The Sun.

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Common Ground.

Since THE SUN called attention to the remarkably clear and significant distinction which President ROOSEVELT in his annual messages has drawn between the stability of the protective principle and the fossilization of the tariff schedules, there has been a good deal of discussion of the subject in the American press. The comments proceeding from different points of view are of an exceedingly instructive character. They show the progress which public sentiment, irrespective of party, has made toward the idea of revision for the purpose of modernization.

If it is Mr. ROOSEVELT's opinion that the time has arrived for vitalizing the schedules and adjusting rates to present conditions, he is likely to have the support of many of the most thoroughgoing Republican protectionists between the four corners of the republic. The noteworthy declaration of the *Gazette* of Pittsburg exemplifies the attitude of the stalwart protectionists who prefer that the inevitable revision shall be made by a safely Republican and safely protectionist Congress during a safely Republican and safely protectionist Administration. How easy is the transition from the standpatter to the reasonable revisionist!

To illustrate another point of view we quote at some length the remarks of one of the most intelligent of the independent newspapers of the country, the *Indianapolis News:*

"Many a Senator and Representative will talk fairly enough now—talk even courageously. But when the 'bunch' of statesmen get together at Washington their courage will ooze out of their finger tips. They will argue that times are prosperous and that it would be foolish to touch the tariff and take the risk of 'disturbing business.' They will reflect that Congress elections are to be held next fall and that campaign funds will be needed. The Speaker is not interested in the subject, and he may be trusted to organize the House against reform. In the Senate, Mr. ALDRICH, with his Standard Oil connections, will be on guard, as usual. So we are not hopeful of results in the near future.

"But that is no reason why we should not commend the view expressed by THE SUN, or fail to exert what influence we may possess on the side of revision. The agency created by the recent Reciprocity Congress ought to stir up things some. We wish it well, and we are glad that the question is becoming a business rather than a scientific one—though it is still the latter—for when violations of economic law begin to hurt business they are most likely to be stopped. We note that THE SUN says that there 'has been a remarkable progress in Republican opinion since Mr. ROOSEVELT first pointed out the distinction between stability and fossilization.' That is no doubt true. But the Republican party has not yet reached the level of its old views—the views held at the time when GARFIELD was arguing in favor of the protection that led to free trade, and JOHN SHERMAN was advocating lower duties and the entire abolition of duties on trust products. Perhaps some day the Republicans will get back to their old ground, which they very foolishly abandoned under stress of temptation. But the progress will be slow—unless indeed it comes through revolution, which it may, if the standpatters are too stupid."

There is considerable truth in this, but perhaps our esteemed contemporary underestimates the rapidity with which the change might be expected to go on under a vigorous impulse contributed by the present Chief Magistrate, backed by the common sense of the nation. Mr. ROOSEVELT is not merely the President of the standpatters—not even merely the President of the Republican protectionists who would welcome revision. The extraordinary regard in which he is held by Democrats is manifested by many utterances from the journals of that party; perhaps better and more concisely by none than by the *Union and Advertiser* of Rochester in this passage referring directly to the popular demand for tariff revision:

"This demand may be heard at any time if the real wishes of the people find expression, as they would be likely to do if President ROOSEVELT should come out strongly for tariff changes. The people are in a mood to follow him now, and he has so powerful a hold upon the country that any demand he might make would instantly be taken up everywhere by thousands who are now silent on this question."

There is common ground; and the exact locality of the common ground was precisely indicated by Mr. ROOSEVELT when he first emphasized the distinction between stability and fossilization.

A Cheerful Note From Colombia.

A publication called *La Miscelanea* gives in its September number an interesting statement of affairs in the republic of Colombia. The writer says:

"But with regard to Colombia, I may positively affirm that the unsettled period of revolutions is past, and forever gone. Colombians, without distinction of political parties, are to-day alive to the fact that the great misfortune of the loss of Panama was a severe lesson, and under the leadership of a practical man, President REYES, have decided upon the following of a new line of conduct, the good results of which are already in evidence, and which in the early future will prove how mistakenly and wrongly they have been judged in this country and elsewhere."

This is pleasant news. We hope that Colombia's experience may be a demonstration of its accuracy. Señor PEREZ, the writer of the article, notes with satisfaction the arrival in this country of the new Colombian Minister, Señor DIEGO MENDOZA, and the resumption of the interrupted diplomatic relations. We suppose that some day Mr. JOHN BARRETT will arrive in Bogota.

The picture of Colombia's resources, as presented by Señor PEREZ, is perhaps a little overdrawn in some respects, but his main proposition is entirely sound. Colombia is a land of great but imperfectly known natural resources. With peace and 1,000 miles of railway she would be a factor of importance in the world, a rich field for industrial and commercial exploitation, a good customer and a good neighbor. Through Señor JORGE HOLGUIN her foreign debt has recently been adjusted to the satisfaction of the bondholders, and the interest has been paid up to January 1, 1906.

