

The Sun

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5, 1911. Entered at the Post Office at New York as Second Class Mail Matter.

Subscriptions by Mail, Postpaid. DAILY, Per Month, \$3.00. DAILY, Per Year, \$36.00. SUNDAY, Per Year, \$6.00. DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Year, \$42.00. DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Month, \$3.50.

Published by the Sun Printing and Publishing Association at 170 Nassau street, in the Borough of Manhattan, New York. President of the Association, Edward W. Mitchell, 170 Nassau street; Treasurer, J. M. Laffan, 170 Nassau street; Secretary of the Association, D. W. Quinn, 170 Nassau street.

London office, 11 Abchurch Lane, London, E.C. 4. The daily and Sunday Sun are on sale in London at the American and Colonial Exchange, 11 Abchurch Lane, and at the American Agency, 17 Green Street, Charing Cross Road.

Paris office, 4 Rue de Valenciennes, 4 Rue de Valenciennes, 4 Rue de Valenciennes. The daily and Sunday editions are on sale at Kiosque 12, near the Grand Hotel, Kiosque 17, Boulevard des Capucines, corner Place de l'Opera, and Kiosque 19, Boulevard des Filles, corner Rue Louis le Grand.

If our friends who favor us with manuscripts for publication wish to have their articles returned they must so indicate on the envelope.

The Party System and the Budget.

In discussing the existing political conditions in the State THE SUN yesterday commented upon the fashion in which the decay of party government had been accompanied by an expansion in the cost of State administration. The evidence available to sustain this assertion is not new. But the resubmission of the figures may perhaps serve a useful purpose at the present time, when the Democratic party is still wrestling with the problem of whether it shall be a party of performance in the moral or the financial field of political endeavor.

The statistics of the cost of government in recent years supply an instant and unmistakable constant relation between the quickening of the conscience and the loosening of the purse strings of the people of the State. Thus, for example, the administration of BENJAMIN B. ODDELL, JR., was in every sense a party administration. During the four years that he occupied the executive chair the relations between the party executive and the Republican majority in the Legislature were close and harmonious. The results so far as the State budget are concerned are set forth in the following table of the ordinary expenses of State government, without regard to the extraordinary items of canal and road improvement, taken from the report of the Hon. CLARK WILLIAMS, former State Comptroller:

Table with 3 columns: Year, Appropriation, Increase. Rows for 1907, 1908, 1909, 1910, 1911.

In the four years of ODDELL, therefore, the cost of State government increased \$2,578,000, or at the rate of slightly less than \$650,000 annually. The situation of the late Governor FRANK W. HUGHES was hardly different from that of his predecessor; so far as legislative co-operation was concerned he too represented the old fashioned party ideal. The figures of the two budgets which had his approval are as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Year, Appropriation, Increase. Rows for 1908, 1909, 1910, 1911.

Thus for two years under HUGHES the State budget increased annually at the rate of \$765,000, slightly but not materially more than during the Odell administration.

In examining the four years of the Hon. CHARLES EVANS HUGHES at Albany it is necessary to recognize the sharp distinction between his first and second administrations. In the first, despite real differences, he remained in a measure a party executive. If the break with the Republican Legislature over the attempted removal of OTTO KLARZ was genuine, still during the first two years the party majority, with some exceptions, continued in the control of men who still followed the former practices and retained respect for the old economies. The budget for the first Hughes administration, therefore, shows material but by no means astonishing increases. It was as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Year, Appropriation, Increase. Rows for 1907, 1908, 1909, 1910, 1911.

The average annual increase for the first two years of the Hughes administration was therefore \$1,415,000, about twice that of ODDELL's four year period, but still not large enough to excite comment. In the last two years the situation was different. The break between the Executive and the Legislature was complete. All questions of State administration were subordinated on both sides. Not to the preparation of State budgets, but to the urging or repulsing of direct primary projects were the efforts of Governor and Republican Legislature alike directed. The result in the state budget is shown in the following table:

Table with 3 columns: Year, Appropriation, Increase. Rows for 1909, 1910, 1911.

