The Sun.

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Crime and Punishment.

Our Chicago despatches yesterday related this little incident of the teamsters' strike:

"PETER KLAUSEN, proprietor of a store at 318 North Clark street, who drove his own wagon on Wednesday and was beaten by pickets, died to-day."

PETER KLAUSEN seems to have been an old fashioned individualist. He held a discarded and absurd notion of freedom. Freedom is a relative term. Certain associations and bodies of men have freedom to do as they please and to do as they please to others. When an isolated individual takes upon himself to use his supposed freedom in a manner offensive to the combined freemen, he must be punished. KLAUSEN will not repeat his offense.

PETER KLAUSEN must have believed that the streets of Chicago are public highways and that he had the right to drive his wagon on them. There is where he made a fatal mistake. Teamsters with a union card have the right to use the public highways. No man can use his property without a license from the associated freemen. KLAUSEN was a Tory, unpatriotically resisting the real and only Sons of Liberty. Think to what his principles lead. If he could drive his own wagon, he could delegate his power to a teamster without a card and the very foundations of striker sovereignty would totter.

The Constitution, revised to fit the case, reads: "We, some of the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect labor union and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and take them away from other people, do ordain and establish that no teamster shall drive a team without due authorization by the union. Violation of this ordinance shall be punished according to process of club, pistol, fist or otherwise, as a jury of strikers of the vicinage shall decide."

If it were right, we should be sorry for the death of PETER KLAUSEN; but "he only got what was coming to him." The committee on entertainment entertained him thoroughly.

Connecticut's Senatorial Contest.

The Hon. MORGAN G. BULKELEY of Connecticut is reported as favoring the election of Ex-Governor GEORGE P. MCLEAN to succeed the late ORVILLE H. PLATT in the United States Senate. The Republican members of the Legislature will meet in caucus Thursday and select their candidate. If Mr. MCLEAN is chosen it will be the second defeat administered to the Hon. SAMUEL FESSENDEN by Mr. BULKELEY since Jan. 1. News from Connecticut indicates that Mr. MCLEAN has a substantial lead now, but Mr. FESSENDEN, Congressman BRANDEGEE and State Senator PAIGE may combine their forces to prevent his election.

Those who seek in reference books to learn something of the details of Mr. MCLEAN'S life find their reward in this concise entry:

"McLean, George P., Gov. Conn., 1901-03. Republican. Address, Hartford, Conn."

A man of few words, apparently, perhaps a silent statesman. In any event the entry does not indicate that the Hon. GEORGE P. MCLEAN is unduly puffed up with a sense of his own importance.

A Coming Jewish Celebration.

A committee of Jews is making arrangements for the celebration of the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the settlement of Jews in this country, and more particularly of the grant by the Dutch West Indies Company in 1655 of social and political privileges to Jewish settlers in New York, as it is now. Jews were allowed to acquire real estate and to "exercise in quietness their religion within their houses," but were excluded from employment in the public service, were not allowed "to open retail shops," and were enjoined to build their houses "close together in a convenient place on one or the other side of New Amsterdam," though actually they seem to have resided where they willed.

Their exclusion from retail trade proved to be to their advantage, since it drove them into foreign and intercolonial trade, and Jews, though few in number, became among the most prominent and successful of the importers and exporters of the Colonial period. How few they were is indicated by the fact that even at the beginning of the last century the Jewish population of the whole Union was estimated at less than three thousand, and had increased to only about fifty thousand so lately as the middle of that century.

Thereafter, however, they increased with relative rapidity, so that by 1880 their numbers were estimated at about a quarter of a million. Then came the great Jewish immigration, since which the Jewish population of the United States has grown to about a million and a half, of which about one-half are in the city of New York. The American Jewish Year Book for the present year estimates the total number of Jews in the world at about eleven millions. Nearly one-seventh of them, therefore, are now in this country. The only countries where there are more of them are Russia, with about five millions, and Austria-Hungary, with about two millions, and it is from those two countries that their emigation to the United States is now most numerous.

Already there are more Jews in the city of New York than in all Germany by nearly two hundred thousand, and the volume of their immigration to this port is now greater than ever. If they shall continue to come at the present rate their numbers in this country will be doubled ten years hence, and will be greater than in any other of the world except Russia.

The progress of the Jews in America, and more especially in New York, in every field of activity, is relatively greater than that of any other race. This Year Book gives many pages of biographical sketches of American Jews who have attained political and social prominence. Its long list of Jewish periodicals contains the names of five Yiddish daily newspapers in New York, besides many weekly and monthly publications in the same jargon. In the last Congress of the United States five Jews are enumerated: Representatives EMERICH of Illinois, MEYER of Louisiana, GOLDFOGLE and LITTAUER of New York, besides ISIDOR RAYNER, Senator-elect from Maryland, all of them Democrats except Mr. LITTAUER, a Republican. In the present Congress the Jewish representation is larger. The division of Jewish citizens between the Republican and Democratic parties is not calculable. Very many of them are in neither, but are Socialists, the party of which, relatively so strong on the East Side of New York, is made up of Jews chiefly.

