The Sun.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 1908.

Entered at the Post Office at New York as Second Class Mail Matter.

Subscriptions by Mail, Postpaid.

DAILY, Per Month	$0 50
DAILY, Per Year	6 00
SUNDAY, Per Year	2 00
DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Year	8 00
DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Month	70

Postage to foreign countries added.

Published by the Sun Printing and Publishing Association at 170 Nassau street, in the Borough of Manhattan, New York. President and Treasurer of the Association, William M. Laffan, 170 Nassau street: Secretary of the Association, Franklin Bartlett, 5 Nassau street.

The daily and Sunday SUN is on sale in London at Murray's Exchange, Trafalgar Buildings, Northumberland avenue; Pall Mall American and Colonial Exchange, Carlton street, Regent street, and Daw's Steamship Agency, 17 Green street, Leicester Square.

Paris office, 32 Rue Louis le Grand. The daily and Sunday editions are on sale at Kiosque 12, near the Grand Hotel; Kiosque 77, Boulevard des Capucines, corner Place de l'Opéra, and Kiosque 19, Boulevard des Italiens, corner Rue Louis le Grand.

If our friends who favor us with manuscripts for publication wish to have rejected articles returned they must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

No Backward Step!

From President Roosevelt's annual message of 1908.

Whenever either corporation, *labor union* or individual disregards the law or acts in a spirit of arbitrary and tyrannous interference with the rights of others, whether corporations or individuals, then where the Federal Government has jurisdiction it will see to it that the misconduct is stopped, paying not the slightest heed to the position or power of the corporation, *the union* or the individual, but only to one vital fact—that is, the question whether or not the conduct of the individual or aggregate of individuals is in accordance with the law of the land.

Every man must be guaranteed his liberty and his right to do as he likes with his property or his labor, so long as he does not infringe the rights of others. No man is above the law and no man is below it; nor do we ask any man's permission when we require him to obey it. Obedience to the law is demanded as a right, not asked as a favor.

We have cause as a nation to be thankful for the steps that have been so successfully taken to put these principles into effect. The progress has been by evolution, not by revolution. Nothing radical has been done; the action has been both moderate and resolute. Therefore the work will stand. *There shall be no backward step.*

A Little Victory for the Constitution.

The Constitution had a field day in the House of Representatives on Wednesday. Its unwonted triumph has probably escaped notice. The Army Appropriation bill was before the House. A provision to appropriate $200,000 for extending and maintaining the Washington-Alaska military cable and telegraph system, "to be available until expended," was under consideration.

Mr. MANN of Illinois interposed an objection. His ground was that the Constitution of the United States provided that no appropriation for the support of the army should be made for a longer term than two years. The proposed appropriation was to be available "until expended." We quote from the *Congressional Record:*

"Mr. MANN—I have no objection to changing it so that it shall be available through the next fiscal year. This appropriation, I fear, would be unconstitutional and would not be available at all.

"Mr. HULL of Iowa—We have had it in here before, and it has not worked that way.

"Mr. MANN—But the attention of the Comptroller has not been called to the language of the Constitution. The next Administration might read the Constitution. (Laughter.)"

This from a Republican, too; and greeted with laughter! You would have thought that a hundred avenging tongues would have leaped from the thorax.

After a feeble defence by Captain HULL of Iowa and Mr. CRUMPACKER of Indiana of this manner of disregarding the Constitution, that instrument was vindicated, at Mr. MANN'S instance, by an agreement that the appropriation should run only to the end of the fiscal year 1910; but meanwhile one more name had been added to the list of conspirators, reactionaries and undesirables.

A Verdict by Heads or Tails.

Every one will share the righteous indignation which Justice GUY of the Supreme Court expressed when he learned that the jury in a trial before him had reached their determination by tossing up a coin.

The jurors not only frankly admitted that they had arrived at their verdict in this manner but some of them sought to justify their course, saying that a fellow juryman "had $6,000 in his pocket with which he was going to close a deal and he wanted to get away." This was deemed a sufficient reason for resorting to the merest chance to decide whether a railroad ought to pay anything to a mother for killing her child!

The Judge not only set aside the verdict which the jury had rendered in favor of the defendant but fined each of the jurors fifty dollars for contempt of court.

It has long been the law that a resort to lot or chance vitiates a verdict. Sir WILLIAM BLACKSTONE in his Commentaries on the Law of England declares that if jurymen "to prevent disputes, cast lots for whom they shall find," this circumstance is fatal to their determination. Chancellor KENT, when sitting in the old Supreme Court in this city in 1805, of which he was then Chief Justice, said: "If the jury cast lots for whom they shall find it would, no doubt, vitiate the verdict." A quarter of a century later the same court, sitting at Albany, set aside the verdict in an action for slander because "it was manifestly the result of a lottery and not of the deliberations of the jury." There the jurors after ineffectual attempts to arrive at a verdict agreed to leave it to lot whether they should decide in favor of the plaintiffs or the defendants. For this purpose they placed in a hat a number of ballots, some blank and others marked "prize"; if more prizes than blanks were drawn the plaintiffs were to prevail; otherwise the defendants. The result was favorable to the defendants. The jurors were then warned by the constable who had them in charge that their procedure was probably unlawful and might get them into trouble; whereupon they agreed to ignore the lottery and render a verdict for the defendants without regard to what had been done. The court, however, held that this subsequent action on their part did not suffice to make the verdict good.

