The Sun.

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A Forced Construction.

The *National Provisioner*, in its last issue, commenting upon Mr. ROOSEVELT's assurance to Ambassador REID that the United States Government will guarantee the quality of canned meats inspected under the new law, says, with undisguised resentment, that the President "has notified the world that if anybody has any complaint to make about a shipment, all they have to do is to send it to him and he will see that it is adjusted."

Mr. ROOSEVELT's language does not bear this construction. He is not in the canned meat business, and not personally responsible to any buyer of damaged or inferior goods, and he is not the United States Government. His message, intended to restore confidence in American food products in England, and to be read at the convention of the British Grocers' Federation, was as follows:

"You are at liberty to inform the Grocers' Federation that under the new law we can and will guarantee the fitness in all respects of tinned meats bearing the Government stamp. If any trouble arises therewith protest can at once be made, not merely to the sellers of the goods, but to the United States Government itself."

The *National Provisioner* has assumed too much under what doubtless it considered sufficient provocation. What the President must have meant was that complaints could be referred to the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, who has charge of inspections under the new law, and that the Secretary would lay offenders by the heels in fulfilment of his pledge that the Government will protect the consumer "from pasture to package."

"This remarkable innovation in Government procedure," the *National Provisioner* calls the guaranty, which, however, it accepts "with due thanks." The guaranty was timely, if unusual, for the foreign trade in canned meats, of a value of millions of dollars annually, was on the verge of ruin owing to hysteria caused by the Neill-Reynolds report. But there is no excuse for twisting the meaning of the President. No one can doubt his concern for the future of a great business upon which thousands of his countrymen are dependent for a livelihood. In performing what he believes to be a duty he should not be represented as speaking as an individual when he refers complainants to "the United States Government itself."

The Tax Commission.

Does the new Tax Commission plan merely to justify and extend the system of indirect taxation fastened on the State by the Republican party, or is its purpose to undertake a serious examination into the operation of the antiquated and incomplete tax laws of New York? If the former is the case its work will prove of no permanent value. On the contrary, a conscientious and disinterested commission will find in the taxing scheme now followed in the State many serious defects and abuses.

Throughout the State personal property escapes generally from its share of taxation. Those possessed of small estates usually pay nothing. Those owning great estates pay far less than their share. In some cases men of ordinary means are overtaxed. The assessments are practically always made unscientifically, by guesswork and without rhyme or reason.

Real estate is assessed in some counties at approximately its full value. In others it is on the books for 25 per cent. or less of what it is worth. Some inequalities are due to favoritism or corruption. Others, by far the greater number, are caused by the inexpertness of the assessors, who in many cases have no particular fitness for their work.

The committees appointed by the Legislature to investigate the lighting corporations and the insurance business did their work thoroughly, intelligently, and produced excellent results. The present commission has opportunities no less good than these had. It consists of five members of each chamber of the Legislature appointed by the presiding officers and five appointed by Governor HIGGINS. It has a great field for the exercise of intelligence and common sense. Its members and the public will pray that it may turn out to be something more than a committee for the indorsement of the waste and extravagance breeding system of indirect taxation that has been so popular in the State in recent years.

Is There Any Chinese Slavery in the Transvaal?

In the campaign preceding the last general election in the United Kingdom much was said by spokesmen of the Liberal and Labor parties about the alleged establishment of a system of Chinese slavery in the gold mines of the Rand, and a state of things was depicted which seemed to justify the assertion that the British dominion in South Africa was being cemented with human blood. It now seems doubtful whether there was much basis for the statement.

In the House of Commons the other day Mr. STEPHEN WALSH, a representative of the Independent Labor party, declared amid Liberal as well as Laborite cheers that the promise of Liberal leaders to stop the importation of Chinese laborers into South Africa was more responsible than any other issue before the country, at the time of the last appeal to the constituencies, for placing the present Government in office. Speaking for the Independent Labor party, as he was authorized to do, he denied that as yet a single step had been taken by the Bannerman Ministry to carry out its agreement to remove the servile conditions under which the coolies worked on the Rand, and consequently he moved, by way of protest, a reduction of £100 in the Colonial Secretary's salary.

As a matter of fact, one of the first announcements made by the Bannerman Government when outlining its programme had reference to this very matter. The House of Commons was informed that the definite solution of the Chinese labor problem would be relegated to the Transvaal elective Legislature, which presently will be convoked, and which obviously is the primary party in interest. If that Legislature is to be autonomous, it plainly should not be forestalled by the Imperial Government in so important a function as the determination of the status of the coolies who already constitute a considerable fraction of the provincial population. At the same time, the Government pledged itself that pending the settlement of the question by a self-governing Transvaal, every coolie dissatisfied with his lot should be repatriated at the public expense, and that in all other practicable ways steps would be taken by the colonial administration to mitigate the hardships to which, it was alleged, the Chinese miners are subjected.