The celebration of the coming of Jews to this country is set for next autumn, somewhere about Thanksgiving Day. Exercises will be held in every synagogue and Hebrew Sabbath school in the Union, and there will be also an imposing public celebration. The event, too, will be signalized by the publication of a historical souvenir book and the erection of a permanent public memorial, for which subscriptions will be made by the Jews of the country. This event, contended the Hon. OSCAR S. STRAUS at the Jewish conference on the subject in the early part of this month, "was as national in its scope as the landing of the Pilgrims," and accordingly its celebration should be national rather than merely local. He would mark it by "a memorial of some kind which would stand as a signpost to all those who come after us."

A Flamboyant Judicial Proceeding.

A remarkable dramatic performance was enacted in the County Court of Kings county in Brooklyn on Friday. The actors were the Hon. JOSEPH ASPINALL, County Judge; Mr. JOHN F. CLARKE, District Attorney; Mr. WILLIAM VAN WYCK, Assistant District Attorney, and the foreman and members of the April Grand Jury. It seems that the Grand Jury had been investigating the crime of playing policy; and they brought into court a long presentment on the subject, indicating that they had discovered that this crime was being perpetrated with the aid or sanction of some officer connected with one of the City Magistrate's courts. The presentment does not name this person, but points him out in lurid language:

"At almost the closing period of our work, it was brought to our attention that there was a shocking condition of depravity existing, and notably in one of our police courts, and of a character so startling as to seem almost incredible. Involving no less a personage, as our investigation disclosed, than a high official of that court, engaged in the most disreputable of practices, aiding crime, going upon the bail bond of criminals, dismissing of writs and otherwise disposing of court business of the Judge before his coming upon the bench, and meeting the judicial protest at such infraction with contumacious contempt, ribald insult and otherwise prostituting his office with swashbuckler effrontery, so secure has he felt in the corruption of which he seems the luminous center."

Notwithstanding the particularity of the charges thus made, which show that the identity of the alleged offender and the criminal acts performed by him must have been clearly ascertained by the Grand Jury, they found no indictment, excusing their failure to do so by stating that the short lease of service left to them prevented the searching and thorough investigation which was demanded by the situation. It is difficult to accept this explanation as satisfactory. Either they knew enough to indict, or they cannot really have known as much as is set out in that portion of the presentment which we have quoted.

After thus exploiting the prevalence of policy playing under police court protection in the borough of Brooklyn, the Grand Jury went on to eulogize the County Judge for his exertions to bring the guilty to punishment. We have no fault to find with Judge ASPINALL, whose record as a zealous public servant we believe to be unassailable; but we must say that the exaggerated expressions of mutual admiration exchanged between him and the Grand Jury on this occasion go very far toward making both ridiculous. Just listen to this language in the presentment:

"And now to you, very honorable Judge ASPINALL, we, the Grand Jurors, desire to express our appreciation of the masterly charge delivered by you to us when specially summoned before you for the purpose, and wherewith, in eloquent as forceful terms, you revealed to us the withering evil of policy gambling that, secretly as fast, was spreading its poison tentacles over this fair borough, sapping the small board, the scanty savings of the lowly and those least able to withstand the demoralizing blight of this meanest of swindles, impoverishing and making criminals of those unfortunates coming into the unhallowed, infamous policy gamble. Honorable sir, your words were well timed. The dragnet of your suggestion was well spread. Not so much for capture of the minnows, but for those who sat aloft, higher up; and whom we found, as you had said, basking in corruption, and reaping the harvest fields of plunder stolen away from their miserable dupes."

Further eulogies were indulged in upon District Attorney CLARKE and Assistant District Attorney VAN WYCK, and even upon the "officers and others about and in aid of the court who have been of service in this excellent work"; whereupon the Judge, saying that nothing remained for him to do except to discharge the Grand Jury with thanks, proceeded to express his estimate of the splendor of the Grand Jury's achievements in these words:

"This form of gambling known as policy playing is the most despicable form of crime; it is not gambling, because there a man sees something and runs a chance of getting something, but in policy you have no chance; it is nothing but thievery. I am told by a professional thief that the chances are 80 to 1 against the player in policy. I wish here to publicly thank District Attorney CLARKE and to express my admiration for the manner in which he has conducted the prosecution of these cases. He fights his cases in the Grand Jury room and not in the public press. This county will pay twenty-three men the best money ever paid out by Comptroller GROUT when it pays you the $2 a day that is set by law as your pay for the splendid duties that you have performed."

