

The Sun

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The Root of the Matter. The appointment of the Hon. WALTER LOWRIE FISHER as Secretary of the Interior afforded supreme satisfaction to Colonel ROOSEVELT and the Hon. GIFFORD PINCHOT. In fact it was regarded by those perfect conservationists as an ideal selection and an inspiration on the part of President TAFT. Henceforth the public land system would be relieved of the taint of Ballingierism, and every gallon of water, every pound of coal, every stick of wood in the national domain worth preserving for public uses would be safe from the machinations of the predatory capitalists and held in trust for posterity down to the last cent of recorded time. Was not WALTER L. FISHER as good a conservationist as the Colonel himself or GIFFORD PINCHOT? Had they not combined to make him president of the National Conservation League, an organization formed to elect true conservationists to Congress for the purpose of upholding Mr. ROOSEVELT in his policy of saving the public resources from the selfish present generation? We assert that in 1908 when the great honor was bestowed upon Mr. FISHER no champion of conservation stood higher in the esteem and love and confidence of the Colonel and the Gifted One.

Who would have thought that the Hon. WALTER LOWRIE FISHER, raised to the Secretaryship of the Interior in succession to the decried BALLINGER, could ever be so disloyal, could so far forget himself, as to differ with his sponsors and creators? Yet such seems to be the grievous truth. Mr. FISHER on his way to Alaska to inspect its resources declares that they are in no danger because the Controller Bay lands have been opened to settlement by the withdrawal of 12,500 acres from the forest reserve, and that, moreover, RICHARD S. RYAN has acquired nothing that cannot be taken from him by the Government. In this statement Secretary FISHER is at sharp and emphatic variance with Colonel ROOSEVELT and ex-Forester PINCHOT, both of whom have been at pains to affirm or imply that President TAFT by issuing the order of withdrawal and permitting an entry has betrayed the cause of conservation.

According to both the Colonel and his ally, "the root of the matter" was that any withdrawal of land from the reserve was wrong under the circumstances. During the Roosevelt Administration no suspicion of taint might cloud decrees of withdrawal, for conservation in the hands of the President as advised by the consecrated PINCHOT was a perfect work; but Mr. TAFT exercises his judgment in the premises only at the peril of being held up to public opprobrium by his predecessor and of being posted by his predecessor's Forer as a tool of monopoly. Yet how can the bewildered looker on reconcile the conclusions of the Hon. WALTER LOWRIE FISHER, one of the elect that was with the bestowal of the blue ribbon upon him in the days when he was president of the Colonel's pet league? It cannot be done. Either the new Secretary of the Interior who was so acceptable to him must be regarded as a deserter from the sacred cause—or, for once, there is a flaw in the Colonel's infallibility and the Hon. GIFFORD PINCHOT shares his infirmity of judgment.

Democratic New York. Several weeks ago the Hon. WILLIAM BARNES, Jr., through the Albany Evening Journal, specifically warned too optimistic Republicans not to expect an immediate and general revolution in party supremacy in this State. In his comment Mr. BARNES spoke both of the "resiliency" and the actual strength of the Democratic party. His words, as those of the chairman of the Republican State committee, deserve at least a passing notice.

The truth is that the unusual conditions of the last few years in the politics of New York have served to blind many observers to the fact that for years New York was a Democratic State in local affairs at least, and that any substantial party unity, such as existed in 1898 and again in 1902, even in the face of the practical disintegration of the party machine, at once made the Democrats dangerous if not successful.

The carelessness, the lack of attention to the actual progress of political events in the last five years in the State served a few months ago to establish the conviction that the election of the Hon. JOHN A. DIX was a wholly accidental and ephemeral incident in the history of a Republican State, a slight interruption like the election of a Democratic Governor in Pennsylvania.

Nothing could be further from the fact. The slightest study of the election returns of the last three State canvasses in this State will demonstrate instantly that the election of Governor DIX was only the culmination of a steady process of growth in the Democratic strength in this State, a process which has been going on for some time, which in the last few years has resulted in a notable increase in the number of Democratic Assemblymen chosen in up-State districts and an equally interesting increase in the Democratic vote in up-State counties, coincident with a decline in the Republican vote.

In 1885, when the late DAVID B. HILL was a candidate for Governor, the Democrats carried thirteen counties outside of those now included in this city. In 1891 the late Governor FLOWER carried fifteen. In the political history of that time all these counties were recognized as either safely Democratic or wholly debatable. Yet in 1902 the Hon. BRAD S. COLER carried but two of them, and by those narrow margins. In eleven years, then, the rural Democratic strength had fallen markedly.