It was pointed out by Mr. WINSTON CHURCHILL, who as Under Secretary replied to Mr. WALSH, that the promise made by the Government to issue a repatriation ordinance had been kept, but that out of 51,689 coolies employed on the Rand only a dozen had availed themselves of the offer to send them back to China at the public cost. He added, what indeed was obvious, that it was impossible to resist the conclusion that there is no great and general desire on the part of the Chinese miners in the Transvaal to leave their work and return to their native country. He declared that all the alleged "conditions of servility" had been removed except in one particular, and foretold that a conclusive settlement of the question would soon be reached by the new Transvaal Legislature, the precise composition and date of meeting of which, he intimated, would be decided upon in the course of a few weeks. In view of these facts it will seem to most onlookers unreasonable to describe the policy of the Bannerman Government with reference to the coolies in South Africa as a hoax and a fraud. It is indeed difficult to see what else it could have done without encroaching upon the manifest right of the people of the Transvaal, if they are to possess any right of self-government, to decide upon the conditions, if any, on which a wholesale emigration of Chinese laborers into their country is to be permitted.

In a heated political contest party leaders are apt to be lavish of promises which afterward they may not see their way clear to perform. It does not appear, however, in this case that Sir H. CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN has laid himself open to reproach. He has done everything for the coolies which, in view of his simultaneous and paramount promise to the Boers, he was at liberty to do, and he seems to have made South Africa so pleasant for the Chinese that not a baker's dozen of them are willing to leave the country.

Mr. Lubin's Work.

In the appointment of DAVID LUBIN of California to membership on the permanent committee of the International Institute of Agriculture the President has bestowed due recognition upon one of the pioneers of California whose services have been better appreciated abroad than at home. Mr. LUBIN has earned the right to be classed with the makers of California. To the early days of the gold rush in the high Sierras succeeded a second era of lavish prosperity in the Californian valleys, when new settlers went out upon the soil and raised such crops as agriculture had never dreamed of. The farmer ran his furrow with the theodolite, whole townships were his wheat patch, he worked by steam, and his grain was reaped into railway cars on tracks that were latticed through the ranches. It was great and prosperous, and it set California at the head of the grain States, just as it had at the beginning stood as the great golden State. But it was so rich, it was so prosperous, that it was too great for the small man to share in. It fell more and more to great combinations of capital on the one side and to unsettled and shifting armies of improvident labor on the other.

Having made a success in commerce, Mr. LUBIN set before himself the task of establishing an agriculture new to California, one which should not have the defects of the old. He has gone upon the principle that the ranch is better for the State when it is cut up into small farms for the productive homes of a settled population of owners. What he believed he put into practice. His enthusiasm enlisted the cooperation of others as they saw his projects maturing to success. In a dozen years he has put Californian agriculture on an entirely new basis.

Only incidentally to his general project did he earn the honors which Italy paid him long before recognition came to him at home. He found the floating army of harvest hands largely Italian, good labor and cheap labor, and not objectionable to Californians, as is Asiatic labor. When the harvest had been made there was no place for these hands on the great ranches. Their idle time was passed in the cities, and San Francisco and Sacramento and the other towns found new problems in carrying this swarm of idle men over until the period when they were next needed in the wheat fields. Mr. LUBIN recognized that the Italian farm hand was by training a farmer of the small area, thrifty and industrious, always looking forward to becoming a renter, perhaps eventually a proprietor. Not because they were Italian, simply because they were small cultivators, he opened the way for them to get out upon the soil, each for himself. He organized associations which led to the formation of colonies. Now they dot the valleys and foothills, each with some name that recalls the country they have left.

All that was needed was to put these right men upon the soil. At once they began farming from doorsill to fence post. In place of the waste of cultivation by the square mile, agriculture in California turned into intensive farming. This is the service which the President has recognized in appointing Mr. LUBIN.

The Amateur Golf Championship.

The amateur golf championship was won on Saturday by EBEN M. BYERS of Pittsburg and New York from GEORGE S. LYON of Toronto by only two up in the thirty-six hole match. The prominence gained by Mr. LYON, the only Canadian entrant, should encourage the game in the Dominion. The United States Golf Association did well in inviting the Canadians to participate. If the invitation is made permanent the best players from across the border may be expected every year.

In the first six years of the championship series the rivalry in the final was between Scotch and American players. HERBERT M. HARRIMAN in 1899 scored the first victory for the home bred players. After that, until last year, the final contest was between East and West, but in 1905 two Western Golf Association players fought it out. This year it was Canada against the whole United States, for Mr. BYERS, as a member of the Allegheny Country Club, is claimed by the Western Golf Association, and as a St. Andrews Golf Club man he gives allegiance to the Metropolitan Golf Association. He entered from St. Andrews, his first club, but he is not partisan in his golfing affiliations, for he played on the Western and Eastern picked teams against the Oxford and Cambridge society in 1903.

Mr. BYERS was runner-up in the national contest in 1902 and 1903, while Mr. LYON gained a reputation in this country by beating H. CHANDLER EGAN in the final of the Olympic championship in 1904. Mr. BYERS and Mr. LYON have had the advantage of frequent visits to the classic British links.

On account of the many slanting putting greens of the Englewood Golf Club links it has been denied by many, especially by those beaten in the earlier matches, that the links is a true testing course. It seems unfair to malign it on this account. It was the business of the golfers to master each problem of roll and pace in their approaches and puts.