This exchange of courtesies strikes us as bombastic exaggeration run mad. Is it not possible in these days for public officers engaged in the administration of the law to go on and do their duties in a quiet, dignified and effective manner, without such nauseating exhibitions of mutual admiration? No doubt all the officers concerned are good men and true, and deserve well of the State; but they only injure their usefulness by such reciprocal expressions of laudation as those which characterize this flamboyant judicial proceeding.

Mr. Delany's Suit.

The suit for damages instituted by Corporation Counsel JOHN J. DELANY against R. FULTON CUTTING, the chairman of the Citizens' Union city convention, is an action of the utmost importance to political managers, party officers and public officials. Mr. DELANY alleges that the address to the public adopted by the city convention contains libelous remarks about him as a public official, and he seeks to hold Mr. CUTTING responsible for these alleged libels.

Political conventions have always indulged in the widest freedom of statement in describing the delinquencies of their opponents. The possibility of being held responsible at law for platform denunciations of candidates on the other side has probably never entered the heads of delegates to minor, State or national conventions. Mouth-filling abuse for which no delegate would assume responsibility as an individual characterizes all sorts of political addresses to the public, and much of it, undoubtedly, is far from being justified by the facts.

It is manifestly impracticable for a person who feels himself injured by the utterances of a political organization to seek redress by bringing actions against the individual members of the party, or even against the delegates to the convention which formulates the party platform. The party itself is an unincorporated organization, without power to sue or be sued. Therefore the principal officer or officers as individuals of the party seem to be the only persons against whom any such action can be instituted.

If Mr. DELANY recovers a verdict from Mr. CUTTING his success will have a moderating effect on the formal declarations of political organizations in the future. For picturesque allegations of wrongdoing, to prove which might be bothersome, dependence will be placed on the privileged utterances of members of legislative assemblies. Some of the hitherto usual campaign fireworks will be unburned, and the public will be deprived of great quantities of highly spiced matter to which it has been accustomed in the past.

But after all, the most unusual feature of Mr. DELANY'S action is its disclosure of a man who takes so seriously the campaign utterances of his partizan enemies.

Mayor, Governor and Committee.

The Mayor is likely to make no objection to at least one paragraph in the majority report of the legislative committee that has investigated the gas and electric corporations of New York city. Here it is:

"We are also of the opinion that the city should be given authority to utilize water power, now owned or hereafter acquired by it, for the purpose of generating electric current for the use of the municipality, provided that no additional water shall be used for said purposes than would otherwise be required by the city. We are advised that there will be no difficulty in utilizing the water power of the city for the purpose of generating electric current for its use without increasing the total consumption of water by the city."

In the bill prepared by Mr. MCCLELLAN to enable the city to obtain authority to extend its water supply system was a section providing for the very thing that the Stevens committee recommends. In the course of the bedevilment to which the Mayor's bill was subjected at Albany this section was cut out and Governor HIGGINS refused to have it restored. It was new, he said; it might be unwise; it was a departure which he could not approve. It was so distasteful to Governor HIGGINS that he even turned the shafts of his wit against it and its author.

Now, however, the Mayor has received in this suggestion the indorsement of a select number of the members of Governor HIGGINS'S own political party.

Will Governor HIGGINS insist that the Stevens committee drop this recommendation? Will he veto a Republican bill embodying this policy?

The Religious Minority in New York.

A correspondent resents references which we have made to estimates that about one-third of the population of New York is Roman Catholic in religious belief or antecedents, and that the Jews are nearly as many in number as the churchgoing Protestants, including both communicants and other church attendants. His notion is that the exhibition of these statistics is for the purpose of exalting the Roman Catholic Church.

Actually, however, our authority for the estimates is the Protestant Federation of Churches, and they are simply another among many demonstrations of the vast preponderance in the population of New York of the foreign born and their children. So far as those are Christians, the great majority of them are Roman Catholics, at least nominally, and of the remainder, the chief part, brought hither by the immigration since 1880, are Jews.

The most important and significant revelation made by the Federation of Churches, however, is not of the divisions of the population in religious belief, whether Protestant, Catholic or Jewish, but of the preponderance of unbelief, or, at least, of religious indifference.

No one of the religious bodies in New York has reason for exultation over another. The whole town, as this Federation argues, is missionary ground, so far as concerns the propagation of religious belief of any sort. There is a free field for all of them. The Roman Catholic Church has a hard task to hold to its faith the people nominally in its fold. The Protestants enumerated as churchgoers are much less than half of the estimated Protestant population. The relatively small attendance of Jews on their synagogues is a frequent cause of complaint by their rabbis.

It is true enough, as our correspondent asserts, that "the Protestants who don't go to church are Protestants just the same, and Jews who do not go to the synagogues are no less Jews," in the sense of being separate from Catholicism on the one hand and from Christianity on the other. So, also, Roman Catholics by descent who pay no heed to the ceremonies of their Church are still Catholics nominally. That is, when any of these depart from their ancestral religious faith they are likely to give up religious faith altogether, instead of going over to another form of it.