The annual average for those two years is \$3,769,000, nearly six times the Odell average, almost five times that of the Hughes administration, and three times that of the two years in which a measure of party government still survived in the Hughes administration.

Precisely as long as the Governor and the members of the majority in the Legislature felt themselves an integral fraction in the party, charged with administering the State affairs to the satisfaction of the people, who placed them in power for this purpose, cooperation, coherence, efficiency, comparative at least, marked the action of the entire party administration so far as State finances were concerned. Exactly at the moment this conception of political ef-

fort weakened, the appreciation in the cost of administration showed itself. As the breach widened the increase became first considerable, then enormous. Between 1901 and 1907 it was \$4,000,000; between 1907 and 1910, \$10,015,000; between 1909 and 1910, \$7,532,000; between 1900 and 1907 the annual average increase was less than \$700,000, between 1907 and 1910 it was above \$2,500,000; between 1903 and 1910 it exceeded \$2,700,000.

The faults of the party system of State government have long occupied public attention. It would be a reckless statesman who would in the present hour attempt to defend it, much less advocate a return to it. One virtue it certainly possessed—however far it failed to elevate the public morals, at least it had an equally depressing influence upon the State budget.

The First Democratic Insurgent.

According to the *Wheeling Intelligence*, the Hon. W. B. FRANCIS of the Sixteenth Ohio district, a new member of the House, "fared well" in the assignments distributed by the Committee on Committees. Mr. FRANCIS was appointed to Claims, Revision of the Laws, and Alcoholic Liquor Traffic, but he does not admit that he fared well.

In a letter to Chairman UNDERWOOD of the Committee on Committees Mr. FRANCIS resigns as a member of Alcoholic Liquor Traffic, and declares that only one of "the assignments given me is in accordance with my expressed wishes." The new member from Martin's Ferry takes Mr. UNDERWOOD's committee to task for lopping off so much House patronage; not that the new member is opposed to economy; on the contrary, he wants "highly paid and useless commissions created solely for the care and comfort of 'lame ducks' done away with, and he intimates that he would not be averse to a reduction of the salaries of members of Congress, and their mileage too. But "the abolishment of a few positions where the laboring men are employed" he condemns.

The insurgency of a new member before he takes his seat in Congress is so novel and perplexing that it is natural to grope for a reason. We chance upon it in the *Cleveland Leader*:

"Representative FRANCIS, who won in a heavily Republican district, objected to the assignment to the Committee on Alcoholic Liquor Traffic. He said this would defeat his reelection. He declared that the liquor question was loaded with dynamite and that Ohio Democrats had been torn apart by the issue. He pleaded that he ought not to be forced to sit in the committee, which will pass on the bill prohibiting the shipment of liquor from 'wet' into 'dry' territory. A member of the Ways and Means Committee died FRANCIS's tears by telling him the Committee on Judiciary would consider this bill."

Nevertheless, the member from Martin's Ferry has resigned from Alcoholic Liquor Traffic. The provocation to dwell upon the impropriety of a new member's anxiety about his reelection to Congress before he takes his seat is strong, but we forbear, for in the Hon. W. B. FRANCIS we discern a valiant and unflinching champion of economy on broad lines and in big figures. His indignation at House organization pruning, so many Capitol policemen and so many superannuated clerks cut off, is explained by a sympathetic recognition of them as "laboring men." One Democratic member, confronted by the sight of these beadings, is said to have cried, "It is anarchy." But we are sure the new member from the Sixteenth Ohio district is made of sterner stuff. His heart may throbb for the "laboring men," some of them drawing \$2,500 a year, who have been sacrificed to make a public spectacle, but his head tells him that his own work and the record he is to make in the great field of departmental economy. With his little hatchet he will lop off millions from extravagant estimates. No bloated river and harbor bill, no public building grab, will get by him without copious blood-letting.

We welcome Mr. FRANCIS to the unselfish band of die-in-the-last-ditch economists whose motto is "Hew to the line, but prune not at all."

The Beauchamp Boom.