The Hon. C. FRANCIS MURPHY declares that the Hon. P. J. RYDER shall be the Tammany leader of the new Fifth Assembly district. The Hon. TIMOTHY D. SULLIVAN swears by all the gods that the honor must go to the Hon. CHARLES W. CULKIN. Mr. MURPHY says the law committee is for Mr. RYDER. Mr. SULLIVAN announces he has $100,000 that favors Mr. CULKIN. Law committee against bank roll; RYDER against CULKIN; a spirited contest is promised. There will be no drought in the Fifth this summer.

Nowhere have the people appeared to me so unfortunate, so thoroughly enslaved to life as in New York. And, furthermore, nowhere have I seen them so tragi-comically self-satisfied.—*A visitor from abroad who did not "catch on."*

Sad is their case. So busy are they enjoying themselves that they have no time to lament the awfulness of their fate. Something should be done to awaken the unhappy people of this community to the horrors of the conditions of peace and plenty under which they struggle along.

Another conservative, Mr. M. E. INGALLS of Cincinnati, advocates the nomination of Mr. BRYAN for the Presidency because he is "a man of destiny." A vague term: it may mean three times and out. "He has broadened and deepened since ten years ago," says Mr. INGALLS. Nevertheless, we have Mr. BRYAN's word for it that he is more radical than ever.

The Social Democrats in Germany must feel like voting a resolution of thanks to Dr. STUDT, Prussian Minister of Education, for issuing an order directing that permission to teach gymnastics be refused to Social Democrats, on the ground that they are morally unfit to teach the young anything. That, of course, is the view of the German Emperor, whose divine right to rule is denied by the Social Democrats. But as they make good material for the army, it is bad policy to interfere with their physical development. Dr. STUDT has betrayed an excess of zeal for which his royal master should rebuke him.

Bridge Congestion.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Relieving the congestion at the Brooklyn Bridge is of the first importance, still there is "nothin' doin'," and we are no nearer relief than we were five or more years ago. There being but one station to take on passengers, there is concentration, and wherever there is concentration congestion is inevitable.

Extend the bridge elevated railroad and platform to Chambers street, where the terminal of the Third avenue elevated should be. We then can have three stations and longer trains to transport passengers over the bridge in a given time, and there will be neither concentration nor congestion. The cost will be a bagatelle in comparison to that of the plans which have been ventilated through the press.

Car tracks should have no place in front of the bridge, where thousands are crossing daily. Chambers street also should be the terminal of the trolleys. When the *Staats-Zeitung* building and that unsightly wooden bridge are eliminated we can have a large plaza, where it is needed more than in any other place in the city.

That locality is and always will be the centre of municipal affairs, subway stations, trolley cars, &c. The traffic over the bridge is constantly increasing, and this alteration is a necessity, even with a completed Manhattan Bridge. It also would beautify a sore spot in our city. F. T.

SEA CLIFF, July 14.

A Woman on Woman's "Inferiority."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* It has now come to be recognized among feminists that marriage was and is the basic cause of woman's inferiority.

Men and women through contact come to realize more acutely the inequality between them. The man cannot endure close and incessant contact with an inferior, nor can the woman endure life association with a superior. This revulsion of man against marriage may be seen in the statistics of all civilized countries.

In this manner is coming the dissolution of marriage through disuse, and in consequence the first and only real growth of woman. F. M.

NEW YORK, July 14.

Right Hard Luck.

From the Jefferson (N. C.) Recorder.

Mr. A. S. Eller happened to a right painful accident with a cornsheller, getting his finger right badly torn and mutilated.

What It Might Do.

Smith—Can your summer hotel accommodate any more guests?

Jones—Yes, it might accommodate the people who are already in it.

DUMA AND AUTOCRAT.

How the Russian Parliament Declared Its Attitude.

ST. PETERSBURG, June 29.—On May 26 the attitude of Russia's young parliament toward the existing Government was definitely and irrevocably established as one of defiant, arrogant and irreconcilable opposition, right or wrong, on principle. On that day the Premier, Goremykin, made his first appearance on the ministerial benches, to answer the Duma's address in reply to the speech from the throne. He spoke to an audience already irritated by a slight which might have been spared them, viz., the sovereign's refusal to receive the address personally from a delegation headed by the Speaker. It was a pity. Not really in itself an important detail, but sure to be magnified into a premeditated insult, and anyhow not calculated to conciliate.

The Premier's discourse was unfortunate. Not hostile, not discourteous, but decidedly unsympathetic, frigid, and, worst of all, superciliously didactic in tone. Promising much, but in the well known vague, equivocal, true bureaucratic style, and far wide of the demands expressed in the address. Thus, alluding to the land distribution mapped out by the Duma, the Minister declared roundly: "What you propose is absolutely inadmissible." The result was, after a tempestuous debate, a "vote of distrust," which made all joint work impossible and has brought the activity of both wheels of the Government machinery to the present condition of standstill. What tragic results can be expected if this lasts was shown in the sitting of June 25, when the Minister of the Interior arose to answer a series of interpellations concerning the measures taken or contemplated in view of the failure of a good third of last year's crops, and the impending failure along the Volga from droughts and over vast regions in the south and some portions of the north from phenomenal rains and hail. In some places cattle have been killed by the hail, the size of small cobble stones.

