney. They learned to appreciate not only his rollicking stories and merry laugh, but his skill and sound judgment as well. They took him up—the rest was easy. In a few years he was a millionaire and in congress.

"Sugar Beet Joe" is his nickname in the halls of legislation. This is because of his devotion to that saccharine root which is the fetich of the Michigan farmer.

BRITAIN'S NEW SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

SIR Arthur Nicolson, who has been appointed to succeed Sir Chas. Hardinge as permanent under secretary at the British foreign office on the appointment of the latter to be viceroy of India, comes to that post as did Sir Charles Hardinge from the embassy at St. Petersburg.

The post of permanent under secretary at the foreign office is the most important in British diplomacy, for this official has the virtual direction of all the ambassadors and ministers abroad. Of course the secretary of state for foreign affairs—at present Sir Edward Grey—is his nominal chief, but the permanent official is the man who really does the work. He it is who is responsible for maintaining the continuity of British foreign policy in spite of the changes of party fortunes which displace his temporary chiefs and while a new foreign secretary is learning his business the permanent under-secretary's power is practically unlimited.

Sir Arthur Nicolson has had a distinguished career as a diplomat. He entered the foreign office in 1870 and remained there in various minor capacities for four years. He was assistant private secretary to Earl Granville, when that nobleman was foreign minister from 1872 to 1874, and in the latter year he entered the diplomatic service as third secretary to the embassy at Berlin. After that he served with the embassies at Peking, Constantinople, Teheran and Athens, and in 1888 he was appointed consul general at Budapest, where he remained until 1893, when he returned to Constantinople as secretary to the embassy. After that he was agent in Bulgaria, minister in Morocco and ambassador at Madrid. In 1905 he became ambassador at St. Petersburg.

Sir Arthur is entitled to write a lot of letters after his name. In addition to being a privy councillor he is a G.C.B., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O, K.C.B., K.C.I.E., and a K.C.V.O.—all these letters representing honors conferred on him by his sovereign. He is also a baronet, the eleventh of his line, and no doubt before long he will become a peer.