According to THE SUN'S Washington despatches, "it is the understanding that the boom" of the Hon. JACQUES BEAUCHAMP LECLERC, at present commonly styled CHAMP CLARK, "for the Presidential nomination will soon be launched." Colonel BRYAN has it on the stocks. Colonel BRYAN has been consulting with another renowned Democratic constructor, Oklahoma OWEN, who lives and is ready to die for the Arizona recall of Judges, a sacred principle which, combined with Colonel BRYAN's own plan for the election of Federal Judges, may be guaranteed to produce results dear to Bedlam. By this time the Bryan platform must be about twice the size of the Congressional Library. Dollar BILL believes in believing. It would gravel him to give a complete inventory of the articles, paramoured or unparamoured, of his creed; his accumulations are Broddingnagian and increasing; only one Colonel in a world of Colonels can come within wireless distance of him as a collector of principles.

As for the Pride of Pike, he has long acted politics out of Dollar BILL'S hand; will swallow everything his patron offers and cry for more. Just as the discriminating and judicious Mr. SIMMER held ANDREW JOHNSON guilty of all the high crimes and misdemeanors charged in the articles of impeachment and "of infinitely more," so the Pride of Pike believes in everything believed by Dollar BILL in the past or now and in the infatuation of crank notions and nostrums set to be poured into and out of that political and economic Danaid's bucket.

Of course Dollar BILL, if he selects the Pride of Pike, selects him as the weakest candidate to be found. The compliment is doubtful, but Mr. CLARK is a grateful and an ungracious soul. All hail, *March*, that shall be king hereafter! Only last September he was saying to enraptured Missouri:

had all these officers, and I'm going to see that we get one of them right away." He has got one right away; and the greatest is behind. Why shouldn't he have it, with fate and Bryanian aid? Recall a prophetic passage from a speech made by our BEAUCHAMP in the House February 27, 1908. He refers to a dinner in the White House where Mrs. CLARK sat next to JOHN SHERMAN:

"After drawing as gloomy a picture as he (Mr. SHERMAN) could of the deteriorating and unsanitary conditions of the White House he asked her: 'Madam, would you be willing to see your husband live in this house four years with all that trouble and under those conditions?' With that good sense which she exhibited when she picked her husband she said: 'Yes, I think I would.' (Great applause.) She said she was willing to take the chances of unsanitary conditions and nervous prostration to see her husband in the White House for four years."

With so admirable humor does Mr. CLARK refer to the lifelong mirage of American politicians. Is Colonel BRYAN now to summon again and to brighten the old illusion? What meeker mind and eye than our Missourian's? Yet is he meek enough? Does Colonel BRYAN, who has delivered for who knows how many thousands of times that lecture on "The Prince of Peace," does he know what a heart of war beats in the bosom of this college president with the Bishop's face and the white cravat? On August 13, 1904, a remark of Mr. CLARK's in a debate at New Albany, Ind.—he had said with his wonted understatement that former Governor TAYLOR of Kentucky was "a murderer" who ought to be hanged—was "challenged" by a man near the platform. Mr. CLARK "walked to the edge of the platform and shouted at the man: 'If you will walk outside the tent and call me a liar I will cut your throat.'" While this style of argument will recommend Mr. CLARK to hill billies and wool hat boys, does it not savor of imperialism? To answer that may be Colonel BRYAN'S business or pleasure: every good man's heart must be wrung to think that a boom for CHAMP CLARK, one of the men who raised Chautauqua from an insignificant debating club to be a nursery of statesmen, a head centre of speech and almost a coordinate branch of government—that this boom must bring discord among Chautauqua thinkers and perhaps divert to CLARK high moral forces that CUMMINS or LA FOLLETTE now counts as his own.

Ultimate Consistency.

From the editorial columns of the *Auburn Citizen*, a newspaper owned by the Hon. THOMAS MOTT OSBORNE, we take the following:

"But of the twenty-eight Democrats who figured as insurgents there are a dozen who deserve special honor. These are the men who did not lose courage, who did endure to the end, who refused to compromise themselves and their cause by entering the caucus."

It will be seen that even at the end of a great battle Mr. OSBORNE is faithful to the transcendent principle of minority rule. At the outset he believed that the will of twenty-three should prevail over that of ninety-one. At the close he asserts that to a minority of a minority, twelve of twenty-eight, the real praise, the deserved laurels belong.