But in 1910 the Hon. JOHN A. DIX carried thirteen counties outside of New York, six of which were carried by HILL and nine by FLOWER. In the counties carried by HILL and lost by DIX the total Republican plurality was but 1,098, or less than 272 to the county. In the counties carried by FLOWER but lost by DIX the total Republican plurality was but 1,253, or an average of about 250. In a word the counties which were Democratic in 1885 or 1891 showed in 1910 a marked return to their former partisan alignment.

In 1891 twenty-four up-State counties elected one or more Democratic members. In 1910 eighteen of those same counties again selected Democrats, and no Republican plurality in a district carried in 1891 and lost in 1910 exceeded 500, and five fell below 500. Here again precisely the same resemblance between Democratic strength in 1891 and 1910 is apparent.

A whole mass of additional figures might be cited to confirm further the conclusion that in up-State New York there has been a steady and sustained reintegration of Democrats within their own party lines rather than any temporary interruption of Republican supremacy. As the Democratic party began to escape nationally from the Bryan burden, the number of Democrats who had temporarily deserted their own party during the Bryan obsession began to turn home.

To-day the counties which were Democratic twenty years ago are either Democratic, as shown by the figures of the last State election, or debatable. The days of Odell pluralities, such as that of 1902, are obviously passed. It is possible that Mr. BARNES had some of these things in mind when he made the comment mentioned above.

The Old Bailey. The Congressional Record of July 31 contains the speech on reciprocity with Canada delivered in the Senate July 20 by the Hon. JOSEPH WELDON BAILEY of Texas. Collectors will thank us for reproducing the peroration, thoroughly Baileyesque, majestic as a bladder:

"If this Government can dispense with any part of the revenue which it now collects, let us remit the taxes of the poor. I would not exempt the poor from taxation out of any desire to foster their poverty, nor would I tax the rich to discourage thrift and punish prosperity. But I would exempt the poor because, as they have no property to protect, the Government gives them protection only on their lives and liberty, and for that return a full equivalent in the personal services which they stand always ready to render the Government in peace as well as in war. I would tax the rich because all the taxes which they pay do not more than reimburse the Government for the security which it affords to their property and personal rights."

As only paupers "have no property to protect," Mr. BAILEY's plan for the remission of taxes, however precious as a new reading of the grand old doctrine of "equal rights for all, special privileges to none," may be thought, like himself, rather beautiful than of any discernible use. But connoisseurs of modern Democratic statesmanship will class it tenderly among their treasures and prize it for its author, who believes that at all times and in all places the noblest of God's speaking creatures.

Plays and Nations. Mr. WILLIAM ARCHER regrets that the American playwrights have not fulfilled the promises of ten years ago. On the other hand, the returning American managers strike up a hymn of victory and swear that London will yet have to select its dramatic fare from the works of American dramatists. So far as the London stage is concerned the gloom of Mr. ARCHER seems to be better justified than the exhilaration of the managers. Reports of the fate of plays written in the United States and acted abroad are not so rosy when they come direct from London. Few American plays are profitably acted in London. They generally fail. Moreover, it is doubtful if American actors are as much liked there as they used to be. Formerly there were better American actors than now.

"The great public of both hemispheres have no spleen to exercise," wrote an American actor who had enjoyed in a high degree the favor of this country and Great Britain. "They welcome a new entertainment with the heartiest warmth if it affords them gratification. They have neither the time nor the inclination to persecute strangers."

This is doubtless the state of mind of the English public to-day, just as it was when JOSEPH JEFFERSON wrote. American plays fail in London because they are not to the taste of the audiences there. In the same way English dramas often bore audiences in this country. If one wants an estimate as to the value of a London drawing room comedy in this country, New York is no fair test of its powers to entertain. In other cities of the country indifference to the plays written for the small number that sit in the stalls of the London theatres is so marked that it requires the cooperation of a very popular actor to arouse any interest in them; and in the same

measure must dramas written for Americans make less appeal abroad. It is fair to conclude, however, that neither with the American manager who praises the American drama nor with Mr. ARCHER does all the truth rest. American plays must always interest the American public more than those dealing with an unknown or unfamiliar life; and the output of the British playwright will always be most in demand in Great Britain.