The general rule as to the misconduct of jurors in violation of their duties as such is that it subjects them to punishment as for contempt of court. In many of the States, however, there are now express statutory definitions of those acts which constitute contempt, and resort must be had to their statutes to ascertain whether any particular misconduct is punishable as a contempt or not.

In New York criminal contempts are defined in section 8 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, and contempts punishable civilly are defined in section 14 of the same general statute. Subdivision 1 of the latter section empowers a court of record to punish by fine and imprisonment or either "an attorney, counsellor, clerk, sheriff, coroner or other person in any manner duly selected or appointed to perform a judicial or ministerial service, for a misbehavior in his office or trust or for a wilful neglect or violation of duty therein."

The surprising feature of this case is that twelve men can be found in this community, possessing the statutory qualifications for jury service, who do not know that it is a monstrous wrong to decide a case by lot.

Before the Senate Committee.

Admiral CONVERSE is one of the most versatile and accomplished naval officers we have. He is not only a highly equipped line officer, he is also a constructor of vessels and of steam machinery. Moreover, he is no jack of all trades and good at none. He is an excellent shipbuilder and engineer, and in either position would add vastly to his already sufficient renown.

Perhaps it was on account of all these brilliant attainments that the Senate Committee on Naval Affairs allowed certain of his statements to pass unchallenged—such, for instance, as the statement that the armor belt on our warships loaded for a long voyage reaches eleven inches above the water line, and the additional statement that in these days of wireless telegraphy the fleet would have four or five days advance notice of an engagement. Emanating from a gentleman of less authority, such assertions might well have led to inquiry. Coming from Admiral CONVERSE, they seem to have passed unnoticed. Even Senators HALE and PERKINS found nothing to excite their curiosity. They actually apologized to Admiral CONVERSE for extorting him from the august cloister of the Navy Department and subjecting him to an inquisition so untimely and so frivolous. Whereupon, CONVERSE passed out with wreathed smiles and friendly beckonings.

But, supposing all this to be true, what benefit do our ships derive? Say that the belt is eleven inches above the water line, what of it? The wash of a ship in motion, even at ten knots an hour, ought to be more than that, and in a rough sea much more. The armor is disclosed, again it is submerged. We do not subscribe to the accuracy of Admiral CONVERSE'S proposition except to admit that he has made the most of it. What we say is that the criticisms have not been seriously disturbed. The armor belts on all the ships at present in commission are set too low.

Admiral CONVERSE also intimates that all these disqualifications can be removed. He tells us that in these days of wireless telegraphy we shall have four or five days notice of an engagement. Does this mean that we shall be enabled to lighten ship and elevate the armor belt above the water line? If so, how?

Certainly the enemy will not let us know of their proximity; and if they don't, who will? And even if we hear of it at San Francisco or Puget Sound, what then? A ship can be coaled in a little while, but when it comes to taking out the coal, that is a matter of days. And the stores! They don't weigh much and their removal would probably not raise the ship an inch. But maybe Admiral CONVERSE didn't mean this at all. If not, what did he mean?

Meanwhile the question is still open, at least to the general public. If Congress had not wished to impress outsiders the so-called investigations would not have been held. If Congress does intend to enlighten us the inquiry has not gone far enough or in the right direction.

The Pan-Anglican Congress.

On June 15 a Pan-Anglican congress will assemble in Albert Hall, London, and will last a week. It will be the first congress representing the whole Anglican communion which has been convoked since 1897. The dioceses that are expected to send spokesmen will number no fewer than 250, comprising not only those belonging to the British Isles but twenty-seven in Australia and New Zealand, twenty-four in India and the rest of Asia, twenty-three in Canada, eighteen in Africa, eight in the West Indies and South America and one in Gibraltar. Also included are the ninety-one dioceses of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States. We add that each diocese outside of the United Kingdom will be permitted to name six delegates.

When we think of it, these figures bear witness to an astonishing expansion of a form of the Christian religion which so far as it is differentiated from the Roman Catholic is considerably less than four hundred years old. As late, indeed, as the accession of ELIZABETH to the English throne there is reason to believe that in England itself the Catholics outnumbered the Protestants, and on the death of that Queen some forty years afterward Anglicanism had made no progress at all in Scotland and next to none in Ireland. The seventeenth century had begun before a single Anglican parish had been organized outside of the British Isles. So far as the English colonies on the North American mainland were concerned, the Anglican communion found it hard to root itself except in the Old Dominion, and until near the close of the century last named it was barred out of Massachusetts. It certainly is a proof of remarkable vitality that the dioceses belonging to the Church of England or in communion with that ecclesiastical body should now number 159 in the British Empire, including the British Isles, and ninety-one in the American Republic, the great daughter State of Britain. By far the greater part of this extraordinary growth has taken place within a century. To-day, curiously enough, the only section of the world in which the Anglican communion has distinctly lost ground is one of the British Isles themselves, namely, Ireland, where since the Anglican Church was disestablished by Mr. GLADSTONE forty years ago its influence has declined materially.