And if there had been in the final dozen one who shared the Hon. THOMAS MOTT OSBORNE'S conviction as to the right man to be elected we have no doubt that Mr. OSBORNE would award to him the prize that belongs to the consistent and irreducible defender of the immortal principle that the less is more than the greater and that the smaller fraction of the less is larger than the greater fraction, and therefore that the smallest, since nothing can be smaller, is the largest.

Proposed Charter Changes.

The proposed revisions of the city Charter now before the Legislature contain nothing radical. The changes that would be effected by the enactment of any of them would be in detail and not in principle.

In so far as these changes would make for centralization of authority and thus do away with division of responsibility they are commendable. In such matters as the paving and repair of highways, protection of lives and property from fire, and the like, there are no overlapping and neutral zones that make it extremely difficult to place blame for neglect. On no officer or department does the entire burden of selection that the right thing is done fall, and because of this there is unquestionable slackness on the part of all. This might be quickly remedied were duties consolidated, clearly defined and plainly reposed in officers not able to shirk or evade responsibility.

Yet it is not to be forgotten that the city, independently of the Legislature, might do a great deal for itself were it so inclined. It is not the fault of the lawmakers at Albany that the building code of New York is unsatisfactory to everybody. The Board of Aldermen has full power to act here, and its failure so to do is not to be charged against the Legislature. So, too, in regard to salaries; the Board of Estimate and the Aldermen can do pretty much as they please about the compensation of city employees without asking permission of any other body.

What should be done with the Board of Education is a serious question. The present board is large and its members are not paid for their services. They are appointed by the Mayor without consultation or confirmation. The body is permanent, supposed to be without political bias, and made up of men and women who could not be hired for pay, but who gladly give their time from patriotic motives. The independence of the schools and their freedom from partisan manipulation, theoretically obtained by this means. Against the plan which would confide the educational system to a small board of commissioners drawing salaries it is contended that the commissionerships would become spoils of political parties, that the jobs would be sought for by men more interested in the pay than in the work, and the schools would suffer in consequence.

As for taking certain powers from the Department of Finance and entrusting

THE AUTHORIZED VERSION.

Some Precursors of the King James Bible. From the *Saturday Review*. Three centuries ago the translation of the Bible known to us all as the "Authorized Version" was given to the English people. The year of its appearance (1611) is beyond dispute, but the exact date is unknown; that is why this commemoration is being observed in different countries in different months, in Canada in February, in Great Britain on April 20, in the United States in April.

But whenever it appeared, it came as the fruit of centuries of desire, expectation and preparation. Notwithstanding the disfavor with which the unreformed Church has ever regarded the indiscriminate circulation of the Scriptures—the Council of Toulouse forbade it in 1229, and Pius IV. proclaimed that it does more harm than good—she had no aversion from translations as such; how could she when her own cherished and authoritative Vulgate was one? So English ecclesiastics at an early date essayed to give their countrymen a Bible which they could understand. Aldhelm, for example, translated the Psalter in the seventh century, and Bede is said to have spent the last moments of his life in completing the Anglo-Saxon version of St. John's Gospel. And not only ecclesiastics King Alfred was a translator in his day, and he expressed the wish that "all the freeborn youth of his kingdom should be able to read the English Scriptures," and the manuscripts in the British Museum (the Durham Book, e. g.), the Bodleian, etc., reveal to us that frequent efforts were made in this direction; all these versions of course were made from the Vulgate. So too were Wycliffe's (the rendering of the Old Testament, so far as it goes, was the work of Nicholas of Hereford), toward the close of the fourteenth century, undertaken that "pore Christen men may see deal know the text of the Gospel"—and for their edification it was furnished with a commentary.

It would be curious, if one thing were more curious than another in this world of wonders, to consider how many people, professional and amateur, love to roll "vice and crime" as a sweet morsel under their tongues; how many thousand people in this town get an honest living and how many more thousands some edge of pleasure out of "vice and crime" in this town; and we don't mean the vicious or the criminal.