Statistics and estimates of the religious divisions of the population of New York afford no ground for boastfulness on the part of Catholics, Protestants or Jews. All of these have reason rather for humility in a community of which the people of a definite and devout religious faith of any kind are in a minority.

Jest and Earnest.

According to the Washington correspondent of the *Brooklyn Eagle*, the Hon. WILLIAM EATON CHANDLER of the Spanish Claims Commission has been trying to interest three famous Republican statesmen in castellated realty. His letter to the Hon. LESLIE MORTIER SHAW has been published:

"MY DEAR MR. SECRETARY SHAW: I desire to inform you that it seems to me you ought to be the next President of the United States. Your long devotion to the principles of the Republican party with your eminent fitness for the position, high integrity, and the faith and confidence which the people of the country repose in you, make you the logical Presidential candidate of the party of which you are to-day the most distinguished leader. Yours very sincerely, WILLIAM E. CHANDLER.

"P. S.—I have written similar letters to Vice-President FAIRBANKS and Senator FORAKER.

"P. S. No. 2.—Please don't forget me.

"W. E. C."

Mr. SHAW and Mr. FORAKER "wrote facetious replies." They weakly condescended to the New Hampshire waggery. The Hon. CHARLES WARREN FAIRBANKS scorned to step down from the austere heights of official dignity:

"He sincerely thanked ex-Senator CHANDLER for his cordial indorsement and promise of support, appreciating thoroughly what this meant at the hands of a man possessing the great influence of the New Hampshire Republican. He then added: 'I am also pleased to learn that you have informed Secretary SHAW and Senator FORAKER regarding your attitude toward me and the Presidential nomination.'"

Mr. CHANDLER is our old acquaintance and excellent friend; and we shall not move for the annulment of his charter as a chartered libertine. He is sufficiently punished by the cold, clear and grave reply of the Skyscraper Statesman. To that serene altitude the coarse breath of frivolous jest cannot reach. Against that tall and awful cliff the waves of sarcasm churn into soapsuds.

Mr. FAIRBANKS is a seriousminded man. His hopes, his ambitions, his whole style and outfit are serious, as they should be. He does not seek the applause, nor does he reck the gibes, of triflers and witlings. Let Mr. CHANDLER caper and fling up his heels, like a rash, unseasoned colt. Mr. FAIRBANKS loves the safe, steady family horse, eighteen hands high; never shies; a good roadster; gentle indouble harness; fine leader for tandem.

The Self-Culture Club of Chicago is doing great deeds for the "culture" of all. Wisdom cries out from it, but once in a while with hard sayings.

At last week's meeting Dr. V. G. LUNDQUIST told "How to Sum Up a Stranger." Much extract and pemmican of sagacity is found in that address. For instance:

"If you want a good boarding house keeper, get one who has a vital nature."

That is, one who craves good food and drink. But what is to be made of this dark utterance:

"If his [the stranger's] mouth is open continually, make a bargain with him by all means. You'll win."

This seems to imply that the oratorical temperament is not accompanied with business ability, that the open mouth does not go with an eye to the main chance.

Does Dr. LUNDQUIST know Mr. BRYAN or the Hon. WILLIAM BOURKE COCKRAN?

Shaw and Shakespeare.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* At last Mr. G. Bernard Shaw seems to have come out into the open, under cover of a "twelfthly," to explain that his poor opinion of Shakespeare's art is based upon the fact that he has written immeasurably better stuff himself. "What is more," adds Mr. Shaw, "I have published it and had it performed on the stage with huge applause."

Logically, nothing more can be said on either side of the question. Mr. Shaw has written the stuff, finding that it slips from his pen "more swiftly than prose," while we, ignorant of this literary ease and abandon, have simply howled our appreciation.

Manifestly, we have been overestimating Shakespeare. Shakespeare? Pshaw—or Shaw! Let us congratulate the shades of Bacon that the cipher never was proved against them. "As You Like It," indeed! Give us, as a piquant and yet diplomatic title, the "You Never Can Tell" of the Irish playwright. Because, taking Mr. Shaw's proof of it, we never can. HOLLIS W. FIELD.

NEW YORK, April 29.

Water for Dogs.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Perhaps the average reader does not know that water is very necessary to the health of a dog. It is said that in Germany rabies is rarely known, because every morning in every household a bowl is filled with fresh, cool water and set in a shady spot where our little friends the animals can help themselves.

Could not the man, woman or child who has known the suffering caused by thirst and known the great reviving of all the powers in a drink of cold water find an earnest appeal right here?

There is nothing in the study or practise of medicine so baffling as this rabies, to which man is liable. As the warm weather comes, let the boys and girls take pleasure in remembering our little furry friends.