With an assurance of political stability and a transportation system as a basis for operation there would undoubtedly be an abundant influx of capital for industrial development. Señor PEREZ presents his picture of Colombian opportunities in the following language:

"Colombia has sources of wealth almost inexhaustible. The output of her gold mines can compete to advantage with that of the richest gold mines in the world. Five hundred thousand square miles of the most fertile territory are there waiting for railways to cross them in every direction. Copper and iron are plentiful, oil gushes out from the land like streams of water, coal, bituminous and anthracite, to be found in great quantities, india rubber, vanilla, a large and unknown variety of fiber plants, and, in fine, all the products of all climates and zones afford many and enviable chances to foreign capital and labor."

All that Colombia needs is a man of the type of PORFIRIO DIAZ, and we sincerely hope that she has found him in President REYES.

The Anglo-Japanese Alliance and Naval Expansion.

We cannot accept all of the conclusions propounded or suggested by the well known author of "The American Commonwealth," the Right Hon. JAMES BRYCE, in the article on "The Growth of Navies" contributed by him to the *Independent*. We hold, for instance, that in view of our vast coast line on two oceans, of our transmarine dependencies and of the tutelary function which we are pledged by the Monroe Doctrine to fulfil with regard to Latin America, we ought to have a navy equal to that of any Power on earth except Great Britain. Such equality we have as yet by no means attained. We recognize, on the other hand, that the Anglo-Japanese alliance, calculated as it is to guarantee the peace of Asia and accompanied as it has been by the Franco-British understanding, has materially lessened the necessity for distended naval budgets on the part of European countries.

Will a Russian statesman, for example, like Mr. WITTE, should he be called upon to direct the expenditure of his country's revenue, deem it expedient to devote hundreds of millions of dollars to the creation of a new navy, when Russia notoriously needs all the money at her disposal for the development of her natural resources and for the improvement of her social and economic conditions? The day when Russia could look forward to becoming the dominant sea Power in Far Eastern waters has gone by. The time will never come when she could hope to cope in that quarter with an Anglo-Japanese coalition. What is true of the Pacific is true also of the Indian Ocean, seeing that the promise of mutual support embodied in the treaty signed by Lord LANSDOWNE and the Mikado's Minister in London extends to Persia. There remains for Russia the reversion to her traditional objective, the Bosporus, which, however, she could never attain against England's will, while with England's consent, which is now conceivable, she could gain it without making any additions to the fleet which she already has in the Black Sea. In the Baltic Germany will never molest her so long as the Berlin Government has no desire to provoke collision with the Russian armies massed in Poland. For the protection of Russian commerce the remnant of the naval force which has survived the contest with Japan ought to suffice. So far, then, as Russia is concerned, any considerable outlay on her navy would be superfluous.

It is equally obvious that so long as the present cordial understanding between France and Great Britain exists it would be needless for the former country to do more than to keep her navy on its present footing as regards size and efficiency. It would be as hopeless, now or ever, for a hostile combination to face Great Britain and France on the Atlantic as to confront Great Britain and Japan on the Pacific. It follows that any further expansion of the German navy would be purposeless and wasteful. Now that it has become impossible for even the most visionary German to caress the hope of a Franco-German invasion of Britain and of a concerted despoilment of Britain's colonial domains, there is nothing for a German navy to do, beyond the contribution of its quota to the police force of the seas. Until lately the German advocates of colonial expansion have reckoned, more or less avowedly, on extending their country's sphere of influence at the expense of China, or of Holland, or of South America. They must now see that the projected absorption of the great Chinese province of Shantung, or of the Dutch East Indian Empire, would be impracticable without the acquiescence of England and Japan, while any design upon Latin America would be blocked by the United States. By what arguments, then, will it be possible for the champions of naval expansion to extract from the Reichstag large additional grants?

So far as Italy is interested in the question, she has no use for a strong navy now that her former friendly relations with France have been restored. Italians know that, provided the *entente cordiale* between France and England shall endure—and it is built on the solid base of a community of interests—the Mediterranean is assured of such profound tranquillity as she derived from the Roman Peace. What is true of Italy may be predicated with even more propriety of the minor maritime Powers. In a word, the new international combinations, whether they have taken the shape of formal treaties or informal understandings, must have the effect, so long as they last, of banishing war from the ocean. Under the circumstances the continuance of competitive naval distension on the part of the European nations would seem to be absurd. From this point of view no one will contest the soundness of the axiom propounded by Mr. BRYCE, that armaments and policy must have some relation to one another. When naval expansion has ceased to have any political object, it logically ought to stop.

It is not necessary that the new Peace Congress, which President ROOSEVELT has promised to call at The Hague, should undertake to limit by international agreement the expenditure for naval purposes. Every European nation for itself will, we may assume, be taught by common sense to recognize the point when further outlay on a navy would be needless and useless. Those who have to provide revenue can probably be trusted to see that it is not thrown away.