The Crime of Tama Jim. The Hon. Tama JIM has had a record-breaking career at the head of an Executive Department in Washington, but after making the grass to grow and the rains to fall for full fourteen years and more, to the glory of Iowa and the contentment of the farmer vote, he is revealed in the lowest depth of iniquity which a man can sink. Out of his own mouth the damning words are asserted to have come:

"I heard Secretary WILSON say to a party of manufacturers at a hearing at the Department the following: 'I want you to understand that the Remsen board was organized and put into action for the purpose of conserving the interests of the manufacturers. You need not fear anything from that board.'"

Not only did the Secretary have the audacity to confess that an effort was being made to conserve the interests of the manufacturers, all of whom are known to make the Borgia family record seem meritorious, but he did it brazenly, openly, "at a hearing at the Department," where reporters could hear him. He did not have the decency to hide the shameful purpose of the Remsen board. He did not have the wit to say, "I want you to understand that the Remsen board was organized and put into action for the purpose of destroying the interests of the manufacturers. You need to fear everything from that board," and at the same time to wink reassuringly that eye which was unseen by the observing outsider. A timid man, a really ingenious man, would have resorted to subterfuge. Tama JIM sought no concealment, and even boasted his shame.

Of course, he must go. He will be lucky if he ends his days out of jail. England to-day is the richest field I have ever seen for a mischief-maker. The English take their libel laws more seriously than the Americans do.

That rich and prosperous country, the two Carolinas known as the "Piedmont Section" is rejoicing over the news that a system of electric railways is to be built connecting Greenwood, over which flies the Palmetto flag, with Durham in the Tar Heel State. The road will be upward of 300 miles in length, with feeders bringing the whole region into touch with the main line. The district is largely agricultural, but the utilization of water power for the production of electricity, which is transmitted throughout the whole territory, operating 2,000,000 spindles and 48,000 looms in 150 cotton mills, lighting towns and houses, and generally making things pleasant for mankind. The projected electric railroads will not only transport the inhabitants of this fortunate bit of the country quickly and in comfort as they go about their businesses and seek their pleasures, but will make easier for them to be served promptly and regularly with the Charlotte Observer, by the reading of which admirable journal they keep fully informed as to the doings of the world. The latest achievement of the Observer is a special edition in which the Piedmont section and its development are adequately described for the benefit of those who live in other parts of the country. An excellent publication, worthy of the land it celebrates and of men who habitually print a good newspaper.

What's the matter with St. Louis? Everywhere around us the rains are heavier than here. And yet, according to Scripture, are entitled to our adoration. St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

As the just or unjust? The officials charged with dispensing the \$8,000,000 francs which the Pope was able to devote to helping the sufferers by the Messina and Reggio disaster have made a report to the Vatican which is creditable and gratifying. The cost of administering relief was only 24 per cent. of the sum handed, in marked contrast to that spent in dispensing Government and private aid. Hundreds of churches were rebuilt or repaired, as well as schools, hospitals, orphanages and private dwellings, besides the assistance given in food, clothing and money to the survivors.

The most pleasant part of the report, however, is the testimony rendered by the Church officials to the hearty cooperation of the Italian Government and its officers in carrying out their plans. They all did everything to help. It is true that they were in the presence of a great calamity, whose political differences must disappear, but whatever the differences between the Vatican and Quirinal, when the welfare of the Italian people is concerned PIUS X. and VICTOR EMANUEL III. are ready to work hand in hand.

Notice to Beneficials. From the Hartford Times. Connecticut is ready to go back to a sound Democratic leadership like that of Cleveland or Tilden. But it will be found as stuffy opposed as ever to populism and radicalism if that shall still be again applied in the Presidential contest of 1912.

The French Stage. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—I read in today's SUN the following sentence in the present issue by the Catholic Federation in the pro-letarian of the stage: "If no check is put on such productions we shall ere long have the lamentable condition of the French stage duplicated in America."

To this I wish to answer there are two kinds of stage productions in France. One of them is patently aimed at the eyes of foreigners, the other is patronized by thousands, my millions, of French people, to use the writer's own words. The members of the federation who will endorse this letter seem to have left alone the management of affairs and a greater production of good honey. The processes of collecting honey in Cuba differ in no essential particular from those of the United States. The honey is generally brought to the market in strained form, this process being effected at the apiary. The exportation of honey and beeswax from Cuba now constitutes an important branch of trade. According to the official statistics for 1909 there was exported a total of 9,726,635 pounds. The exports of beeswax amounted to 1,623,333 pounds.