What subjects will be discussed in a gathering wherein there will be spokesmen not only of the Church of England, as defined by law, but also of the whole Anglican communion, composed of corporate bodies scattered all over the globe? Obviously the topics must be of ecumenical and not local or even national interest. For the purpose of fruitful deliberation the great assembly will be divided into sections, to each of which will be referred a special theme. One section, for example, will consider the relation of the Christian Church to human society, and special attention will be given to industrial problems and to such matters as marriage and divorce. By another section the relation of the Christian Church to human thought will be examined. Still other sections will discuss the scope, functions and aims of the Church's ministers and of the Church's missions in Christian and non-Christian lands. To the sixth and last section is allotted a subject of extraordinary comprehensiveness, namely, the Anglican communion, a subject which involves an inquiry into the nature and limits of the relation of the Church of England as it exists in England and Wales to the colonial and American Protestant Episcopal churches. Many of these questions are of great practical as well as theoretical importance not only to Episcopalians but to believers in other forms of Christianity.

Those who have convoked this Pan-Anglican congress believe it to be the mission of the Church of England to carry its conceptions and teachings not only throughout the British Empire but over the whole world. To what extent she has already succeeded or has some prospect of succeeding in the fulfilment of that mission we shall be better able to estimate when the congress shall have done its work.

A Yearning Cry From Idaho.

All the literature of Genius is curious, and not the least curious of its secondary documents is the monthly magazine published in Kendrick, Idaho, called *The Roosevelt Prevailer*. The second number is on deck. It is dated February 14, and is a whimsical valentine enough. Its motto is: "We must have ROOSEVELT four years more to keep us from disaster." There is a bitterness of waggery about that which suggests our Corsican friend from Maryland. Moreover, the name *Prevailer* calls to mind the stale Latin saying of "Great is Truth and She Shall Prevail"; and we know that Genius and Truth are one and inseparable. But now the "slogan" is heard: Quod Coepisti Conficti [sic], which is translated, "Finish what you began." On another page "Conficti" appears as "Conficiti." Surely this scratching of PRISCIAN comes from that incorrigible grave jester the Hon. "JACK" BOURNE of Oregon.

Behold the Idaho enthusiast or joker, wrestling to prevail:

"The will of the people is paramount, and Mr. ROOSEVELT will recognize it if you do your duty and let him KNOW what your wish is. Send him a set of the Roosevelt postal cards, and see that your friends do the same.

"The President's message is the greatest that ever was issued from the White House, every body should read it, and then read it again."

The voice of the people is the voice of GOD, quotes the *Prevailer* frequently; so send in the postal cards; "in heaven's name tell" the protector of "the rights of man" that he "has not yet had sufficient time to do all that is needed." And let us never forget that, in the words of the poet, Mr. ROOSEVELT is

"Pledged but to truth, to liberty and law
No favors sways him, no fears does he awe."

Who is this divine poet laureate? It is a poetess who hymns in choral consonancy with him and teeming millions this deathless lay:

"TEDDY, are you ready, to heed the Nation's call?
Presidents and customs, traditions one and all
Count for naught when matters of importance are at stake,
The people wrapped in plenty, were asleep but now awake
There's enough for every body and there's always some to spare
But the Trusts will surely rob us, they will never treat us fair,
Are you ready to assure us four years more full dinner pail?
Providence has sent a leader, who will make the tyrants quail.

CHORUS.

"TEDDY, TEDDY, you're all right,
The eyes of the world are on you
Force a square deal, win the fight,
We'll do all we can for you.
TEDDY, TEDDY will you come?
Come at the people's call
Finish what you have begun
They're calling one and all.

"We say to your face, you're the man for the place
You favor no party or clan,
You're one of the boys, America's Choice
The friend of the honest man,
In strenuous life, in peace and in strife
To north and to south you are fair
You cannot refuse so what is the use
We'll sing you into the Chair."

What a glorious melody. Will Brother TAFT lead in the singing?

The following amusing commendation of the tactics employed by a British expeditionary force in a frontier war against certain tribesmen in northern India appears in a despatch from London:

"Tommy Atkins is profiting by the lessons learned from the Russo-Japanese war, and he is being taught to follow the tactics used by the American army in its Indian campaigns and in fighting in the Philippines. The British troops advanced into the enemy's country in open order with wide intervals between them. The men took advantage of all available cover. When they came in contact with the enemy they won their ground by short rushes."

Nonsense! Tommy Atkins learned the game well, if slowly and at bitter cost, some years before the Russo-Japanese conflict, and the dismounted Boers were his teachers. Lord KITCHENER, the present commander in chief in India, served under Lord ROBERTS in the advance on Pretoria and finished the war by fighting the Boer commanders in their own style. General KITCHENER may not be a military genius of the first order, but he profits by experience.