The Great Community of Brooklyn.

A difference in the tone and character of the population of Brooklyn as compared with Manhattan's is suggested by the continuous publication by the *Eagle* newspaper of that borough of pamphlet collections of sermons preached in the churches of Brooklyn. The last pamphlet, just printed, contains more than forty of these sermons by clergymen of all denominations.

As the publication would hardly be kept up unless there was a sufficient demand for that sort of literature to make its issue profitable, the fair inference is that the absorbing interest in pulpit sermons which used to distinguish the "City of Churches" continues undiminished. In the days of HENRY WARD BEECHER, of Dr. STORRS and Dr. TALMAGE the Brooklyn pulpit was famous throughout the Union, and multitudes of strangers visited Brooklyn solely for the purpose of hearing those men preach.

The town then was almost without any other public entertainments, and its general tone was rather provincial—at least somewhat Puritanical. A man who crossed the East River from New York passed into a wholly different moral and social atmosphere. Relatively to the present Brooklyn it was a small community, very simple in its organization. It was spoken of as a sleeping place for New Yorkers. Its mercantile establishments, now great and imposing, were then fewand relatively insignificant. Its government and its manner of life partook somewhat of a village character. Modesty, sobriety and monotony prevailed.

That was only a generation ago. Since 1860 the population of Brooklyn has increased by more than a million. It is now, next to New York and Chicago, the most populous community in this country, for we assume that the late State enumeration found there more people than are in Philadelphia. In Europe, only in London, Paris, Berlin and Vienna are there more people. An estimate of the late State census gives Brooklyn a gain in inhabitants during the last five years of toward a quarter of a million, a number little less than its entire population in 1860 and five times its population twenty years before.

Brooklyn was once distinguished as a native American and Protestant community. Now less than a quarter of its population are natives of native parentage, and the Roman Catholic Church membership is more than twice the Protestant. Its Jewish population, too, has increased largely since 1900, and must be now about two hundred thousand.

Brooklyn has become a cosmopolitan community as respects its inhabitants. They are made up of every considerable race element in the world. Meantime it has become more and more a self-sufficent community. The time was when it was subsidiary to New York. Now it looks after itself. Handsome theaters provide its people with the entertainment which they used to cross the East River to seek at night. Its great department stores vie with those of Manhattan as marts of trade. Finally, it provides liquid refreshment in very much the same ratio to population as Manhattan. In 1903 there were 5,284 liquor licenses in Manhattan; in Brooklyn, 3,393. The present population of Manhattan is estimated at more than two millions, of Brooklyn about fourteen hundred thousand.

Great as have been these changes, radical as has been the social transformation in Brooklyn, the volume of sermons to which we have referred seems to indicate that still its pulpits retain their old hold on the public interest; and, we may add, the sermons printed demonstrate that the Brooklyn pulpit preserves its distinction for moral, spiritual and intellectual elevation.

That Brooklyn also contains an especially large number of inhabitants interested in religious controversy is daily proved to us by many letters on religious subjects, believing and critical, which we receive from citizens of that borough.

The Folk Boom and the Cold Wave.

Governor FOLK of Missouri is so wanting in self-consciousness and so absorbed in his public duties that he "booms" himself without knowing it, so to speak. Thus his journey to the Lewis and Clark Exposition in Oregon should be considered as a "graceful tribute" to Missouri's historical position in the development of the West, courtesy to a sister State and an incidental part of a Governor's duties, which, as everybody knows, usually include a select assortment of anniversary traveling and miscellaneous social gallivanting. Of course, the enemies of Governor FOLK are sure that he seeks to exhibit himself to the farther Western folks in order to make his "boom" transcontinental. But how can he escape the consequences of his distinction? Besides, since a well developed curiosity is an American trait, the young Missouri statesman will show himself a true American if he is willing to gratify it.

One proceeding of his, however, we can't approve. It is well enough that he should be as stern a Democratic spurner of free passes as Governor LA FOLLETTE is a Republican one. Each side must have a protagonist of virtue. But why should the Governor's staff, whether traveling on official business or for official pleasure, be made to pay its way to Portland and back? That brilliant bunch of Colonels should be paid for. It is an honor and an ornament to Missouri, a diffuser of beauty and joy. There is not a town 'twixt Jefferson City and where rolls the Oregon that would not subscribe liberally to have these pioneers of pulchritude visit it even for an hour. Governor FOLK may be an able political economist, but either his esthetic sense is deficient or his austerity is puritanical.

A curious instance of the effect of hero worship upon historical belief and narrative is worth mentioning in connection with a trip which, on account of the staff, may be much exposed to wet. It will be remembered with what wild jubilation the unterrified in the Ozarks heard last summer that JOE FOLK had taken a good stiff swig of whisky out of Judge DILLARD's flask at Fort Scott, Kan., and had tempered that bite of the serpent with no allaying Thames. After all, reformer though he might be, JOE FOLK was all right. He was for the Jeffersonian jug, the straight goods, and no "chaser."