EAST ORANGE, April 29. G. F. W.

The Better Way.

Stella—Do you ever try to count whether he loves you with a daisy?

Bella—No; I count by whether I get a $10 box of roses.

An Untainted Prayer.

For the good that we can do
Lord keep the breath within us;
And though we sin—as morials must—
Let not the devil win us.

O. McD.

THE CAROLINES AS A RUSSIAN BASE.

The suggestion, made abroad, that the Kaiser is to permit the Russian fleets now in the China Sea to find a refuge in the Caroline archipelago is more practicable on the atlas than in actual conditions. It may be that the shrewd observers in Europe of the events in the Far East and of the attitude, more suspected than susceptible of present proof, of the German Emperor thereto have good ground for the feeling that the uneasy War Lord may incline to aid the Rojestvensky and Niebogatoff fleets. But to any one familiar with the islets of the mid-Pacific this suggestion as to the Carolines is ludicrous.

Although they are spread beyond 20 degrees of longitude at the equator, where degrees are longest, and lie within the first 10 degrees of north latitude, these islands had almost vanished from human knowledge for more than a century. Discovered by a Portuguese navigator, they passed to Spain and took the name of Charles II. Then they became forgotten except for the stray visits of New Bedford whalers hunting sperm in between the seasons of the right whale fishery. In time they came under the care of the missionaries of the American Board. Yet neither whaler nor missionary did anything to bring the islands to public notice. Later the German trading company operating from headquarters at Jaluit in the Marshall Islands exploited the copra trade in the Carolines. This led to many wrongs upon American trading interests, which have now for many years slumbered in the unfinished business of our South Sea diplomacy, out of which we have come with such success as may be measured by the value of our possessions in Hawaii and Tutuila, but, it must be acknowledged, with not entire credit in the protection of smaller American interests. Spain, however, had greater ground for complaint, and that complaint was successfully prosecuted before the Pope as arbitrator. The result was that Germany had to pay for what it had thought to take by stealth, and thus the Carolines fell into the unripe scheme of a German colonial empire.

There are 525 islands in the Caroline archipelago, a conservative statement, for in the present incomplete state of the surveys the voyager through those seas may be pardoned for thinking there are many more. Yet the area of all the land is no more than 560 square miles, and of 522 of the islands included in the count the total area is figured at no more than twenty square miles, Ualan, Ponape and Rug dividing the larger area in practically equal shares. The islands are a beautiful sight. The traders find a not unpleasant existence in their island homes, a prosperity of the senses, even if not conspicuously of the pocket. The true people of the group, Micronesians in the ethnological classification, while not so attractive as the Polynesians, are by no means uninteresting. Altogether, one of the few spots of the earth that remain but slightly changed from a happy, primitive estate.

Captivating though these islands may be, their attractions are not those which appeal to captains of battleships with an enemy known to be awaiting them. The islands are too many for navigation to be safe even by day, and at night they are unlighted. The charts are defective. The currents are strong and treacherous, and the coral reef is as bad as a torpedo for finding out the weak spots of the armorclad. Only dire need would warrant any admiral in taking his fleet into such a labyrinth of dangers to navigation. Rojestvensky's need is yet in prospect.

What advantage, then, could the Carolines offer him even on the Kaiser's invitation and with the new cable cut? It cannot be a harbor, for that is the one thing that does not exist for him in the Carolines. For some purposes, to be sure, the harbor on the westerly island of Yap is good, it justifies in some respects its entry in the sailing directions as excellent. At times there have lain in it as many as two ships of a thousand tons and half a dozen small schooners and ketches which have brought in the copra for the lading of the larger vessels. It is easy to enter and to leave, it has good holding ground, it has but two dangerous patches, and these are rather out of the fairway. For those who have to use it Yap is indeed an excellent harbor. But it is no harbor for a fleet of vessels of war. It has not room for more than a very few of them. It has no facilities for repair or for getting into battle trim. Even for purposes of coaling from the colliers which are known to accompany the two fleets the facilities are totally inadequate.

With a host of dangers to deter him, and with no real harbor advantage to attract him, the Russian Admiral would make a dangerous error should he leave the China Sea for the Pacific and make of the Carolines a resting stage in a dash for Vladivostok. It scarcely seems probable that such a thing was ever really under consideration.

Manual Training for Public School Pupils.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* It seems to me that a board of trade, North, South, East or West, in condemning Dr. MAXWELL for his part of the responsibility for the manual training feature of our school work, is not so clear sighted or far sighted as a board of trade should be. The great majority of the children who attend our public schools is soon to consist, if it is not already so, of those who will need two things permanently: a knowledge of the English language and some guide to the power to use intelligently manual skill in the various industries into which they must enter for their part in life.