Kentucky has a Republican Governor, and the Hon. WILLIAM O'CONNELL BRADLEY, its first Republican Governor, is elected a Senator in Congress. As the Hon. J. C. W. BECKHAM reflects upon these things and Kentucky politics since the beginning of the Goebel-Beckham epoch it might occur to him, but probably it won't, that a little fair play is judicious even in politics.

If I controlled 500 newspapers I would have them as small in size as business conditions admitted, but every line in them would be as nearly a masterpiece of editing and reporting as it was possible to turn out.—Mr. FRANK A. MUNSEY.

Why not begin gently with one little masterpiece as a starter?

For reasons hard to fathom the Hon. JONATHAN PRENTISS DOLLIVER, a Senator in Congress from Iowa, was "the principal speaker" at a dinner of certain members of the Pennsylvania Bankers' Association. Mr. DOLLIVER spoke in his usual statesmanlike vein, and his remarks were not complimentary either to the country or to the Senate:

"I left the Senate to-day when a veteran member was speaking on that subject [currency reform] and four members were on the floor. There is more interest in Senate legislation on child labor than on currency reform and the subject is of vastly more interest to mothers and fathers than the Aldrich currency bill."

Sociology is so much easier than dreary old subjects like banking and currency. BEVERIDGE and all the other children will agree with Mr DOLLIVER.

A great Chicago statesman said to another great Chicago statesman, "JOHN, if I had your cheek I would break into a national bank." "Cheek" is too cold a word to describe a part of the resolutions adopted by the Missouri Republican State convention:

"He [TAFT] represents the Republican principles and policies which for the last decade have made this the greatest and best ruled nation on earth."

The last decade! Thus does Mr. ROOSEVELT appropriate Mr. MCKINLEY.

The President listened with interest and great pleasure to COXEY's ideas on finance.—*Washington despatch.*

COXEY'S ideas have been assimilated. Look out for them in the next message.

Colonel BRYAN is confident that Right and Justice will win at Denver, unless Right and Justice happen to be sold out by Colonel BRYAN'S devoted followers.

The Permanent Undergraduate.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Your article in to-day's SUN immortalizing Billy Kemp, the perennial undergraduate, was of great interest to me; but unless there are two Billy Kemps of precisely similar appearance and tendency your young man has failed to recite fully the career of this greatest patron of America's educational institutions.

There was in 1893 or 1894 a Billy Kemp of rotund form and no longer youthful years residing at the Pagoda, a private dormitory at Cornell, where also foregathered a scion of a famous Philadelphia family who had passed hastily through several educational institutions, Princeton among others, and was seeking temporary refuge "far above Cayuga's waters." Kemp was, if I remember, dallying with a course in agriculture, but beyond matriculating I think I am safe in stating that his fear of finishing the prescribed course in a shorter span than a lifetime prevented his ever attending a single recitation. Instead of the mandolin which you mention, he studiously cultivated the zither; but otherwise his habits of to-day recall forcibly the Kemp of 1893. He and his fellow Princetonian formed the nucleus of a nightly whist game into which were inveigled the other students only temporarily in residence at Cornell.

There was a third jovial, stout, breezy Western individual, who made up the other member of a strange triumvirate, as his specialty was wandering from college to college and university to university, but acquiring actual degrees by dint of native ability, some study and much consumption of liquors.

O. SHAW.

BUFFALO, February 26.

When a Quart Is Not a Quart.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* "C. D. L." is weak in his statements, besides being guilty of poor punning. I think the United States is one of the few countries, if not the only one, where a bottle of wine is called by some people a quart and a half bottle a pint. In Europe the term is bottle and half bottle. People know what that means in wine, as each sort of wine has its peculiar shaped bottle. The purchaser in France is told on inquiry what per cent. of a litre any one kind of wine bottle contains.

A quart is a quart, and no custom of commerce can ever make a quart mean a pint. Any one talking of "opening a quart of wine" is suffering from megalomania. To sell a pint for a quart is a swindle. Unless drawn from the wood it is impossible to buy a quart of foreign wine in this country.

T. C. T.

LYNN, Mass., February 27.

Notes From the Far East.

American capital is sought for the manufacture at Manila of certain Philippine fibres into paper.

Chinese importers at Jolo, Philippine Islands, are doing a larger business each month in the products of various Philippine provinces.

Pawnbrokers in Pekin having refused to reduce their 50 per cent. rate of interest. The Municipal Board has opened official pawnshops, charging only 15 per cent.

Valuable deposits of iron have been discovered in southern Honan, China.

A native Shanghai paper reports that the Pekin syndicate is willing to surrender the mines in Shansi province for a consideration of 7,000,000 taels (about £6,400,000).

American firms have orders from the South Manchuria Railway Company (Japanese) for 206 locomotives, 80 passenger coaches and 2,100 freight cars, to be delivered by August next. The present narrow gauge equipment will be discarded.

China strictly prohibits the holding of mass meetings for political purposes in all parts of the empire.