So through Missouri and beyond Missouri flew the Jeffersonian breath of Judge DILLARD's flask. The Wets were happy. FOLK was no bigot. Then the Drys began to be heard from. Were the accounts of that Fort Scott irrigation congress true? Their murmurs grew into a roar. Now the head of the Anti-Saloon League has put forth an answer and explanation. He says that "after a two hours speech and an hour's reception, and in consequence of the sudden appearance of a cold wave, the Governor was seized with a nervous collapse, and some liquor was given him for strictly medicinal purposes."

The "cold wave" must have come from the Folk Drys, for the mercury at Fort Scott stood at 90 in the shade.

This anecdote teaches us that it requires agility to carry on a Jeffersonian jug trade from the water wagon. Fortunately, cold waves may now be looked for with some confidence; or if Governor FOLK no longer needs to be fortified against them, his bunch of Colonels can be depended on to do good, steady Jeffersonian labor for military, hygienic, social, political, fraternal, friendly, incidental, occidental and all other purposes, with or without a chaser, according to the custom of the country and the quality of the goods.

Mr. PHILBIN says he sees no reason why he should take the nomination for District Attorney.—*The New York Herald.*

Bully!

Are we not to have the eloquent CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW in the Ohio campaign?—*Cincinnati Enquirer.*

Try a $20,000 retainer, administered repeatedly until the desired result is obtained.

We have already outlined the results of the introduction of the American frog to Hawaii. The island Government, encouraged by the result of its former importation from this country, is going to try some of our fish also.

The mosquito has been making a nuisance of himself in Hawaii. The people of that faraway land assert that the pest has immigrated to it from the United States, and as a remedy they have engaged an American to import to Hawaii American fishes which will make war upon Mr. Culex and his noxious tribe.

Mr. ALVIN SEALE of the department of zoology in Leland Stanford University is to superintend the work. Mr. SEALE is an expert ichthyologist, and is further fitted for the mission by previous experience in Hawaii, where he was curator of the Bishop Museum of Honolulu. He spent three years traveling among the South Sea islands, collecting specimens for that institution. He has also, in collaboration with Dr. JORDAN, president of Stanford, studied and written up the fishes of Samoa.

Mr. SEALE's plan, as described in the Stanford University daily newspaper, is to experiment with the *Pœciliidæ*, a species of mosquito destroying fish found in the streams and bayous of our Southern States, until the surest means of carrying them safely through the long voyage to Hawaii is ascertained; then to sail with a cargo of the "destroyers" to the islands and transplant the fish to the mosquito breeding waters.

In addition to the scientific interest attaching to the experiment, there is poetic justice in the idea of an American fish being imported by the Hawaiians to drive out a pest which is by them declared to be of American origin.

General NELSON APPLETON MILES, the chosen favorite of the progressives of the Democratic party of Massachusetts, was required by the election law of that State to register. He did so, appearing before the Election Commissioners at the Old Court House in Boston. He gave his residence as the Hotel Somerset and occupation as "military, M. V. H." The records show that he was born at Westminster, Mass., 66 years ago, is 5 feet 11 inches tall, weighs 220 pounds and will uphold the Constitution of Massachusetts against all comers. No popular demonstrations accompanied the event. The candidate for the Democratic nomination for Governor presented himself for enrolment; he enrolled; he returned home.

The business of the Bay State jogged on as before. White wings flapped in Boston harbor on the ships from many ports. The shuttles in Lowell and Lynn rattled on. The sharp click of the shoemaking machinery in Brockton and Salem was not suspended. Hay wagons blocked the roads in the Berkshire Hills. The quarry engines near Quincy still drilled, and the cranes turned and the paper presses in Holyoke kept revolving as before.

It was in Gloucester, however, that the historical incident of MILES traveling 3,500 miles to vote for himself in Massachusetts caused, perhaps, the smallest ripple of concern. On the very day that the citizens of Gloucester learned of the entry of MILES into the political field this bulletin came from that town:

"There was a firmer market on salt mackerel. Shore bloaters are firm. There is a fair jobbing movement in cured herring and little change in milchers. Cusk is firm; Halifax bloaters not in present demand. Lobsters firm and cod steady."

Cod steady, and MILES back from across the sea!

Official Condemnation of the Thank You Ma'am.

From the Road Red Book.

It is often necessary to lead the water from the high to the low side of the road, and in doing so it is a common practise to dig a gutter or to build diagonally across the road a small dam, commonly called a "Thank you ma'am." These are both objectionable methods and should never be used.