This manual training work, elementary or perhaps superficial, as it must be to a considerable extent, will prove a benefaction to these children of the foreigner—not the old types, as we formerly knew them, but entirely different ones, to whom training and discipline are so essential. This benefaction will be far reaching and not to be overestimated in its value to the community of the by and by.

To-day 90 per cent. of the children attending our schools leave, never to return to school work, at or about 12, not reaching, of course, the higher or finishing grades of the grammar school. Whatever else may be given to these children, the knowledge of manual training they can have will be a boon to them. It would be a misfortune to them and a distinct loss to future citizenship to deprive them of it. JOHN Y. CULYER.

BROOKLYN, April 27.

Titles in Texas.

From the Houston Post.

The Duke of Cleburne and Prince de Waples are the only titled celebrities of Texas, but they are the stuff.

The City Hall Fountain.

The City Hall Fountain
Is squirting these days
With a gurgle of joy
In its aqueous ways.
And the sparrows are chirping
With pleasure to think
They needn't go down to
The river to drink.

The sitters, who sit
In the park, idly dream,
As they lazily gaze
On the silvery stream,
That Heaven itself
Would be very near
If the City Hall Fountain
Could only squirt beer.

The thousands who hurry
Along by the way
Are pleased by the sight
Of a fountain at play;
And the Fountain, regardless
Of who's in the game,
The Prince or the Pauper,
Squirts on just the same.

W. J. LAMPTON.

CAN CUBA AFFORD IT?

The Ten Million Dollar Contract for Paving and Sewering Havana.

WASHINGTON, April 30.—The Government has been prodding the Cuban administration about the matter of sewering and paving the city of Havana. The State Department evidently has another aggrieved American concessionary on its hands. The particular cause for wonder in this affair is that the people to whom the contract was awarded should have kept so quiet during the three years which have elapsed since the award of the contract to Messrs. McGivney & Rokeby.

The history of this contract runs back to 1894, when the Spanish authorities called for plans and specifications for the work. The Cuban revolt of 1895 interrupted the proceedings, and the Spanish-American war introduced complications. When the United States, on Jan. 1, 1899, took full control of Cuban affairs, the American firm of M. J. Dady & Co. held a contract which lacked only the signature of the Spanish Governor General to give it full validity. For three years power to proceed with the enterprise lay in the hands of the American authorities. Although Dady & Co. held only an inchoate contract, they had certain lawful rights and claims which Gen. Wood, by an arbitrary and somewhat peculiar proceeding, bought in April, 1901, for $250,000.

Alleging the faultiness of the Dady plans, which had been approved and endorsed by the Spanish official engineers, Gen. Ludlow, then Military Governor of Havana, set American engineers at work for their improvement. Early in 1902 he reported officially that the department had completed plans and estimates which could be put into effect at any time. His withdrawal from the island left the matter entirely in the hands of Gen. Wood. The proceedings of the next two years became the subject of considerable local scandal. They were greatly tangled and not a little queer in many respects. As many thousands of Cuban dollars were spent in their reconstruction, it is to be assumed that Gen. Wood, who was not an engineer, was displeased with the plans provided by Gen. Ludlow, who was an engineer of recognized ability and an officer of the Engineer Corps of the United States Army.

It may be said, briefly, that with plans provided and approved by a competent authority, and with full power to put those plans into immediate effect, two years passed and Gen. Wood, America's great sanitary administrator, left the island with Havana swept and garnished, but with its sewers and pavements very much as they were at the beginning of the intervention.

A full rehearsal of the proceedings of those two years would make interesting and somewhat spicy reading if the full truth were told. The American legacy, at the time of our departure, consisted of plans and estimates and specifications which had cost Cuba nobody knows how many thousands of dollars, and a contract with Messrs. McGivney & Rokeby to do the work for $10,383,015. As attendant conditions, there were also left two clauses of the Platt Amendment. One provided for the security of all rights acquired under the acts of the United States in Cuba, and the other for the execution and necessary extension of "the plans devised or other plans to be mutually agreed upon, for the sanitation of the cities of the island."

The standard of general cleanliness has been fully maintained in Havana, and practical sanitary work has been done in Santiago and elsewhere in conformity with the agreement. To live up to an agreement regarding Havana, although no date or time was specified, that city or the island must borrow at least $10,000,000, in addition to the $35,000,000 already obtained as a national loan, and to a municipal obligation of about $10,000,000 which the city has carried for a number of years. There is also the question of a second national loan for the completion of the payment of the soldiers' claims, regarded by Cuba as both a legal and a moral obligation. This may involve an additional loan of $28,500,000, although it should not, and properly does not, involve more than one-half that sum.

All rightful American claims in Cuba or elsewhere should be made good, but some care should be exercised in this matter lest we push our neighbor into national bankruptcy and financial disaster. When the sanitation of Havana was first discussed sewers and paving seemed imperative for Cuban welfare and the protection of our own coast cities. Such a system would doubtless be an advantage, but the experience of the last five years has shown that it is not an immediate, imperative necessity. In a consideration of the rights of the American claimants, it might not be amiss to institute a careful review and analysis of the entire situation.

