

Bryan's  
Voice.

The extent to which Mr. Bryan used his voice during the recent Presidential campaign has been a subject of frequent remark. Whatever may be said of the matter of his speeches the manner of them, so far as enunciation is concerned, was quite admirable. He has a phenomenal voice, or he could neither have addressed such large audiences, nor have kept up his speaking so long. But the best voice has its limitations, and it is reported that the inevitable hoarseness, which results from the thickening up of the vocal chords, is in Mr. Bryan's case discouragingly persistent. Any man who happens to be endowed with such an organ of expression is supremely foolish to subject it to so severe a strain, yet Mr. Bryan announces his intention to go on another missionary tour as soon as he has sufficiently recovered to be able to speak in public. His object is to force the fighting on the silver issue now instead of waiting till the end, or even the middle, of the Presidential term.

The New Electorate  
in the United States.

A writer in the New York Independent calls attention to the danger which confronts the United States from the fact that a generation of voters has arisen who know not the Civil War. "Bryan was born in the year of Lincoln's election. The youngest man who voted for Lincoln in 1860 is now fifty-seven years old. Over eighty-five per cent. of the voters now are men who were too young to vote in 1860. The slavery issue, which decided the contest of thirty-six years ago, has at last utterly disappeared. A new issue appeals to an electorate which is itself almost entirely new as compared with that which settled the slavery problem." This new issue is quite as much social as political, and it is all the more dangerous from the presence of a large foreign element which has as yet been only partially assimilated, though it is permitted to exercise political power and enjoy political privileges. A European peasant or agitator does not necessarily make a desirable American citizen: in fact, he is apt to make the very opposite, until he has been long enough in the country to slough off his former character and assume one more in conformity with his cis-Atlantic democratic environment. There is now a falling off in the immigration of these people, however, and the native born, English-speaking Americans will become more preponderant.

The Chautauqua  
Movement.

The educational movement which is connoted by this Indian name, owed its origin to the accident of a disused Methodist camp-meeting ground on the western shore of the Chautauqua Lake in western New York. The camp-meetings having ceased, the grove, which had long been devoted to that purpose, became the scene of annual Sunday school conventions, the leading spirits of which were Lewis Miller, an Ohio millionaire, and the Rev. John H. Vincent, a popular Methodist preacher and lecturer. The Chautauqua Association was chartered for the purpose of carrying on educational work, and was put in possession of the land which now forms the nucleus of the great Chautauqua Park. To Sunday school work were added from time to time various forms of secular culture—the Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle, the Chautauqua Assembly, the Chautauqua College of Liberal Arts, and the Teachers' Retreat. The C.L.S.C. is a reading circle with a four-year course, and its membership is now over 60,000, scattered over all the English-speaking countries and extending into some others. The Assembly is an annual meeting on the shore of Chautauqua Lake for a fortnight's programme of popular lectures on all sorts of culture subjects,

sacred as well as secular. The College of Liberal Arts is in session for six weeks each summer vacation for the purpose of affording collegiate courses of many kinds to those who desire them, and who are thus enabled to listen to the class teachings of some of the foremost minds of the age. The Teachers' Retreat is a pedagogical college which is in session for the same length of time, for the purpose of giving teachers a chance to secure some professional training. The curiously elaborate organization which is popularly known as "Chautauqua" has been in working existence for about twenty years, and its evolution has been carefully described by Prof. H. B. Adams, of Johns Hopkins University, for the report of the United States Commissioner of Education. Dr. Adams recently made, in person, a study of the English educational summer classes, the work of university extension, and the evolution of the National Home Reading Union, which is the British analogue of the American Chautauqua Reading Circle. These he will describe in a monograph, which is to be a companion to the one on the Chautauqua movement.

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### The Mansion-House Speech.

NO British Prime Minister ever had a more difficult task imposed upon him than Lord Salisbury had when he rose on Monday last to deliver the annual speech at the Lord Mayor's banquet in London. He had to deal with two grave international difficulties each of which appears to be nearing a settlement favourable to Great Britain, while neither of them has yet reached its final stage. To say enough to quiet public alarm at home, without giving offence to foreign powers who are taking part in the unfinished negotiations, was by no means an easy matter, but Lord Salisbury appears to have succeeded in doing so.

He dealt first with the Venezuela boundary dispute, and not merely affirmed that it is virtually closed, but explained the principle on which the settlement is based. He stated that the British Government has always been willing to leave the precise boundary to be decided by arbitration provided that British settlements were not disturbed, and announced that in the arbitration now practically agreed to all settlements made before a certain date will be excepted from the award. The date he did not mention, but he indicated it by saying that the principle of prescription now applicable to a private occupant of real property would be applied to the localities in dispute.

The Armenian question was much more difficult to handle. He defended the course pursued by the British Government in maintaining the concert of the Great Powers of Europe, refrained from saying anything that could be construed as a reflection on any of them, and freely praised the speech delivered recently by the French Minister of Foreign Affairs in the Chamber of Deputies. From a comparison of the statements made by M. Hanotaux with those made by Lord Salisbury, one is forced to the conclusion that Russia, France, and Britain have come to a full and clear understanding as to what is to be done with Turkey, and that the enforcement of the will of the powers is to be entrusted to France which has already, through her Minister at Constantinople, begun to exercise the necessary pressure.

On the whole the outlook, as indicated by Lord Salisbury, is pacific. Europe seems to be entering on an era of peace. Russia is eager to promote schemes of aggrandizement in the far East, which would be interrupted by quarrels with her nearest neighbours, and would be indefinitely postponed by a general war. Great Britain, in spite of the disparaging remarks of foreign critics, has always been pacific since