INTERIOR POLITICS OF JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* There may be a real hope and prospect that, since peace has come between Russia and Japan and the terms of the peace are unpopular among certain politicians in Japan, we of the United States may come to see that in Japan there are party friends and party opponents of the Government, as in England and the United States.

The Emperor of Japan may be a heaven descended head of a socialistic monarchy, in the opinion of a vast majority of his subjects; yet Japan has a Congress, or Diet, consisting of two houses, a Cabinet of ten or a dozen members (whether or not really responsible to the Parliament we may soon see), and in general representative institutions, much as in England, with lots of politicians and party politics, even immediately after fifteen centuries of military feudalism and hereditary oligarchy.

The great restoration or revolution was so recently as 1867, since when Japan has teemed with political parties, formed on personal lines and not based on what Western nations fancy are principles.

There have all along been "ins" and "outs." Insurrections have been founded on possession of and desire for the power of office. The present constitution, which was largely the work of the now discredited Marquis Ito, came in 1890, when Japan plunged into parliamentary institutions.

Intense domestic party squabbles were silenced in 1894-95 by war with China, just as recently by war with Russia.

It is perfectly natural that party violence and even criminal violence should now reappear, accompanied by a demand for a change of Ministry, in sight of a treaty as unpopular possibly and temporarily in Japan as a century ago was Jay's treaty in the United States. PARTY SPIRIT.

NEW YORK, Sept. 14.

RACES AND POLITICS.

A Statement by One of a Legislative Committee of Investigation.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* If THE SUN's counsel in the editorial last Sunday on "No Race Distinction" shall aid in arresting mischievous designs which would embroil every tribe and every tongue for their accomplishment, an inestimable service will be its reward.

It has become a censurable practise with promoters of doubtful causes to excite factional, sectional or racial antagonisms in order to attain their ends, in the belief, presumably, that what cannot be gained by reason and candor can be accomplished by appeals to prejudice and fear. With respect to the moving cause of the warning uttered it may be asserted with more than conjecture that the motive underlying the attack upon Dr. Dewey, State Librarian, originates in political and personal antipathy of some years duration.

Dr. Dewey is not only a most efficient, progressive librarian, probably the best equipped, but he is possessed of a pretty strong mind of his own, courageously expressed on occasions liable to arise almost any day. He impresses one with the idea, resolvable into belief on short acquaintance, that taciturnity and bookwormedness are not the essential qualifications of a modern librarian, ideal or real.

There is quite a large corps of assistants in the State Library and Library Extension, necessarily so. Dr. Dewey is a pronounced civil service adherent and advocate, stoutly maintaining that every branch of public service is entitled to and should have the best obtainable ability, with conscious security from molestation, political or otherwise, on good character and worthiness. Accordingly, he early as director incurred the displeasure of gentlemen who saw no conceivable sense in a system or man repugnant to their doctrine and custom, antecedent, present or future.

Just ten years ago to the day nearly, it was intimated, predicted, in fact, that Dr. Dewey's career would not only not be strewn with roses and carnations, but that he would come pretty near having an abbreviated one. About this time a joint legislative committee was selected, authorized and directed to examine into the several departments and divisions of the State Government, with power to send for persons and papers, and report thereon. Dr. Dewey was neither forgotten nor overlooked, you may depend; his day of accounting had arrived, and much interest was manifested when in high time he was summoned to face complaints and complainants touching numerous grievances, including Lake Placid and connections, alleged exclusion acts, civil polity and domestic economy.

The committee in conscience and rectitude was constrained to say that there was absolutely nothing to report derogatory to Dr. Dewey, in any public respect or private nature whatever. But now, after ten intervening years of service recognized and praised world wide, the old spirit raises its form under guise and pretext of vindicating the civil rights of American citizens.

THE SUN has not spoken too soon; the distinguished men of the Jewish race, in learning and pure citizenship, have not spoken too soon. The Jewish population need no champion of civil rights and privileges, or political franchise. They may, however, stand seriously in need of wisdom and prudence in dealing with unsound and unsafe counsel controlled by political ambition. So to speak, there is a lion abroad, uncaged and uncageable, harmless in repose, dangerous when aroused, and well may Providence then be implored. Wise indeed are the words of Solomon: "A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself; but the simple pass on, and are punished. He that diggeth a pit shall fall into it; and whoso breaketh an hedge, a serpent shall bite him."

ONE OF THE COMMITTEE.

NEW YORK, Sept. 13.

Facts and Suggestions About Cotton.

From an address by Mr. D. A. Tompkins of North Carolina.

Speaking roughly, and in round numbers, and in average figures, the production and the gross income from cotton since the civil war has been as follows:

First decade, 2,500,000 bales at 24 cents a pound, equal $300,000,000.

Second decade, 5,000,000 bales at 12 cents a pound, equal $300,000,000.

Third decade, 10,000,000 bales at 6 cents a pound, equal $300,000,000.

Fourth decade, 10,000,000 bales at 10 cents a pound, equal $500,000,000.