Minister Stolypin himself is an honest and well meaning man, too new on his post to be personally either credited or debited with much of what is going on in his department, but who is in the disagreeable position of having to answer for the misdeeds of his predecessors. He always expresses himself with great moderation and fairness even to a certain timidity, and began by admitting that in the former famine campaigns "there had been much deplorable mismanagement and considerable abuse of every kind," but he assured the Duma that, at present, everything was being done to secure prompt and efficient help, for which generous appropriation would be made and presented to the Duma for its sanction within the week. Up rushed Aladin, the young and irrepressible leader of the Radical-Labor group, and hurled at the Minister one of his furibund speeches, in which abuse, invective and general denunciation fell thick and brutal as blindly dealt hammer strokes, scarcely touching on the matter in hand till just toward the end, when he said that the people's representatives were not going to give to the Ministers another convenient chance to rob the people, but would take the matter in their own hands, and so on to the eloquent finish:

"That we should give them one copeck to handle, after we have publicly declared here that we distrust them? I hardly think we would! [Cries of 'Sure! Sure!' and applause]. Whether the question concerns famine or whether any other question is raised, we have one and the same answer ready for the Ministers: 'When will you at last find in yourselves enough decency, enough honorable feeling, to take yourselves off from these benches?'" [Applause and cries of "Down! Down with them!"]

The Minister, with really admirable civic courage, once more ascended the tribune and attempted calmly to add some remarks entirely to the point, ignoring Aladin's unseemly attack—tried, when the tumult broke out afresh, to raise his voice so as to be heard above the din of shrieking voices, but was actually hooted down. The cries of "Enough! Down, down! Organiser of massacres! Out of here!" grew into a thunder that filled the hall. Not till then did the Speaker, who on ordinary occasions is very prompt with reproof and instruction, at last bethink himself of ringing his bell, and calling the maniacs to order, mildly remarking: "Gentlemen, we must let everybody speak with entire freedom from this tribune."

It is perfectly clear that no measure proposed by this Cabinet will even be considered, that no appropriation they ask for will be granted; equally clear that nothing the Duma may propose will or can be accepted by the executive power, as represented by the present Cabinet. All the same the latter will bring in their bill; the Duma appoints a commission for the same purpose; the result will be a deadlock. And the end of it all? In definite delay in a matter of the most immediate urgency: feeding a few million hungry mouths and providing seed for a few million hungry acres. Is not this, as I said, a tragedy?

I have dwelt with some detail on this latest encounter between the Duma and the Cabinet, because it is a faithful sample of what happens every time a member of the Government appears within these walls, generally summoned by the Duma itself, to answer interpellations, and to be continually interrupted by cries of "Enough!" "Down!" "Resign!" "Out of here!" "Assassins!" and finally to be hooted out of the hall. Thus that first rash, impulsive act, recording a vote of distrust, which bound the Cabinet to no particular course, since it is not by law responsible before anybody but the sovereign, has led the Duma to this monstrous contradiction: being forced to have continual dealings with a Government which to them is non-existing.

The Duma does not mind contradictions or inconsistencies. In the very first days of its existence it was guilty of one contradiction which will brand our first parliament with a stain before the world and before history, and no fallacy of party sophistry will avail to exonerate it. In their address to the throne, you will remember, one of the most emphatic demands was that of the immediate and unconditional abolition of the death penalty. When the debates reached this point of the address the leaders of the moderates (Octoberists), Count Heyden and Stakhôvitch, proposed an amendment adding to that demand a denunciation of the murderous methods pursued by the terrorist revolutionists (throwing of bombs, assassinations of officials, killing of policemen at their posts or anywhere at all, and the like), together with the earnest hope that such outrages against humanity would cease, now there was no longer the excuse of necessity for them, since the assembled representatives of the nation were there to restore order and resist abuses of power. Stakhôvitch delivered in support of the amendment a memorable speech, eloquent with true feeling, so convincing in its appeal to both reason and heart that at one moment even the members of the extreme Left were carried away, and the orator descended from the tribune to unanimous applause. And there is no doubt that had the Duma at this starting point of its saving mission enfolded in one solemn condemnation legal and illegal capital punishment, "murder from above" and "murder from below," there would have been a cessation of the terrorist horror, for the country at that moment looked to its long prayed for first parliament with hopeful adoration and would have thought it little short of sacrilege to disobey its behests. And if the Government then had persisted in inflicting death as a punishment it would have put itself glaringly in the wrong. But the moment passed. The radical Left recovered from the emotional thrill caused by Stakhôvitch's appeal and fell on the amendment with tooth and claw. The Constitutional Democratic majority (Cadets), composed on the whole of sincere and upright men, many of them men of standing and education, some even eminent in science or social rank, might have carried it, if only by numbers, as they certainly approved it in their inmost conscience; but their courage failed them. Party considerations made it undesirable to excite the displeasure of the radicals, and so party discipline and timidity won the day. The Cadet majority not only unanimously voted down the amendment, but one of their principal leaders, Roditchef, to his everlasting shame, attacked it with an array of abominable sophistries and hollow sentiment. When the entire address was put to the vote Count Heyden and Stakhôvitch left the hall.