As reasonably able observers of the town who can remember at least as far back as those Sundays of sporadic police puritanism when cynical and amused New York drank claret out of tea cups in the restaurants or sought the shrines of beer in Hoboken, may be permitted to say that this is a modest, a safe, a quiet heritage to what it used to be? Our fellow ancients will recall divans and divans, the little eccentricities of Greene street, West Third street, West Twenty-seventh street, the days of slugging and the strong arm.

People who wish something violent in effects may perhaps find it in Chicago. A citizen of good will, who will take the trouble to keep sober, is as safe here as he is in any large city; a good many times safer than in Paris.

To be sure, to many excellent souls the fact that a "side door" is unostentatiously open is an evidence of public crime more portentous than a hundred murders. The excellent souls may be right; we merely wish to remark, as witnesses of many wickednesses and many reforms, of a thousand drunkards, of sensations and of fapdoodle, that out of the old fields cometh this new corn. Life and property are as secure in this town as they are in any capital; and the face of public order is manyfold more decorous than it has been within the recollection of New Yorkers not yet so venerable as not to believe themselves still able to lick folks who call them "old."

Statistics of French naturalization for last year are welcomed by French journals as giving evidence of a steady and increasing contribution to the right side of population figures. The naturalizations for 1911 numbered 13,490. In the twenty-one years between 1890 and 1910 the total number of naturalizations was 125,328, or slightly less than 6,000 a year. The total addition to French population, including the number of minors, for whom declaration was made by their legal representatives and those naturalized by special decrees was 279,168, an annual average of 13,293. Between 1897 and 1899 the number of naturalizations was but 10,076, or 458 a year. Small as these figures seem to Americans, the 13,490 French naturalizations last year undoubtedly exceeded the similar figures of any European nation, including Great Britain.

The question of the care of the herd of elk in the Jackson's Hole country south of the Yellowstone Park seems at last to have been solved. The appropriation of \$20,000 voted at the closing hours of Congress is being used to transfer the elk to better feeding grounds on the Big Horn range. This herd, which Governor CARY estimated at about 35,000, has been thinned each winter since the coming of the settlers by starvation. In the old times the elk at the first snowfall made their way south to the Red Desert, where they found sufficient food to sustain them until spring, when they returned to the mountain pastures at the sources of the Yellowstone and Wind rivers. Now, the country is so fenced that it is impossible for them to reach their feeding grounds. They have lived upon the hay in the valley ranches and upon the forage that has been furnished by the State of Wyoming. These resources, however, were not sufficient this winter for such a large herd and elk died by hundreds. The *Anaconda Standard*, quoting a returned hunter, says:

"Bodies of the dead animals were lying everywhere, but particularly along both banks of the Yellowstone River, and in traveling a distance of five miles at the head of the river, they were counted beside the river. The piglets of the fawns was particularly pitiable, and often when they were heaped up the little fellows would lick our hands for they are as tame as domestic stock. About 30,000 of these elk will be collected by cavalrymen as soon as the weather conditions are favorable and will be driven to the new home that is being prepared for them. As the elk is an expert at dodging the hunter, has great endurance, speed and skill in traveling over precipitous trails than the horse or horsemen, Wyoming seems to have good reason for believing that the removal of this great herd by the Government troops will be one of the finest wild west exhibitions that this country has ever had."

Mitchell's Olympic. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Has Mitchell's Olympic Theatre on the east side of Broadway, a short distance above Canal street, been mentioned in the letters of old New Yorkers in THE SUN? In this little playhouse I first saw a play. This was in 1905, sixty-six years ago. I recall vividly not only the playhouse itself but the play and some of the players. The play was a fairy extravaganza, and two young women, well known to old New Yorkers, played the principal parts. One was Mary Taylor, well known in New York as "Ole Mary." The other was a Miss Clarke. The play was "Graciosa and Precinet." A great rivalry by the boys in the pit (admission one shilling) existed. Some were Taylorites and some were Clarks. Some of the boys, however, several others, probably Mr. Wither can recall them all, Mr. Mitchell himself, Mr. Holland, Mr. Walcott, Mr. Nickerson and many others. Since that day I have seen the players who have made their appearance upon the New York stage, and nearly every musical celebrity, instrumental and vocal, down to the present day, but none of those who had together have blotted out from my memory that first night and my first play at Mitchell's Olympic Theatre. NEW YORK, April 4. S. W. JOHNSON.