Cotton is no less profitable than it ever was. On the contrary, its production is more profitable perhaps than ever before in its history, and yet other profitable occupations at the South are so attractive to a large proportion of the population that it has made cotton production stand practically still for ten years. The remedy for this deficiency lies in two directions:

(1) In part we need white emigration to the cotton States.

(2) In part we need more machinery specially adapted to do the farm operations connected with cotton farming with less labor.

We particularly need a cotton picking machine. With a successful machine operated by mule power the cost of picking cotton might be reduced from $100,000,000 per year to $10,000,000 per year. If we can get a successful cotton picker and could turn one-quarter the European emigration now coming into the United States to the cotton States, we will have supplied all the deficiency of labor that there is—the greater part by the machine, and the remainder by the white European emigrant.

The cotton plant is one of the most delicate of the agricultural products. It is produced in a climate that varies enough to make the variation in cotton production range from 150 pounds of lint cotton per acre to 225 pounds of lint cotton per acre. One frost might make this difference from one year to another. We furnish to the world one year a crop which is overwhelmingly big and the next year a crop which is insufficient to supply the ordinary demands. It is important that the production shall be by some artificial means brought to more or less of an average, and thereby the price would be brought to an approximate average. I believe that this might best be done by the development of a system of warehouses which did far more than shelter and care for the cotton. If a comprehensive warehouse company would engage the best graders to be had, and would issue a certificate in which every factor relating to the bale of cotton was accurately entered, and the warehouse company stand responsible for the description of the cotton as given in the receipt, such a receipt could be traded in to better advantage than the bale of cotton itself.

Commendable.

Mrs. Knicker—I suppose you find new virtues in your husband every day?

Mrs. Youngbride—Yes, he is so orderly; he is getting up a system for horse races.

THE SCHOOLS OF THE CITY.

Statement and Argument by the Superintendent of the Roman Catholic Schools.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In enumerating the children of school age in our city for whom, on last Monday, the Board of Education was not able to provide full day school accommodations, you neglect to include the number of Catholic children of New York who are attending the Catholic schools and for whom the Board of Education was not asked to provide school room. That a full statement of the school condition may be made to the citizens of New York city, I most respectfully beg a place in your paper to present the status, at this time, of our free Catholic American school in New York.

On last Monday morning, simultaneously with the reopening of our public schools, there were also reopened in the five boroughs of the city 140 free Catholic parish schools. Into these 140 schools more than 80,000 boys and girls, children of the citizens of New York, were received, and in these schools these children will get an elementary education up to the requirements of the Board of Education of New York without a cent of cost to the city. These 80,000 children will be taught by more than 1,700 teachers, lay and religious. Four of the schools are new and were opened for the first time last Monday. These are Holy Name School in West Ninety-seventh street, School of Our Lady of Good Counsel in East Ninety-first street, Carmelite School in East Twenty-ninth street, St. Anthony's School in The Bronx.

Inspired by the vigorous and magnetic influence of the Archbishop of New York, in ten years every parish church in the boroughs of Manhattan, Bronx and Richmond will have its school, and then the Catholic school register of the city will count not 80,000, but 150,000 names.

Since it costs the city of New York about $40 a year to educate each boy and girl in our public schools, it follows that our Catholic schools to-day are saving New York city in education more than $3,000,000 a year. To help the city save this $3,000,000 annually, the Catholic citizen of New York is spending every year out of his own pocket about 1,250,000 hard earned dollars in educating his own 80,000 children in his own schools; and in addition to this he is cheerfully contributing his share to the stupendous annual school tax of more than $21,000,000 for the maintenance of the public school system, in which the rest of the children are being educated.

Add to these enormous figures the value of the 140 school buildings and the cost of the ground on which they stand, and the gigantic figure of saving and of profit to the city taxpayers by our Catholic school leaps up into the tens of millions of dollars. Shall it be said that the Catholics of New York do not love their city? Shall it be said that the Catholics of New York do not love education and value its supreme importance in its fullest and best meaning?

The Board of Education cannot realize this year the promise of the present administration of the city to give every boy and girl of school age in New York city a seat in the public schools for a full day's school. Tens of thousands of children are forced to accept a half day's schooling because of lack of room. And all this without taking into calculation the Catholic children in our 140 Catholic schools. It is easy to picture the crippled condition of the Board of Education if it were to be confronted by our 80,000 children demanding room and education in the already overcrowded public schools to-day. Consequently the Catholic citizen of New York, at an enormous cost to himself, is daily affording immeasurable relief and assistance to the Board of Education in its futile efforts to educate all the boys and girls of New York.