The newborn Duma, on that day, by its first act of authority condemned to death an untold number of innocent men, women and children—men, like the policeman at his post or the officer sent to a house with a search warrant, whose only crime is doing their duty; women and children, guilty of being out in the streets about their business. For on such an occasion silence from the highest elected moral authority in the land meant more than consent—it meant sanction. And from that day the killing went on with redoubled vigor. In Sevastopol it was absolute slaughter. The bomb that was meant for the Commandant (who escaped unhurt) was hurled into the middle of a crowd coming out of church. It killed eight on the spot (among them a schoolboy of 11, a schoolgirl of 15 and some little children), and some who died next day, and wounded and maimed no less than a hundred persons. The moment news reached the Duma a message was indited to the Cabinet expressing a "hope"—in terms much more like an order—that the perpetrators would not be judged by martial law and would in no case be condemned to death. Not one word of blame for the deed or even of sympathy for the victims. The same silence in the so-called "progressive" press.

From that day the Duma has been sliding fast and faster down the same dangerous declivity; its general attitude has been growing daily more outrageous. The Cadets have not the moral courage to resist; they let themselve drift with the "Left" tide, but that will not carry them safely long, for the Labor group, headed by Aladin and his worthy compeers, Anikin and Jilkin, have received reenforcement, which makes them feel very independent. I mean the members from Siberia and the Caucasus and other remote parts, who are still arriving, about seventy of them, Social Democrats and Revolutionists to a man. The general tone of the debates has rapidly deteriorated, until this parliament of ours is far more like a revolutionary club than a dignified legislating body. The radicals get more and more of their own way, for the simple reason that it is not possible to reason with them. They are, after all, men of sense and clear insight, whose voice should have the weight of knowledge and well earned authority; but, if they undertake in the mildest, most respectful terms to show this or that fact, this or that view or proposition in a different light to clear up some mistake, some fallacy or some direct (possibly unintentional) untruth—in a word, to enlighten their ignorant or prejudiced or misinformed fellow members, equipped with the most convincing figures and logical argument—the honorable members drown their voices by coughing, stamping, shouting "Enough! Down!" or else walk out of the hall in a body. And if, at least, there were the least spark of spontaneity, of originality in all these endless speeches which have filled these first six weeks of the Duma's existence! But, no! Nothing but an eternal chewing and rechewing of the same old socialistic cud.

At one thing they are great—invective, and vague but violent denunciation. Another great trick of the belligerents is threatening. They are always ready with such phrases as: "We have the street at our back! A hundred millions are ready to support us." "We have but to raise a hand, and the peasantry will rise and carry all before them. They are just waiting for a sign. The country won't stand it much longer." Especially not, if the radical members keep on sending home incendiary letters with every mail. It looks as though they made it their object not to pacify and keep in check the popular passions, but to inflame them.

This strange policy culminated in a sort of circular, or manifesto, an official document, signed by fourteen members of the labor group in their capacity as such, and distributed broadcast over the country. The writers begin by declaring that the Duma is unable to help the people, "because the autocratic Government has refused to do anything for them" (which is untrue, for it is working hard, if in its own peculiar, inefficient way). "It is absolutely necessary," they say further on, "to strive for the convocation of a 'Constituent Assembly.'" Sweepingly, they denounce as public enemies the nobles, the officials of all grades, the high clergy, who "hold in bondage and abasement the peasants and the working class." They call on their fellow laborers to "unite and muster their forces," but do not set any fixed time for rising: indeed they advise them to be prudent and "not to cause any proletarian blood to be shed unnecessarily." We are left to infer that non-proletarian blood is an inferior liquid of vastly minor importance. Surely such a document may justly come under the head of "inciting one part of the population against the other," and "inciting to armed revolt," which are crimes punishable by law.

The peasant members are disappointing. That they would be interested in nothing but "land" was to be expected, but we had hoped at least to hear from them some genuine, pithy talk on the subject nearest their hearts and their own peculiar grievances. Instead of that, they hardly speak at all, but leave the talking to their mouthpieces, smart half educated fellows like the village schoolmaster, Anikin, and the rural clerk, Filkin, whose learning does not go beyond the brief handbooks of socialism, which they have committed to memory, and Aladin, who might know better, but for whom university and foreign travel do not seen to have done much more. Altogether, the hundreds of speeches which are all that the Duma, so far, has to show for its six weeks work, can, with a few exceptions, serve as a deplorable illustration of the danger of a little learning.

Another disappointing—indeed, alarming—feature is that the Constitutional Democrats are losing ground. The radical Left, swelling in numbers and arrogance, is more and more assuming a censorious (at times almost threatening) attitude toward them. This is particularly emphasized in the so-called progressive (in reality revolutionary) press, among which the Labor group and other radical factions have their special organs, which accuse the Constitutional Democrats of being slow, backward, and, worst of all, willing to compromise, to come to terms with the Government and join hands with it for common work, forgetting that that is the very object for which the Duma exists at all, the one desirable thing that might even yet save the country. But it is becoming too evident that saving the country is not the prime object with these men, but carrying out their own ideas, though the country should perish in the process; for the dominant, the key, note is not love of country, of humanity, but hatred—not of oppression and injustice in themselves, for give them a chance and they would be the most ruthless oppressors, but of the classes whom property and education place in a position of power.