The Pekin *Gazette*, the oldest newspaper in the world, after an existence of 1,194 years without an editorial page, society column, funny column, market page or sporting extra, is now using its back page for freaks and has started an editorial page.

A railway bank has been opened in Pekin under the direction of Li Chintsa, a son of Li Hung Chang. Its special object is railway finance.

Customs receipts at Zamboanga, Philippine Islands, the first five months of this fiscal year were 20 per cent. more than in the first five months of 1907 fiscal year.

In its 1907 annual report the Hamburg Chamber of Commerce says that German trade in China in that year only improved in a few articles, such as railway material, engines, electrical machinery, cement, artificial indigo and needles. There was a heavy decrease in cotton goods and other articles generally.

Much electrical development is going on in New Zealand. British firms have special agents on the ground.

French India imports about $1,230,000 and exports about $5,000,000. The colony has a population of 275,000, of whom only 1,100 are Europeans.

Mukden, Manchuria, has forty tanneries and a large fur trade, both local and export. Prices are 15 to 20 per cent. lower than a year ago.

Domestic Amenities.

Knicker—I've waited an hour for you to get your hat on straight.

Mrs. Knicker—Well, I've waited longer than that for you to get your feet on straight.

MR. ROOSEVELT ABROAD.

A Situation in Which an Englishman Feels Called On to Defend Us.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Confidence here, as well as on the Continent, in Americans and American enterprises has been terribly shaken. It was much weakened by the insurance scandal, again by the Union Pacific 10 per cent. dividend declaration and other questionable acts by other railway corporations. All this has been much aggravated by the speeches of President Roosevelt, who has not only talked too much, but has not weighed the statements so persistently uttered as to their effect abroad.

As head of the State he cannot speak as an individual, but the full weight of his official position goes with every statement made, so far as European opinion is concerned. Boiling down his speeches and messages for the last two years, public opinion here has become almost universal that the great mass of business men in America are distinctly dishonest in their methods and in every way unreliable, the only representative of honesty in the country being the President himself.

To illustrate the President's pernicious and ill considered talk I will quote from a letter recently received from a distinguished scientist residing in the north of England. He said:

I am obliged to say that here in consequence of the recent revelations in regard to trusts, banks, railways and insurance companies, confidence has been much shaken, and the words uttered by President Roosevelt "that it is now a matter of doubt whether we in America are able to successfully conduct large commercial undertakings, and especially those involving great financial responsibilities, with success, not on account of our want of ability but on account of our lack of a moral basis." I think it will be some time before this feeling passes away.

It must not be forgotten that the Liberal press of England, permeated as it is with free trade theories, delights to quote such expressions of the President and regale the public with editorial comments. Nothing is lost in the operation. Anything that will bolster up free trade dogmas is seized upon. The startling fact that nearly one-third of the population is unemployed and on the verge of starvation makes no impression on the mind of the free traders so long as the whole world may dump its manufactured products on English soil in competition with their own people. In my judgment the President has done far more harm here than those he is fighting have done.

At a public meeting held here a few evenings since the chairman, Lord ——, indulged in a most denunciatory address on Americans and their business methods, quoting the President to substantiate his charges. There was present an English gentleman having large interests in the States and Canada, who listened to the outbreak until Lord —— took his seat. He then arose and said:

"Mr. Chairman, I have listened to your remarks with what patience I could, and you will pardon me for saying that you have exhibited an amazing ignorance of your subject. As an Englishman who has had long experience and large business transactions with Americans during the past twenty-five years, and who has received unvarying kindness and courtesy, I feel it my duty, as it is my pleasure, to state to the gentlemen here present that your denunciation is wholly unjustified and has been made, I am sure, from ignorance of the facts. Speaking, I say, as an Englishman with long experience in American affairs, allow me to say that for broad minded, energetic, far seeing, straightforward and honorable business men, you cannot find their superiors here or elsewhere. You will find scoundrels in America, as you will find them here, but the great mass of business men in America are exactly what I have stated them to be, and it is a great misfortune that gentlemen of your position should make the wild statements I so much regret to have heard you utter. Believe me, they have no foundation in fact."

His Lordship at once expressed his regret, unqualifiedly withdrew his remarks and thanked the gentleman for having put him right, admitting his only knowledge of the matter had been received from the public press and the speeches of President Roosevelt as reported. He was very glad the gentleman was present to put him straight, as he had no intention to misrepresent facts in any way, as he was quite sure the gentleman would believe. So it ended.

If the President could realize the damage he has done and is doing here and on the Continent, I doubt if he would continue his crusade in the manner he is, and I repeat every statement he makes carries with it the full weight of his official position as would the words of King Edward. It is not too much to say that the harm he has done to American interests on this side of the Atlantic is almost incalculable.

He has completely shattered confidence in everything American. Especially is this true here in England. I know of one great American enterprise which was on the point of closing a few days since when his last message was sent to the Congress. The effect was instantaneous, a regular douche of ice water. The bankers are now marking time and reflecting. Had the President reflected and reached the full realization of the damage he would do and has done, he might have hesitated before entering upon his crusade. He has discredited his country abroad, whatever he may have accomplished at home, and some years must elapse before confidence in Americans and American enterprise will have been fully restored.