By the provisions of the Charter of Greater New York (Tit. IV., Sec. 1152) several schools in New York city conducted by various religious denominations "participate through the Board of Education in the distribution of the common school fund." These schools are designated by name in the charter and they receive $15 a year per capita for the education of each pupil received into them. These schools operate by their own autonomy, under their own individual names and constitutions, while providing the children in their care with a course of studies the same as or equivalent to that of the public schools according to the approval of the Board of Education. An extension of the agreement by which these schools receive this money to include the 140 Catholic schools of the city would afford the very help needed by the city to fulfil its obligation to every one of its children of school age. The Constitution of our State of New York excludes the present possibility of such an agreement. But, if the Board of Education of New York city were to be empowered to agree to pay $15 a year for the education of each boy and girl, in every Catholic school teaching a course of studies approved by the board after inspection and examination as equivalent to the public school course of studies, the difficulty of providing against the overcrowded public school would in a very short time be entirely overcome. For let such an incentive be offered by the city, and every pastor of a Catholic church without a school in our city would get a school immediately and put that school on an educational footing with the requirements of the Board of Education as soon as possible, while those already having schools would increase their capacity and efficiency even, if that would be necessary. To these approved Catholic schools all our Catholic children now attending the overtaxed public schools could be sent and room thereby made in them for the children of the rest of the people, which children are now obliged to do without any education at all, which is the equivalent of the little they now receive from the city because of lack of school room.

Such an arrangement would not interfere with the present demand for teachers for our public schools, much less decrease that demand, because its effect would be not to diminish the number of classes in the public schools but only to afford the thousands of half time children a full day's schooling, which is the one thing to be remedied. Besides, more teachers would be needed in our Catholic schools, to whom good salaries could be paid. These would have to be supplied mostly from the laity, because our religious teaching orders of men and women are even now overtaxed to supply the demands for teachers made on them.

I present this statement about our free Catholic American schools at this opportune moment because I have a strong faith in the liberal spirit of fair play which animates the majority of my fellow citizens in our great and magnanimous city of New York—the cornerstone in our Empire State. Many, indeed, there are among the citizens of New York who oppose the Catholic school and reject its claims. I believe this is because they do not know our schools. They do not know what work our school is doing—how systematic it is, how much alive and progressive it is, how American its character and influence, how powerful its moral force—in a word, what a giant bulwark it makes against the real dangers in our glorious republic! Just as its worth and its work become better known and understood by all the people, so surely will all opposition dissolve into sincere admiration, and the small pittance of assistance here suggested be freely extended out of a conviction that it will be money well spent for the education of all the boys and girls in our honored city.

REV. THOMAS A. THORNTON,
Superintendent New York Catholic Schools.

NEW YORK, Sept. 13.

An Englishman's Petition.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Permit me to ask New Yorkers to refrain from injuring the feelings of the bluejackets of the British fleet which is soon to visit the metropolis of North America. Please, O New Yorkers, refrain from calling Prince Louis's men "Jackies."

"Jackie" is, I am well aware, the American landsman's term for the bluejacket; but in the British service a jackie is a pet monkey—a mascot. The jackie is to be found on many British men-o'-war, but he is a simian, not a bluejacket.

Call the Britishers "Jack tars," or "bluejackets," and save their feelings. I have known American officers to hold that the term jackie is opprobrious.

TORONTO, Sept. 11. F. R. K. D.

How Would the World Get Along Without War?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Amid the universal laudation of peace, one begins to ask, What would be the condition of a world always at peace; absorbed in trade and commerce, never having to make any of those great sacrifices that ennoble a people? Would we not lose some of those hardiest virtues that the stress of war develops?

Dreadful as war is, may not there be something worse to take its place? Even Christ said: "I come not to bring peace, but a sword."

ENGLEWOOD, Sept. 12. CITIZEN.

Between Professional Friends.

First Doctor—What are his symptoms?

Second Doctor—Good credit and a high rating in Bradstreet.

The Choice.

I hereby voice a modest wish,
For my ambitions are not high;
I ask not Fortune's golden cup,
Such bitter dregs within it lie.

Nay, give to me this simple boon,
And I would laugh the rest to scorn;
I merely want a nice brass plate
Upon the house where I was born.

MCLANDBURGH WILSON.

THE STATE LIBRARY.

Commissioner Draper Denies That the Staff Is Being Odellized.

ALBANY, Sept. 14.—In an official statement issued to-day by State Commissioner of Education Andrew S. Draper he denies the statement that the staff of the State Library is being Odellized. He, however, admits that Melvil Dewey, the director of the State Library has been forced out of office through Jewish influences and that other important places in the State Library have become vacant through resignations. Mr. Draper says:

"It is true that some reorganization in the higher places in the library seems imminent. The director has long been a storm center. The last two meetings of the board have been almost wholly taken up with difficulties surrounding him. The complaints from Jewish sources have brought matters to an immediate issue, but have not by any means constituted the sum of the difficulties.

"At the June meeting of the board, after long and patient consideration, it was unanimously agreed that, while fully recognizing his services and wishing him well, it was desirable that Dr. Dewey's official connection with the library should terminate at no very remote date. This decision was at once communicated to him and acquiesced in by him with apparent satisfaction.