I am convinced that a solution of the agrarian problem that did full justice to the real needs and reasonable demands of the rural population, but stopped short of compulsory expropriation, in many cases without compensation, as is now openly advocated in the Duma by Aladin, will never satisfy this faction, while they would welcome enthusiastically a brutally expropriating law, even if it did not do justice to rustic interests. Now, whatever the accusations openly advanced against the Constitutional Democrats, their real, their one and unpardonable crime is that they belong to this class—are gentlemen, *Gospoda*.

Two names out of the great French Revolution haunt me more and more ominously, more and more persistently: "Les Girondins" and "La Montagne." It will never come to that—I mean to wholesale, legalized murder, with mock trials—but there is much of the same kind of *sans culotte* feeling, and it would be disastrous if the Constitutional Democrats should perish politically, though with their natural heads on their shoulders. All the destructive elements would then be let loose and there would not even be, as a check and last resort, the great preservative which, at the eleventh hour, saved France—love of country. For has it not been declared from this very tribune, in full parliament, that "patriotism is a disgusting word!" (Otvratitelnoye). And no voice was raised in protest, for the Constitutional Democrats' besetting sin in the face of their colleagues covertly threatening them with boycott is timidity.

However, hope dies hard. And just these last days some signs of better things have begun to appear. In the first place, there are symptoms of a strengthening of the (Octoberist) Centre around the towering figure of Count Heyden. Of Dutch extraction, with shaved upper lip and long, gray goatee, he looks exactly like a gentleman farmer of Dutchess county, and I believe he has some of the upright stubbornness one admires in Mr. Roosevelt. Calm and impassive, he speaks his mind undisturbed by interruptions, angry cries or sneers. He will form a good, firm core for a party to cling round; and if a Centre does organize it will surely draw to itself the entire right wing of the Cadets, which is growing in numbers as the spectre of anarchy looms nearer and more threatening. On the other hand, there seems to be an incipient disposition on the Government's part to come to an understanding. A mixed Cabinet judiciously selected looks less of an impossibility than it did a week or ten days ago. Both sides feel the need of mutual support, and some such compromise must be arrived at if real work is to be done at last. The talking stage is coming to an end. The Duma itself is getting tired of it, and many orators withdraw their names.

The army is not yet demoralized as a whole, but the work of undermining and disintegration is progressing actively and rapidly, with partial outbreaks now here, now there. Many among the Cossacks themselves are getting tired of doing police work, of being hated and cursed. With every batch of young recruits coming up from the country, the danger increases; for with them the work of intoxication has been done at home and the barrack agitator will have an easy task. There is still in the army a considerable leave of uncorrupted prerevolutionary soldiery, but in three years from now nothing will be left of this saving leaven. It is absolutely necessary that something have been, not merely planned, but accomplished to conciliate and pacify the masses before that time.

Therefore, let us hope that Cadets and Octoberists may combine to form a sensible majority in the Duma, and be met half way by a sensible Cabinet. In the meantime, the Duma, it seems, will stay on all summer taking no vacation, and that is well, for, after all its presence here is a safeguard.

There is a brief telegram in this morning's papers which seems to me more significant than it looks at first sight. The peasant neighbors of a large estate in a southern government have refused to hire out for harvest work unless the work is all done by hand. The owner had no choice but to consent and leave the machines in their sheds. Z. R.

Progress in the Philippine Public Schools.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In the reports of the Philippine Commission for 1904-05 the Governor of Albay says the public schools are in a flourishing condition. English is very thoroughly disseminated. In less than five years since its introduction the children who have learned to speak it outnumber the grown people among the lower class in the same territory who speak Spanish.

The Governor of Bataan province reports the want of American and Filipino teachers to supply the demand for educational facilities in the pueblos of the province.

The Governor of Batangas province reports the completion of the grand building for the provincial school in the middle of a seven acre lot. The surrounding land will be used for agricultural experiments and a trade school. More than 13,000 scholars are in the different public schools.

The Governor of Bohol reports a daily average school attendance of 15,592 out of a population of 269,223, and the people are convinced of the necessity of building more school houses, because of the eagerness felt by the youth of the island for education.

The Governor of Cagayan reports that there is no doubt whatever of the enthusiasm for education that has been in evidence since the establishment of civil government. It has not flagged for an instant. A large number of new school houses are under construction. L. B. MERRIAM.

SUFFIELD, Conn., July 14.

Nature Cure for Alcoholism.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Hereafter "alcoholics" are to get the grace of but one sojourn and course of treatment in Bellevue Hospital. Thereafter if they apply for admission they are to be arrested as misdemeanants. Even so, it may be doubted whether they will be worse off for missing the hospitality of Bellevue's deservedly famous alcoholic ward.

Why not handle these cases sensibly, give the open air nature treatment on one of the city's islands for a month or six weeks, until the body and the brain cells are restored to their normal condition?

There is no other good remedy for alcoholism. It is thoughtless to flout the nature cure for alcoholism on the ground of cost; for with the pavilion system in winter and tents in summer, with a bath and two rough, coarse, strong rations daily, the results are bound to be beneficial. Some medicine would, of course, be required preliminary to the nature treatment.

If exposure to crude nature can cure consumption and regenerate and restore many organs, as it does in some other diseases, why not try it for alcoholism? That the nature cure still languishes in a timid experimental stage is a reflection on intelligence and proves that much so-called science is arrant humbug. AMON JENKINS, M. D.