The Manhattan Philosopher on the Scheme of Things. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—All men are agonists, the wise consciously, the ignorant unwittingly. A short distance above Canal street, been given pill now or ever can know what it is, if anything will be after we shuffle off this mortal coil.

But we do know that if this life is to end it all then the creation of man, to most of us, was a stupendous, gigantic, monumental mistake. In any event, it is a waste of time to worry about the future, as the good man knows he will surely be taken care of, since the dead will be killed "get all that is coming to him." E. H. J. NEW YORK, April 4.

FEDERAL ECONOMY.

WASHINGTON, April 4.—In his message of March 3 on "greater economy and efficiency in the despatch of Government business" Mr. Taft asked for \$75,000 and a reapportionment of an unexpended balance carried over from last year to enable him to continue his investigation of the methods now employed in the Departments in Washington. He said:

There have been no adequate means provided whereby either the President or his advisers may get with intelligence on current business; no means for getting prompt, accurate and correct information as to results obtained; estimates of departmental needs have not been the subject of thorough analysis and review before submission; budgets of receipts and disbursements have been prepared and presented in an unscientific and unbusinesslike manner; appropriations have been without uniformity or common principle governing them; there have been practically no accounts showing what the Government owns and only a partial representation of what it owes.

This is only a part of the list of faults and weaknesses which the President has called attention to. There is nothing in the message with which those who come into contact with the ways of the Congress and the administrative processes in Washington are not entirely familiar. In the sundry civil bill approved March 4, 1909, a provision of law was enacted, summarized by Mr. Taft as follows:

Requiring that thereafter the President should each year give a measure of personal attention to the annual estimates for appropriations, to the end that if, as prepared by the several executive departments, they exceeded in total the estimated amount of the revenues it should be his duty to examine the estimates, how his judgment they could with most injury to the public service be reduced so as to bring them within the estimated revenues, or if not practicable to make such reductions, then to recommend to Congress such loans or new taxes as might be necessary to cover the deficiency.

The precise force of this law as an expansion of the duties of the President as set forth in the Constitution may be questioned, but the soundness of the principle involved is certain. In his message of March 3, 1911, the President urges that "the chief difficulty in securing economy and reform is the lack of accurate information as to what the money of the Government is now spent for." This, of course, cannot be understood to mean that the information cannot be obtained, but rather that under the present system it is neither readily available nor clearly presented. It is known from official statements that the total ordinary disbursements for the calendar year 1910 amounted to \$685,550,183.66, that \$178,243,733.10 was expended under the civil and miscellaneous account, \$154,128,064.24 by the War Department, \$122,223,185.84 by the Navy Department, \$105,807,185.84 by the Pension Office, and so on. It would doubtless be possible to learn how much was paid for shoes for the army, beans or bacon for the navy, printing for the Department of Agriculture, sealing wax for the Treasury Department. The Navy Department probably knows to a cent the cost of a battleship, and when the Panama Canal is completed its total cost will be known with practically absolute accuracy. The accounting systems are elaborate and intricate to the point of dire confusion when the attempt is made to analyze and collate the items.

Mr. Taft says that "there have been practically no accounts showing what the Government owns." A statement of the value of the physical property of the land, buildings, warships, military equipment, libraries and all else belonging to the Federal Government would perhaps be interesting rather than valuable, but such a statement should be kept. The President says that the supposedly analytical statement of expenditures, a statement required by law, shows the payment of \$20,000,000 for the purchase of land in 1910, while the fact is that payments for personal services amounted to not far from \$400,000,000. There are experts who insist that uniformity of system is not only possible but imperative, and there are many of long experience in the department service who declare uniformity impossible. Mr. Taft's message referred to an appropriation for the experts working under his general supervision with the view of systematizing departmental methods, effecting economies, and increasing efficiency in the service. The appropriation was obtained, and the work begun last year is being continued. Here and there results have already been secured. Various guesses, ranging from a few hundred thousands of dollars to a few millions, are made of the amount already saved and possibly to be saved by systems and mechanical devices, by doing away with present overlapping and duplication of work, by reclassification of expenditures, and by other methods and processes now under consideration or to be considered hereafter.