On the Continent he is denounced in the most unmeasured terms by the people having business relations with us. In Amsterdam many families have been reduced from affluence to poverty and American credit is at a very low ebb.

FRED A. SAWYER.

LONDON, February 20.

"In Respect Of."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Authority for "in respect of" may be found in any volume of the English law reports. And it seems to be the expression universally employed by the legal fraternity of England at the present day. See 1 Laws of England, CCXI., line five, published in 1907. The citation is from the preface of the work, which appears over the name of the Earl of Halsbury, Lord Chancellor. Other instances appear in the book. Not only is the expression current among English lawyers but it may be found in the reports of the United States Supreme Court and of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts, wherein the writer has frequently noticed its use. It may be found as well in American law text books.

NORTHPORT, L. I., February 28. B. R. D.

Expert Police Opinion on Three Platoons.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I see the three platoon system is making its appearance again in the Legislature and that the former Chief, John McCullagh, favors it. Allow me to say that about a year ago I made a visit to Buffalo, of whose police force I was a member some years ago, and saw some of my old comrades. I asked them how they liked the three platoon system. They were all of the same opinion: It is A1 for the patrolmen, but bad for the citizens. They have a good many more men than in my time, but the posts are much larger now, not as many men are out at one time, and in my time some posts were so large the men could not go over them more than twice. How much less now? Yes, we have more free time for ourselves. The three platoon is bully.

NEW YORK, February 27. J. MILLER.

THE FUTURE OF THE GREAT CORPORATIONS.

Plain Words by a Business Man About the Conspiracy Against Prosperity.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I beg to add my protest against the present high handed method adopted by the paid officials of this republic toward corporations and combinations: against legally existing institutions evolved under the Constitution and laws of this country. If our officials find transgressions of the law it is their duty to apply the lawful remedy, and nobody objects: but this continued blare of trumpets is a nuisance and a crime.

It is a crime to harangue the country about the "wealthy malefactor": if a man is a malefactor the fact that he is rich or poor does not enter into the merits of the case, and the continued harping on the subject is born of deceit and is for political effect only. Roosevelt's "predatory wealth," Bryan's "cross of gold," Bonaparte's "wolves of wealth," &c., are despicable utterances and tend to prove that some of our officials are willing to resort to the invective of the anarchist to accomplish their purposes. The utterances of Senator Rayner on the floor of the Senate on February 12 show that he is unfit to be a guide to or a lawmaker for the people of this republic.

Mr. Taft's statement that Lincoln would aid Roosevelt's work is a shameful libel, and in just as bad taste as Bryan's claim that he alone is the true exponent of Jeffersonian Democracy. Let the memory of the honest dead rest in peace.

If these politicians have any fixed principle on which they base their utterances, they believe that a corporation is a public enemy in proportion to the growth and expansion of its business, although they have no warrant under our Constitution for their theory: and as they are confronted by a condition evolved under our laws, the burden of proof rests with them to prove by logic, not invective, that conditions are unlawful and undesirable and that further laws should be enacted. Those that seek to destroy and to disrupt are the real obstructionists, the real reactionaries and the real enemy to the continuance of our progress and prosperity.

I happen to be one of that class, fast growing in numbers, who believe that great corporations are both desirable and lawful.

It does not require a study of the atomic theory or the law of gravitation to realize that there is nothing contrary to the laws of nature in great aggregations and combinations. Our earth, the trees, the grass, the flowers are but combinations of atoms.

Nature does not retard: growth does not separate, but continually aggregates and develops: the halt of growth is but the commencement of death. This law applies to the realms of the moral, the physical and the intellectual: to the nation as well as to the individual.

Were the labor agitator loyal to the laborer he would teach that the so-called philosopher, the politician and the demagogue had so cajoled, flattered and subsidized them as to place them in a false position with relation to capital, resulting in the loss of their independence and manhood, brutalizing their instincts and reducing them to present idleness and want, and to-day this same labor agitator is a suppliant for financial aid from the public crib, although he denies the right of that public, the free American citizen, to make independent contract for services between labor and capital. For its own welfare, let labor demand that persecution of corporations cease at once.

If our American energy had vent in small individual enterprises only there would be no place for labor unions, and it is only the advent of the great corporation that affords opportunity to the labor union.

My three sons all earn their living by the toil of their hands and the sweat of their brows, and they all believe in the corporate form of business. One of them is in the employ of a large corporation, with opportunity in accordance with his merit. He realizes that conditions are just and he is satisfied. His ambition is to make himself a part of the very body of his corporation; to work for its interests, to save his money and invest the same in the securities of his company. Certainly, his ambition is a worthy one, and why is not his method applicable to all who have services to offer: why, in spite of the agitator, does it not afford a solution of the labor question?

I deplore the brutally socialistic sentiments uttered by Senator Rayner on the floor of the Senate, and I believe it is the continued utterance of similar sentiments by our officials that is responsible for the great increase of crimes of violence and for assaults upon capital and vested property rights. Although I am not a rich man, I would scorn to better my condition by means of highway robbery or the use of the blackjack, methods apparently approved by Senator Isidor Rayner of Maryland.