NEW YORK, July 14.

Questions for "A Heretic."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* A few further words with "A Heretic." He rejects prophecy (Isaiah vii., 14) and also the statement in Luke i., 26-38, concerning the virgin birth. In Matthew xvi., 17, Christ commends Peter for his statement that Jesus was "the Son of the living God." It is, of course, "A Heretic's" privilege to ignore these things, as it is mine to believe them.

I should have thought my belief "that a man could serve God in or outside of any Church" might have been broad enough to please him, and I should think that almost everybody agrees that we may work together for all good, even with those who do not see just as we do.

"A Heretic" does not mention my second point in his last letter, and I call his attention to it. In his first letter "A Heretic" calls Dr. Crapsey "noble." Whether "A Heretic" likes it or not, the churches have formulated creeds. Is it too much to ask a reasonable adherence to the few basic doctrines of Christianity from the men who want to preach in Christian churches? And will "A Heretic" explain just why a clergyman is "noble" for denying the resurrection of Christ while trying to keep his place in an Episcopal pulpit?

BROOKLYN, July 14. FRANK BOULTER.

One Chipmunk That Climbed.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In *Forest and Stream* of February 10 is an article on weasels in which this incident is recorded:

"I knew of a weasel chasing a chipmunk up a tree; the weasel was so close that the chipmunk ran out on a limb and dropped and dodged into a stone wall; but the weasel dropped also, and a squeak in the wall the next moment ended the story without the word finis."

Evidently the chipmunk in case of need and when put upon his mettle can become both arboreal and saltatorial. The genus to which he belongs is intermediate between the tree squirrels and the spermophiles of the Western States and the susliks of Asiatic Russia, both of which are burrowers.

PHILADELPHIA, July 14. HAVERFORD.

For Hot Weather Tipplers.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* A letter in THE SUN of Sunday signed "Tropics" calls attention to a drink that I have found in universal use as a thirst quencher in all the countries to the south of us and in southern Europe. Martini vermouth, ice and a stream of clear, sparkling soda or seltzer are all the ingredients necessary and generally used.

The delicate aromatic flavor of the vermouth is, to my mind, somewhat impaired by adding lemon, but of course tastes differ. This is a simple and wholesome beverage which has only to be tried to be adopted; and I am surprised that New Yorkers, always quick to borrow the best of everything from everywhere, have not long ago "got on to it."

BOSTON, July 13. THE DOCTOR.

Country Silence.

There's silence in the country—m'yes!
I guess,
When bullfrogs snore and bullocks roar
No more,
When horses never neigh, nor asses bray,
When cats don't caterwaul, mill streams don't fall,
Dogs do not bark, and katydids don't spark,
Or crickets chirp, the country will
Be still!

When guinea hens cease their senseless call,
And all
The flies are dead, maybe your head
In bed
You'll rest with perfect ease, no crows on trees,
No cattle's low, no rooster's early crow,
No bleating lambs, no answ'ring baaing dams—
You'll be, in the absence of that riot,
Quiet.

LA TOUCHE HANCOCK.

CHOCOLATE.

Tremendous Increase in Production and Manufacture Since 1876.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The article in Wednesday's SUN headed "For the Sweet Tooth" makes the world's crop of cocoa about 150,000 tons, of which the United States takes more than one-fifth. From the statistics compiled by Hogins & Lee, authorities on the subject, it will be seen that the United States consumed in 1905 458,171 bags, or more than 30 per cent. of the world's entire crop, according to the article in question.

The increase in consumption of cocoa and chocolate in the United States has more than doubled since 1900. This gratifying increase is left in the shade when compared with the increase since the centennial year. In 1876 the sales of raw cocoa for manufacture and consumption in the United States were only 21,237 bags, or 2,123 tons. The sales for manufacture and consumption in 1905 were 46,000 tons, an increase in thirty years of almost exactly 2,000 per cent.

Less than eight years ago the United States held only fifth place as manufacturer of cocoa and chocolate, England, Germany, Holland and France taking precedence in about the order named. To-day we hold first place, both as manufacturers and consumers of cocoa and chocolate, by a comfortable margin, and are increasing our lead by leaps and bounds.

In the article before alluded to, St. Thomas (presumably Danish West Indies) is given third place as a cocoa producer. St. Thomas grows no cocoa, or certainly not in appreciable quantities. St. Thomas, Danish West Indies, is evidently confounded with the island of St. Thomas, off the coast of Africa, fast becoming the leading producer of cocoa in all the world. Within the next five years that island will in all probability have wrested from Ecuador the first place in the quantity of cocoa grown, but not in quality. Ecuadorean cocoa, "Superior Red Summer Arriba," has no equal in flavor or aroma, especially for the manufacture of cocoa powder for drinking. NOAH PALMER, President Knickerbocker Chocolate Co.

NEW YORK, July 13.

American Trade With China.

From the Commercial Orient in 1905.