The Harvest Moon. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—The last week I have had several arguments as to whether the August or the September moon is called the "harvest moon." New York Starers claim both sides. When the American and the French newspapers are consulted, the French press, inasmuch as their presence tends to neutralize German influence.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 2.—A preliminary statement issued by the Bureau of the Census shows the product value of the cotton manufacturers of the country in 1909 as \$28,270,364, including cloth, small wares, hosiery and knit goods. The capital represented by these industries is \$983,963,497, and the average number of wage earners exceeds 500,000. The cost of the materials used in that year was \$477,406,880, and the payrolls, not including salaries of officials and the clerical force, amounted to \$171,109,253. The payments to officials and clerks are not reported in the statement, but from reports of earlier years it may be assumed that they were not far from \$15,000,000.

The output value being \$28,000,000 and payments for materials, wages and salaries amounting to approximately \$663,000,000, to which may be added 7 per cent of output value, or about \$60,000,000 for rent, taxes, insurance, interest and other sundry expenses, approximately \$100,000,000 is left to cover the cost of selling, packing, distribution, business losses and all else, including profits. It is evident that the net profits of the industry as a whole are not and cannot be more than 7 or 8 per cent, at the most on either the cost of the merchandise or the capital actually invested. The fallacy of enormous profits in the industry, because there are mills that pay from 20 to 40 per cent dividends on a capitalization that represents only a quarter or a half of the actual investment or physical valuation, has been fully shown. A badly managed mill is almost certain to fail, and a well conducted enterprise makes no more than a reasonable profit.

The division of the total output value of the industry is:

Table with 3 columns: Cotton goods, Hosiery and knit goods, and other goods. Values in millions of dollars.

Those various evidences of the growth of the industry demonstrate the increase in domestic consumption and in the purchasing power of the people. Broadly viewed, there appears to have been an increase of perhaps a little more than 25 per cent, in production measured in quantity, but there was an increase of nearly 100 per cent in output value, due principally to much higher cost of raw material and in part to increased wages to employees. The present high cost of cotton goods is attributable far more to the high cost of raw cotton than to the influence of the tariff. The growth of the industry in the different sections of the country is interesting. While there has been a particularly notable expansion in the South, the older centres of manufacture have not been standing still. The increase is measurable in the number of active spindles. In 1900 the mills of the cotton growing States, operating 4,367,688 spindles, used 1,523,168 bales of cotton; in 1910, with 10,301,494 spindles, they used 2,292,833 bales. The mills of New England, with 13,171,377 spindles, in 1900 used 1,909,498 bales of raw cotton, and in 1910, with 16,112,406 spindles, used 2,016,286 bales. The fact that the cotton growing States used more cotton than was used in New England is explained by the transfer to the South of a very large part of the textile machinery and heavy goods, while the New England mills have been given their attention mainly to the finer wares, requiring more and better labor and less raw material. In a 500 pound bale of cotton there may be 2,000 yards or less of a coarse and heavy cloth or 10,000 yards or more of fine fabric. The figures for 1909 are not yet at hand, but the point may be illustrated by the figures for 1905. In that year these products are reported for the respective sections in yards:

Table with 3 columns: New England, Southern States, and Brown or bleached shirtings. Values in millions of yards.

These products represent quantities of raw material rather than quality of product. How much can be shaven from the present tariff on cotton goods without serious danger to the mills, Northern or Southern, remains to be seen. At least it does not appear, as far as the mills are concerned, that the profits of the industry are criminally swollen by Schedule I.

The Instinct for Treas. From the Youth's Companion. Having his remarks upon his experiences in India, Mr. E. P. Stebbing recently showed at a lecture in Edinburgh that man has inherited from his remote ancestors a love of treasure which is distinct even in the "city man." In the earlier days of the world the forest was the great storehouse from which man obtained the necessities of life. When the honey bee has finished its work of the year it stores its surplus in the cells of its hive. The honey is generally brought to the market in strained form, this process being effected at the apiary. The exportation of honey and beeswax from Cuba now constitutes an important branch of trade. According to the official statistics for 1909 there was exported a total of 9,726,635 pounds. The exports of beeswax amounted to 1,623,333 pounds.

Foreigners in Switzerland. Statistics have been published in regard to the movements of foreigners in Switzerland. At the beginning of the present century the German influx was marked by a diminution of the number of Swiss citizens. The German population in Switzerland has since that time shown a steady decline, while the English appear more numerous. Foreigners also show a tendency to settle in the Helvetic mountains, where the French press, inasmuch as their presence tends to neutralize German influence.