The country is altogether commendable and highly desirable ends will doubtless be achieved when all is done. But, after all, the proceedings suggest a grave concern for the spot out of which trickle salaries and bills for sealing wax and lead pencils, while there is a deplorable indifference to the outflow from that generous bung-hole that spouts \$50,000 buildings for \$500 towns, costly and almost useless dredging and improvement of unused harbors and impossible creeks, pensions too small for the worthy and too large for the unworthy, and sundry other commendable but not scholastic. It remained, however, Coverdale to give us our first complete Bible in the vernacular.

Rogers, who carried on Tyndale's work, only got so far as Isaiah. Coverdale was no great scholar; he confessed that his rendering is based on "the Douche (German) and the Latyn," but he had one great merit; he was a master of English prose and of rhythmical and sonorous expression, as may indeed be gathered from the Prayer Book version of the Psalter which follows his translation. But his work could not be accepted so long; it was too inaccurate the himself indicated by a pointer "the dark places of y textz"), and it only held the field till 1568, though it was "authorized to be read and frequented in every Church in the Kingdom"; it was practically superseded in 1580 by the Geneva translation, the work of English refugees at that place.

This was finally printed in England and in Roman type (all the rest had been in black letters) and for some sixty years it was very popular, especially with the Puritans; nor did the "Bishop's" Bible, which appeared in 1572, a careful and scholarly production, avail to dislodge it; for one thing, it was too large and expensive. And the very existence of competing versions side by side, or one in the church and another in the home, confirmed the desire for a new translation and one that should have some finality about it.

Accordingly at the Hampton Court Conference (1570) the Puritan Reynolds raised the question. The Bishops, who had their own version, regarded the idea of another revision with some disfavor, but it caught the fancy of the King, that latter day Solomon may have foreseen that it would be the great distinction of his reign. So he very promptly appointed himself director of the undertaking and issued his instructions to the three companies—fifty-four scholars all told, one at Oxford, another at Cambridge, the third at Westminster—who for the next three years toiled at this sacred task, of which the version we are now commending was the fruit.

A Great Post Halls Universal Mithness. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Spring, spring, gentle spring, spring, spring, come and with the bring "Cold that bites and winds that sting." NEW YORK, April 4. JOHN MILTON NITT.

COUNT TOLSTOY ALL FOR PEACE.

He Once Thought War Had Some Good Points, but He Doesn't Now. Princess Troubetskoy (Amélie Rives), Mrs. Minnie Madzgen Fiske, Mrs. George C. Riggs (Kate Douglas Wiggin), Count Tolstoy and John Alexander were the guests of honor at the third annual luncheon of the League for Political Education held yesterday at the Hotel Astor.

Neither the Princess nor Mrs. Fiske seem to have intended to make a speech, but Mrs. Riggs talked briefly of her interest in the work that the league is going in the line of civic betterment. Count Tolstoy said that his father had taught him to have ideals, but that he preferred on the whole to confine himself to aims.

"My chief aim now," he continued, "is the establishment of universal peace. I used to believe in the necessity for war and in the possibility of its having certain beneficial effects, but I have changed my mind. Peace should be the aim of every civilized nation."

John Alexander spoke of the need for a big gallery suitable for art exhibits. "I cannot see any prospect in the near future of the Academy of Design being able to provide such a building," he said. "We would be only too glad to contribute thousands of dollars toward it if the city or some group of citizens would do the rest. New York certainly needs such a building. We have the Metropolitan Museum, it is true, but that is not available for the numerous exhibits of china, wall paper, jewelry, illustrations, furniture, rugs, bronzes and a hundred and one collections of art objects of different kinds which are in this country right now, and which the public might have an opportunity to look at if there were any place where they could be shown."

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Eskrine Ely also spoke. E. R. L. Gould presided at the guest table.

HUGE SURPLUS FOR CANADA.