China holds first rank among the oriental countries as a consumer of American products. Her total commerce in 1905 was $492,000,000, of which $326,000,000 was imports and $166,000,000 exports. The imports direct from the United States, including Hawaii, were, in 1905, $56,000,000 in value, and the exports direct to the United States $19,750,000. These figures of imports from and exports to the United States do not include the American merchandise imported from Hongkong, or the Chinese merchandise exported to Hongkong and sent thence to the United States. As the official reports of the United States show exports to Hongkong in 1905 amounting to $8,000,000 and imports from Hongkong amounting to over $1,500,000, it may be assumed that about $64,000,000 worth of American merchandise entered China in 1905, and about $21,000,000 worth of the products of China entered the United States in that year. This would indicate that the United States supplied practically 20 per cent. of the imports of China in 1905 and took nearly 14 per cent. of her exports. Our exports to China and Hongkong in 1905 were $66,000,000, against $56,000,000 to Japan, $5,750,000 to India, and $5,750,000 to the Philippines. The growth in our exports to China has been rapid, and especially so in recent years, but in no single year has the increase been so great as that in 1905, when our exports to that country were more than double those of any earlier year.

The manufacturers of the United States are apparently making little effort to produce goods to suit the demands of markets where conditions and customs require goods differing from those manufactured for the United States. In the markets of north China, where climatic conditions require a class of goods similar to those which our manufacturers are producing for our home markets, we are doing extremely well, and in fact supplying a very large share of the standard classes of goods, such as drills, sheetings, jeans, &c., and apparently supplying them chiefly from the general stock manufactured for our own market. In the classes of goods which the tropical and subtropical sections of China require, or in which local customs require peculiar widths, lengths, colors, or figures, and for which the goods must be manufactured by processes different from those employed in supplying our home market, we are doing nothing or next to nothing. European manufacturers long ago learned that they could only succeed in markets having peculiar local requirements by manufacturing goods specially to meet these requirements, and their industries have so far outgrown the demands of their home market that they are willing to devote a part of their time and machinery to making the goods in the form required. Until American manufacturers reach the stage that will justify them in devoting a part of their time and machinery to making the special kinds of goods required by local conditions abroad, they can scarcely expect success in attempting to supply any considerable share of the $35,000,000 worth of miscellaneous cottons which Europe and Japan are now supplying to meet the local demands of China.

In Southern China, which has a tropical or subtropical climate, goods of an extremely light weight are required, and local customs in certain sections demand them in dark colors. In the T-cloths, lastings, Italian and prints, local requirements as to widths, lengths of pieces, weights, colors and patterns must be recognized in the manufacture by those who expect success in the local market.

Vanquished Distance.

From the Emporia Gazette.

THE SUN of July 5 got here from New York to-day, July 6, at 1:30. Assuming that it left New York at 2 o'clock in the morning, it came half way across the American continent in thirty-five hours and a half, which certainly is going some. It had to change cars at least at Chicago, if not oftener, and it probably lost half an hour in the process. The Santa Fé train it came on is not a limited train, but a regular passenger train that requires something over nineteen hours between Chicago and Emporia. If the paper had been put on a limited train out of Chicago it would have been here three hours sooner.

These facts are put down here to show how closely we are tied together by the railroads of this country. A man living in the central part of America is only a day and a half from the Atlantic, two days and a half from the Pacific, and a day and a night from the Gulf. He is only a part of a day and a night from the Canadian border. It is a great country, this that we live in; but one of the greatest material things in this country is the wonderful way in which commerce has destroyed great distances!

Virtuous Deadwood.

Deadwood correspondence St. Paul Dispatch.

For the first time in its history there is not a single county prisoner in the Lawrence county jail, and the board bill for county prisoners in June was less than for any month during the last thirty years.

Only a few years ago there were forty-two licensed liquor houses in Deadwood; last July only thirty licenses were issued, and this year the number has fallen to nineteen. The old time wild and woolly Deadwood is a thing of the past, and nothing but tombstones and memory remind one of the days of Deadwood Dick, Calamity Jane, Wild Bill Hickok and the Beauty of Brimstone Bar.

Height of Missouri Effrontery.

From the Osceola Democrat.

A letter mentioning a certain man as good material out of which to make a candidate has been received at this office. We consider it as the quintessence of gall, inasmuch as neither the name of the writer nor that of the party boosted appears on the subscription list of the *Democrat*. We are ready to do our share, and then some, toward the election of the Democratic ticket, but to ask our assistance in boosting for office a man too stingy to take a county newspaper is carrying things to a point where the line has been drawn and all beyond is dead stuff.

New Use for Cocaine.

From the Mobile Register.

In his charge to the Warren county Grand Jury Monday Judge Rush drew attention to the alleged "doping" with cocaine of roustabouts by steamboat mates. The Judge stated that it had come to his ears that the mates carried a supply of the deadly drug, which they gave to the negroes in liberal doses. When stimulated by the drug the rouster's capacity for work is greatly increased, but by the time the trip is ended he is a physical and mental wreck.

Impudent Dog.

From the Lahore Tribune.

A dog had the audacity to bark at the Deputy Commissioner of Purulia in Bengal when he came to the house of the master of the dog on a bike. The owners of the dog were sent up for trial under section 289, and one of them, Karusha, was fined twenty rupees.

True of Most Northern States.

From the Outlook.

It is probably a fair estimate of the political history of Oregon since the beginning of the twentieth century to say that its real significance is in the growth of the number of independent voters.

Awful Waste.

Knicker—The city wastes millions of water.

The Kentucky Colonel—How they do drink it!