I firmly believe that to-day the great corporation, under wise but liberal regulation, offers to this country the opportunity of a century. In developing, manufacturing and marketing it will accomplish feats that individual effort could never approach. It will at all times act as a great balance wheel, tending to minimize the danger of panics and trade disturbances. It will afford boundless opportunity for the genius and energy of our American youth. The mechanic and the laborer will find in it a sure and ever increasing demand for their services, and the affairs of the whole country will thus be on a grander, more scientific, more solid and permanent basis, and far safer when considered in its relations with foreign countries.

Old, out of date, cutthroat, unscientific business methods certainly afford no principles out of which can spring the beginnings of the millennium. Notwithstanding the Sherman anti-trust act, the corporations of the world will first conquer the world and then divide the trade of the world, and not until that has been done will they "beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks" and labor lie down with capital.

There is nothing in the advent of the great mundane corporation that is opposed to the existence of innumerable small private enterprises—quite the contrary: the one depends on the other and cannot secure great development and opportunity without the other. Did the human frame consist merely of the great muscles and the large bones it could not endure exertion, and if it were sustained merely by small bones, small muscles, tendons and nerves, it could neither deliver nor ward off a blow. The human body needs both the great and the small in order to complete its development, and weakness in any one part imperils the whole structure. Thus, in order to attain supreme power, complete development, the nation of the twentieth century needs the great corporation, which in turn will be braced and fortified in every direction by individual enterprise, all working in harmony for the common good.

The great corporation is now a matter of necessity for this country: we need its strength to deliver and its power to ward a blow.

Already foreign Governments have more or less control of certain industries, such as camphor, coffee, opium, nitrate, tobacco, &c., and contemplate control of alcohol and other products. The Krupp gun monopoly is not considered a menace but rather is a source of national pride to the Germans.

The necessity exists, but our form of government does not contemplate and our people never will tolerate Government ownership, and therefore the great corporation controlled by the people and owned by them as stockholders must be protected by the Government. Thus national commerce will be enhanced; labor will find a sure and a permanent field, and by reason of the general prosperity individual enterprise will enjoy a hundredfold greater opportunity.

Let us consider these questions carefully before we thoughtlessly reject our rightful inheritance, and let labor realize that its greatest enemy is the politician who is a flattering demagogue; its best friends the great corporation, without which the labor union could not flourish, and the Supreme Court of the United States.

In short, I desire to record my conviction that the next great step in our national development will be in the great corporation, which we should recognize and cherish.

WILLIAM A. BROWN.

NEW YORK, February 28.

THE SECRET OF LONGEVITY.

Successful Diet of a Lively Young Fellow of Seventy-eight.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I was very much interested in the editorial in your issue of February 25 on Professor Metchnikoff's book on longevity, and I ask the favor of a short space in your columns to relate my experience. To begin with, I am now 78 years old and am still in excellent health. I can walk three or four miles a day without any fatigue, and so far as I can judge my head appears to be about as clear as it ever was. You can see from my manuscript that my handwriting is quite firm and legible. Now, I was born with a delicate constitution, and up to my forty-fifth year I was far from being robust and suffered from nervous headaches of the most excruciating kind, which attacked me every month.

Up to that time I had been a hearty eater of animal food, seldom less than three times a day. But when I reached this period of my life my headaches became so frequent and unbearable that I determined to make a radical change in my diet. It required a good deal of pluck to do it, but I resolved to relinquish at once my diet of animal food, at least of dead meat. I still clung to my fresh eggs, creamery butter and a pint of as pure milk as I could get; but all food of slaughtered animals I put resolutely aside. It was some years before I found much change in my physical condition. My headaches continued, although I found them gradually becoming less violent and frequent. But after I had passed my fiftieth birthday I found myself in better health than I was at 45 and able to get through my work more easily.

But even when I was a vegetarian I was a hearty eater, and the thought came to me that I was eating too much and that perhaps I would be more "elastic" and have fewer headaches, or maybe none at all, if I didn't eat half as much. So I tried the experiment of reducing my diet to very simple and as some may think very meagre proportions. And I am inclined to attribute my present vigorous old age very largely to my steady persistence in my frugal and simple diet. I may mention that my headaches are now a thing of the past.

To give you a fair example of my daily meals I will tell my food for this day: For breakfast, one good sweet orange, two slices of well buttered graham toast and a large cup of fresh milk; for dinner, one fresh egg, two slices of buttered graham toast, a large cup of coffee, half fresh cream, and about half a pound of good Malaga grapes; for supper, one cup of fresh milk, two slices graham toast and a saucerful of tapioca pudding. In the course of a year I also eat a good many apples between meals, which I believe are purifying to the system. I never touch alcohol in any shape or use tobacco in any form. When I get into open places I breathe as deeply as I can, and always sleep with the window of my room open. I do not say that such a regimen would be good for every one. I only believe if I had not practised it I would not have been writing this letter to you to-day.