Short Budget Speech Shows Prosperity and Growth of the Dominion. OTTAWA, April 4.—The shortest budget speech in the history of Canada was delivered in the House of Commons this afternoon by W. S. Fielding, Minister of Finance. The annual financial statement had been delayed for months and in many quarters it was expected that sensational statements might be forthcoming. Such expectations were not realized.

Mr. Fielding occupied less than forty minutes in the delivery of the speech. No reference was made to an increase in British preference. Adoption of the reciprocity agreement may later make it necessary for the Finance Minister to make a supplementary budget speech. This one dealt largely in statistics showing the great increase in Canada's revenue.

Mr. Fielding said that the total estimated revenue for the fiscal year which ended on March 31 was \$117,500,000, while the total estimated expenditures were \$87,000,000, leaving an estimated surplus for the year of \$30,500,000. The net debt of Canada per capita, he said, was now \$43.90, or against \$49.09 twenty years ago, and there were no temporary loans outstanding at the end of the year. The Government to make no loans without attaching a sinking fund.

Last year, he said, the Government had paid out \$2,000,000 on the National Transcontinental Railway, but he expected the Government to make no loans without attaching a sinking fund. "The iron and steel bounties expired on January 1, 1911, and have not been renewed. The bounties on wire rods will expire July 1. The Government has no intention of renewing them."

JUSTICE McCALL MOVES IN.

Occupied Justice O'Gorman's Room While the Bench Meditated a Raffle for It. Supreme Court Justice Edward E. McCall has been assigned by the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court to hear the personal and corporation tax cases which for some years have been assigned to Justice O'Gorman, and in connection with this assignment Justice McCall has had to make a move to various other justices to get the quarters in the County Court House recently vacated by Justice O'Gorman.

Justice O'Gorman's room in the northwest corner of the building was much larger than the quarters occupied by any of the other Judges, and while some of them barely accommodate a desk, a couch and a chair and have but one window, Justice O'Gorman's had two windows, two desks and room for a couch and a number of chairs.

Several of the other justices had longed for Justice O'Gorman's quarters, and finally Justice O'Gorman, as chairman of the County Court House committee, decided to have the Judges draw lots for the room to-day. When Justice McCall got the tax cases assignment he decided to ask Justice O'Gorman's room, and he was moved in yesterday.

Thereupon Justice Guy, who had a small room, took Justice McCall's larger one and asked the Judge to give up the room for the one vacated by Justice Guy. Then the newest Judge, Justice Pendleton, who has had a compartment of feet wide at one end and only 12 feet long, hustled into Justice Page's old room. Soon after moving the justices got together and Justice Page's program to Senator O'Gorman in Washington.

AERO FOR JAPAN'S NAVY.

Commander Saito Said to Have Planned Order—Makes a Flight. PINKHURST, N. C., April 4.—Commander Schichigoro Saito of the Japanese navy made an aeroplane flight to-day as a passenger with Lincoln Beachy. Mr. Beachy took his passenger for a trip over the town and was in the air about ten minutes.

Commander Saito, who has been making a study of aeronautics in this country, has recommended the purchase of a Curtiss machine to his Government.

Commander Saito came to the United States a month ago and on a tour of the States he visited Washington when J. A. D. McCurdy gave a demonstration of the Curtiss military airplane sold to the Government. The demonstration was a success, and McCurdy's flight around the Washington Monument and over the Potomac River. He thereupon expressed a desire to make a flight and, accordingly, the general manager of the Curtiss company, promptly offered him that opportunity.

A Wood Splitting Contest.

From the *Drayden Herald*. Three of the Hyer brothers attempted to break the record for cutting and splitting wood made several years ago by members of their family. The contest took place at Cortland. The eldest of the elder brothers was twenty cords in nine hours and twenty minutes. Saturday's work resulted in nineteen and one-quarter cords in nine hours and thirty minutes.

The Scotch Gander's Neck Verse.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Speaking of the international disclaimer of a certain transaction in green, I recall that when I was a boy in Scotland I used to hear the following:

Mr. McTavish I've taken your geese  
And now o'er the hills we'll mannae  
Accorded he has much to be gandered  
I've left my address with the gander.

A Nebraska Function.

From the *Grand Island Independent*. What has been described as one of the most pleasing