WEALTH AND DEBTS OF NATIONS.

A Comparison in Which the United States Figures Somewhat Illustriously.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In 1903 the national wealth of the United States was reliably estimated at $160,000,000,000. That is $41,000,000,000 more than that of Great Britain and $52,000,000,000 greater than that of France, and only $7,000,000,000 less than the wealth of France and Great Britain combined.

It is $60,000,000,000 more than the wealth of Germany, $68,000,000,000 more than that of Russia and $78,000,000,000 above Austria-Hungary's.

It is $7,000,000,000 more than the combined wealth of Germany, Russia and Austria-Hungary, and $48,000,000,000 more than that of Italy, Spain, Belgium and all the rest of Europe, outside of the five countries already first named.

The proof of these statements is in the following tabulation:

United States	$100,000,000,000
Great Britain	59,000,000,000
France	48,000,000,000
Germany	40,000,000,000
Russia	32,000,000,000
Austria-Hungary	22,000,000,000
Italy	15,000,000,000
Spain	11,000,000,000
Belgium	5,000,000,000
Rest of Europe	21,000,000,000

The public debts of the countries named and their distribution per capita of the population is shown to be as follows:

	Debt.	Per Capita.
France	$5,858,000,000	$150.00
Portugal	870,000,000	151.00
Spain	2,000,000,000	110.00
Great Britain	3,885,000,000	92.00
Italy	2,560,000,000	81.00
Germany	3,281,000,000	60.00
Austria-Hungary	1,113,000,000	25.00
Russia	3,338,000,000	24.00
United States	925,000,000	11.00

There is no place for Americans to get in a grumble on that showing.

Of all the countries in the world, the Commonwealth of Australia makes the worst showing. Her public debt is $1,047,000,000, with a per capita of $278 and a continually decreasing population.

Careful perusal of the long list of public debts shows that the United States has the smallest per capita of public debt.

Mexico has a public debt of $168,000,000, with a per capita of $13.

Canada's debt is heavy for so sparse a population, considering the size of the Dominion. The debt is $265,000,000 and the per capita $50.

Argentina is also heavy laden, $509,000,000 and $100 per capita. A few others are:

	Debt.	Per Capita.
Netherlands	$466,000,000	$86.00
Greece	168,000,000	69.00
Egypt	500,000,000	53.00
Belgium	504,000,000	81.00
Turkey	726,000,000	29.00

Compare the United States wealth and debt with either of the foregoing and we see how fully our financial lead protects our world lead. WALTER J. BALLARD.

SCHENECTADY, April 29.

The Knoxness of Mr. Frick and the Frickness of Mr. Knox.

From the Providence Journal.

In retaining Senator Philander C. Knox as leading counsel for the committee to investigate the affairs of the Equitable Society, Henry C. Frick, the chairman, again shows his great confidence in his personal friend. It was Mr. Frick who selected the then Attorney-General of the United States to succeed Matthew Stanley Quay in the United States Senate, and he arranged the political deal so cleverly that the public had no intimation of it until the election of Mr. Knox by the Legislature was made certain. The Pennsylvania Senator is regarded by President Roosevelt and public men generally in Washington as one of the clearest headed lawyers who ever held high executive office. He is noted, moreover, for charging large fees, and has been known to collect some enormous ones. Mr. Knox was not widely known as a lawyer when President McKinley called him to the Cabinet; and yet in Pittsburg, where he did most of his legal work, much of it as attorney for the steel companies, he won enviable fame and a large fortune.

In Passing.

Mr. Mann—Yes, Maria, the way you women listen to gossip is perfectly scandalous and wouldn't be tolerated among men. No, I can't let you have any money; my stock dropped 'steen points on the rumor that a trust company was wabbly, an insurance concern corrupt, a battle in the East, and a big magnate had dropped $1.68.

MANY MORE SALOONS.

500 Yet to Hear From and More License Money in Already Than Last Year.

A rush of saloon keepers who haven't taken the precaution to supply themselves with new liquor licenses is expected at the State Excise Bureau, at 1 Madison avenue, this morning. The bureau was open until midnight Saturday night issuing new certificates for the year beginning to-day. Deputy Excise Commissioner Edward H. Healey estimated yesterday that at least 500 saloons will be without licenses this morning and will have to get them before they can dispense booze over their bars to morning customers. Some of these places made application too late on Saturday. All licenses to sell liquor expired at midnight Saturday.