T. G.

BROOKLYN, February 27.

Why Die?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The recent article on the "Prolongation of Human Life" seems to me to be incomplete. It is probably Professor Metchnikoff's fault, not yours, that you leave us where you do.

"Of the three chief evils that hang over us, disease, old age and death," it is asserted that "rational hygiene and preventive measures will ultimately rid us of the first named affliction."

That senility is due to intestinal putrefaction, and that it can be prevented by the avoidance of alcohol and rich meats, seems to rid us of the second named affliction. It is true that the professor qualifies this second elimination to some extent. But assuming disease to be conquered and one's large intestine preserved by proper diet from putrefaction, why should one ever die—even in extreme old age?

I am not a physician, nor a total abstainer, nor yet a quibbler, but I have a life which interests me greatly, notwithstanding I have hitherto confidently expected to lose it some day. My interest in your editorial is therefore surely a human one. If the statements of Professor Metchnikoff are true, then what is it which will finally bring death to us?

MALCOLM MACLAREN.

CHICAGO, February 26.

Elephants on Their Hands.

Lomagundi correspondence Rhodesia Herald.

Natives travelling to the mines looking for work do not seem to like being chased across the veldt by our elephants, as some of them have been lately, and they can hardly be blamed if they seek other districts, where pets are chained and muzzled. Mealie patches and vegetable gardens are not improved by being used as elephant pasturage.

Of course, if the Government own and protect the elephants, they are liable for any damage done by them, and they no doubt note and pay compensation to any one whose crops are damaged, even though such persons (mostly natives) do not see their way to pressing a claim in a court of law. It would be interesting to know what compensation was paid in respect of the death of the native killed by the elephants some months ago. Mere compensation for damage done does not by any means dispose of the question, however. These great, useless, vicious, destructive brutes as things stand are a nuisance, and unless exterminated or caged must eventually become a serious hindrance to the district. Finally, if the administration are keen on elephants let them be removed. We don't want them.

The Moon and Mount Hood.

From the Portland Oregonian.

Perching itself for a few moments on the very top of Mount Hood, the big, new moon illumined that majestic peak at 11 o'clock last night so clearly that its mantle of glistening white, toned to a soft, yellow hue, could be distinguished plainly from Portland and vicinity. Never before, say old time Oregonians, has the moon been observed to scale the summit so fairly and with such perfect balance as last night. The big, yellow disk apparently could not have been more accurately adjusted to the top of the mountain. And as it passed on upward the top of the mellow circle buried itself in a big black cloud, so that no great stretch of the imagination was required to fill in the picture of an eruption from the peaceful old mountain.

From an artistic standpoint the spectacle was one to be hoarded in the fond memory, and those who saw it may regard themselves as having been peculiarly fortunate. Every year the moon pays a visit to the big peak, but possibly not once in centuries would it climb to the precise central point on the summit and present a picture so perfect.

No Night Riders in Kentucky Mountains.

From the Mountain Echo.

We mountain people may "tote" forty-five pistols and be able to shoot a repeating rifle gun; we may wear caps made of coonskins with the tails hanging down behind; we may go barefooted, with our breeches rolled up, or wear our pants stuck down in our boots; we may "chaw" a few "chaws" of tobacco or smoke "segars" or probably a few "segarets," but if our neighbors want to raise tobacco to sell to the tobacco trust or combine, or trade it to the circus man to pay their way into a show should he choose to go—well and good; yet with all our faults, we have no night riders to dictate what kind of seed we may sow, for every fellow knows that in order to live long and prosper he must let other people's tobacco grow.

Supplying an Omission.

From the Indianapolis News.

Once in a while sarcastic letters are received by State officials. It is not so often, however, that a private citizen voluntarily sends in a letter expressing his personal views. Frank J. Grubbs, assistant Secretary of State, received that kind of letter the other day. It came from a man in the northern part of the State and was as follows:

"DEAR SIR: After a careful examination of the poll books in this county I find that there is one resident who is not a notary public. I hereby make application for a commission for him."

Railroad Discrimination.

From the Litchfield Monitor.

The Big Four Railroad has its foot in it good and proper at Pana. The young ladies of the town are beauless now just because the Big Four time table has changed and the Sunday night train fails to stop at Shelbyville. The railroad will either be compelled to change the order of its trains or Shelbyville will have a surplus of bachelors and Pana will have an old maids' club in the near future.

Albert Screamer, Vocal Soloist.

From the Asheville Gazette-News.

Albert Screamer had a natural talent for music and his course of study was featured with voice culture. He has a rich tenor voice, and with his voice he purposes making a living. His cards read: "Albert M. Screamer, Cherokee Indian tenor vocal soloist." Albert was formerly a clarinetist in the United States Indian band at Carlisle, Pa.

A Municipal Flag.

From the Philadelphia Record.

The city of Easton has adopted a municipal flag, said to be a copy of the flag which waved over that town during the Revolutionary war. The flag has thirteen red and white stripes in the upper corner, and the remainder of the flag is blue, with a circle of eight white stars in the centre.