"The vacancy in the position of law librarian, caused by the regrettable resignation of Mr. Griswold, has not been filled, because the advisability of promoting the assistant was not clear, and also because of the uncertainty concerning the director. Mr. Johnston has recently resigned as reference librarian.

"The suggestion that the influence of former Governor Odell has been at work in library or any other department matters is wholly without truth. Before I became Commissioner of Education I had his definite assurance that the department ought to be operated without any reference to political matters, and he seemed abundantly authorized to speak for the Republican organization.

"All assertions about political influence in department matters are too absurd at this late day to deserve notice."

NEW CABLE TO CHINA AND JAPAN.

Commercial Company Ready to Resume Its Delayed Project.

Clarence H. Mackay, president of the Commercial Cable Company, gave out yesterday this statement of the company's plans:

"Arrangements have been finally completed for the laying of submarine cables to China and Japan. It was the earnest wish of President McKinley, while the Pacific cable was in contemplation, that in addition we should lay cables to China and Japan. The difficulties at that time seemed insuperable, but we assured the President that we would do everything possible to comply with his wishes.

"Amongst our difficulties was a protest which Russia made against our laying a cable to Japan as being a breach of neutrality. President Roosevelt has given us his hearty support in order that American commerce might have quick service to China and Japan by an American cable.

"We also received the efficient aid of ex-Attorney General Knox and Attorney-General Moody. Our landing rights in China were obtained several weeks ago and we have completed arrangements with the Government of Japan for landing rights and connections in that country. Yesterday the agreement was signed by Mr. Takahira, the Japanese Minister.

"We shall proceed at once with the manufacture and laying of these two cables, which will take several months. The Commercial Pacific Cable Company will then pierce the Far East at three points—namely, the Philippines, China and Japan. With the cable which has just been completed to Newfoundland, a fifth cable to Europe which will be laid this month, a cable from Guam to Japan and one from Manila to Shanghai we will have a sytem extending over two-thirds of the way around the globe."

BENDER SECURES DELAY.

Questions the Jurisdiction of Civil Service Commission in His Case.

ALBANY, Sept. 14.—With a view of questioning the jurisdiction of the State Civil Service Commission to act, rather than to meet directly the charge that he had violated the civil service law in collecting and requesting last fall political contributions from employees in his department, State Fiscal Supervisor Harry H. Bender to-day appeared at the adjourned meeting of the State Civil Service Commission, held to continue the consideration of the charges against him. Former Judge Edwin Countryman appeared as counsel.

At the outset Judge Countryman pointed out that under the law the State Civil Service Commission could investigate the acts of a State officer or a State employee outside of its own department in connection with the administration of the State civil service law only when such acts were in conjunction or in collusion with the State Civil Service Commission's own employees.

Consequently, Judge Countryman insisted that the charge against Mr. Bender did not come within the jurisdiction of the State Civil Service Commission to investigate. He pointed out that the question was such an important one that the State Commission should ask Attorney-General Mayer for an opinion before proceeding.

This the commission decided to do and the hearing was adjourned until Sept. 28. The State Commission believes, however, that it has the general power to investigate.

CHIEF JIMENEZ OF PANAMA.

New York Policeman Going Down to Reorganize the Isthmian Force.

Policeman George Jimenez of the Madison street station has been appointed chief of police of Panama. He was selected by Dr. R. A. Amador, Consul-General of Panama in this city, at the suggestion of Police Commissioner McAdoo. The latter has granted Jimenez two years leave of absence so that he can rejoin the force when his contract with the Panama Government expires.

Jimenez will receive $3,000 a year. He is a Spaniard and suited to the climatic conditions on the Isthmus. Free hand has been given him to completely reorganize the police force in Panama, which is at present in a bad way. Jimenez will sail for his new field of duty as soon as he can arrange his affairs here.

This is the second chief of police that Mr. McAdoo has selected for the Republic of Panama. The first, former Detective Sergeant Samuel Davis, died of yellow fever after a short stay on the Isthmus.

County Offices Included in the Classified Service.

ALBANY, Sept. 14.—The State Civil Service Commission to-day decided to include the county offices of Westchester, Monroe, Albany and Onondaga counties in the classified service. It was also decided not to classify those in the counties of Orange, Oneida and Rensselaer, because the number of positions in these counties which could be filled as a result of competitive examinations were so few.

Secretary of the Lighting Commission.

ALBANY, N. Y., Sept. 14.—The State Lighting Commission has appointed Thomas D. Hoxsey of Brooklyn as secretary, to be located at the New York office of the commission, at a salary of $3,000. Mr. Hoxsey is a well known newspaper man and represented the Brooklyn *Times* as legislative correspondent for many years. The Albany and Buffalo secretaries of the commission, will be appointed later.