The proposed amendments to the Raines law have not been enacted yet. These amendments would make it necessary for a saloon keeper to get certificates from the Health, Fire and Building Departments before he can get a hotel license. Mr. Healey said yesterday that if these proposed amendments were made he did not believe they would apply to places which have taken out the new licenses for the year. So far as the officials of the Excise Bureau can estimate there will be a good many more saloons this year than last year. The increase, Mr. Healey said yesterday, was just about in proportion to the growth of population. Last year the amount collected for the licenses was about $7,200,000 in Manhattan and The Bronx. The amount collected up to midnight on Saturday was about $15,000 more than this.

The various bonding companies did not reap their usual harvest this year. The Liquor Dealers' Association has started a bonding concern of its own, called the Central Surety Company of New York, with its office in the same building as the Excise Bureau, and this concern did nearly all the business.

NEW SATELLITE OF SATURN.

Prof. Pickering of Harvard Finds a Tenth, Which Is Beyond Telescopic Vision.

BOSTON, April 30.—A new satellite of Saturn, the tenth in order of discovery, has been discovered at Harvard College observatory by Prof. W. H. Pickering, on the photographic plates taken at Arequipa, Peru. The stages of the discovery from the first suspicion of its presence to the confirmatory evidence extended over some years.

The discovery of the ninth satellite was made by Bond in 1848, also at the Harvard observatory. The new satellite has a period of revolutions of twenty-one days, or a little less than that of Hyperion, a nearby satellite, which revolves around Saturn in twenty-one days and six hours.

This circumstance prompted a cabled inquiry yesterday from Krentz of Kiel, Germany, who asked if the new object was not the satellite so nearly related in period. The two objects can be demonstrated on the same plate.

The new saturnian moon is estimated to be about 200 miles in diameter. It is just beyond even telescopic vision and only the sensitive photographic plate can catch it. The motion of the satellite is direct—against the hands of the watch viewed from the north—in a plane considerably inclined from the plane of the rings.

AMERICAN PAINTINGS SOLD.

End of Artists' Society Show—Attendance the Largest Known.

The Society of American Artists closed its spring exhibit in the Fine Arts Building yesterday. This exhibition has not only drawn more pictures than any other in the history of the society, but it has also been the most largely attended. Receipts for admissions are larger by $280 than last year, which held the previous record.

Following is a full list of the pictures sold:

"Afternoon Shadows," by Bruce Crane, to Richard Y. Cook—$500.

"The Poet," by Henry Salem Hubbell—$500.

"A July Nocturne," by Paul Cornayer, to B. R. Howard—$200.

Bronze, "Mother and Child," by Miss Vonnah, to J. Mitchell Clark—$100.

"In Gloucester Harbor," by Miss Genth, to Adolph Lewisohn—$225.

"Old Quebec," by Bishop Harrison, to George T. Barner—$175.

"After the Shower," by Oliver Black, to N. W. Dodge—$100.

"French Music Hall," to Mrs. Harry Payne Whitney—$240.

"Gloucester Harbor," by Alfred W. Schwartz, to William M. Chase—$85.

"The Quiet Hour," by H. S. Hubbell, to William J. Curtis—$300.

"The Mill," by H. Bolton Jones, to Martin Joost—$225.

"The Orchard," by C. C. Curran, to S. G. Dunham—$200.

Bronze, "Lioness and Cub," by Eli Harvey, to Miss M. Latimer—$80.

NUN AS PROBATION OFFICER.

Magistrate Offers to Appoint Sister Mary Xavier, Who Works Among Prisoners.

Sister Mary Xavier of the House of Mercy, at Madison avenue and Eighty-first street, who visits the district prisons, the penitentiary and Sing Sing prison, went to the Yorkville police court yesterday and asked Magistrate Pool to discharge a man he had committed to the workhouse for disorderly conduct. She said she had obtained employment for him in the country and saw a chance for his reformation.

"I have heard of your work among the prisoners, Sister, and I commend it. Suppose I appoint you a probationary officer of the court without salary? Would that help you in your work?" asked the Magistrate.

"Yes, your Honor, it would help me, but I must consult my superiors as I cannot accept such an appointment without their approval," she replied.

The Magistrate told her to let him know if she obtained the necessary consent, and said he would investigate the case of the man she wanted discharged.

Sister Mary Xavier has been working among prisoners for several years. If she is appointed a probation officer it will be the first time a member of a Catholic sisterhood has held such a position.

TIPS A CRIME IN WISCONSIN.

When the Governor Signs the Anti-Grafting Bill Passed by Legislature.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., April 30.—Wisconsin is a tipless State, or will be when Gov. La Follette signs the Stout bill against graft, which has been passed by the Legislature.

Senator Stout had no intention of warring on the tip system when he introduced his bill. He desired to wipe out the petty grafting which has grown up through small commissions paid buying agents and employees to induce them to favor some firm or corporation. It was with such a view that the bill was passed by both houses.

When the final vote was being taken in the Assembly the members discovered that if the bill