THE RECALL IN NEW JERSEY. Escape of Public Utilities Commission From Record's Wrath. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—It may properly be assumed that in order to make the recall completely effective no public officer of any consequence should be appointed, all should be elected by the people. That being the case, it is interesting to learn that what might have happened recently in New Jersey after the refusal of the Public Utilities Commission to interfere with railroad commutation rates had the recall been in operation in that State and had no members of the commission been elected or appointed to office. In short, the members of the commission, which is a judicial or quasi-judicial body, would in all probability have been recalled for committing the offense of supporting the Constitution of the United States.

That such would have been the case is suggested by an article written by George L. Record, New Jersey's leading reformer and a member of the executive committee of the National Progressive Party and Wilson's chief adviser and the preeminent champion in the State of the initiative, the referendum and the recall. The article was printed last week in the Jersey Journal and reprinted by the Sun and other reform newspapers. Had Mr. Record's cherished system of popular government been in vogue in New Jersey he would no doubt have spent the time he gave to writing newspaper articles demanding the abolition of the Public Utilities Commission to the circulation among the commuters of a petition asking for the recall of the commissioners.

The decision of the commission with respect to commutation rates, which met with Mr. Record's severe disapproval and denunciation, was announced June 14 and was as follows:

That the transportation of passengers from one city to another State is interstate commerce, and that this is so as to the part of the trip which is wholly within that State, where the transportation is under an entire contract for a continuous trip.

That the State is without power to regulate such commerce, and that the Legislature of the State can neither exercise such power directly nor can it do so through the Public Utilities Commission, in which commission Congress has vested jurisdiction.

Mr. Record's article was entitled "The Frightened Public Utilities Commission" and was in part as follows:

One of the most encouraging signs of the power of public opinion in this State is the new evidence in this State in the contest between the Public Utilities Commission and the commuters. The Commuters' Association presented a memorial to the Legislature requesting that it exercise the powers given them under the recent act put through by Governor Wilson. To this the secretary put out a curt statement that the commission could do nothing. This was done by the public with so much criticism that the board issued a long explanation attempting to justify the refusal of the board to do anything. The explanation was so long and so involved that it never issued by a public body in this State. The moment it appeared its specious and flimsy pleading was perceived by the whole State. The newspaper editors, who were torn by this statement into pieces, and the demand for the abolition of the board is becoming universal.

The decision of the Interstate Commerce Commission on the question of commutation rates that has since been announced may be regarded as a great man's old-fashioned people as a vindication of the New Jersey Public Utilities Commission in this matter. It is too bad, however, that Mr. Record and his political associates cannot see the members of the Interstate body, or if the question be taken to the United States Supreme Court and the Interstate Commission's decision be upheld, that they cannot recall the members of the court.

Justice for Woman. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—The fundamental reason for belief in woman suffrage is the mere matter of justice. But as there are many respective reasons against which the anti-suffragists have made a great show of protest, let us continue to consider them in your impartial columns.

"To 'bread and circuses' is usually imputed the cause of the Roman decline," says Mr. Kasebrenn argues that Rome's greatness was caused by the rise in political power of Roman women. The women of the empire shared the ambitions and the power of aggressive nature of their menfolk, and the same was true of the Roman Republic. The race characteristics of their men, among the races that constituted Rome women were, like our pioneer women, nearer to an equality with men than are the women of today.

Perhaps politics may be no purer when men vote. The wife is usually just equal to her husband in intelligence and common sense. Yet anti-suffragists in practice contend that women are less likely to allow political reasons to deflect their votes from the right in questions of public interest. So perhaps things may go a little better for the women if they get the political right on their own heads. Presently they realize their disadvantage, justifying our belief in the democratic form of government.

The only change I shall extract from woman suffrage is a betterment in woman's character. The weaknesses usually ascribed to woman are the result of her irresponsibility in public affairs and her inexperience in business principles and methods. Let us not again make the stupid mistake of mistaking effect for cause.

As for considering the franchise a privilege, not a right, which should never be considered if it is not a sound argument against votes for women that is not equally sound as an argument against unlimited votes for men. In other words, if we are to have a government, it is to be judged by the people it produces. The best form of government merely as a form of government for its own sake is a government in which the people have the right to elect their representatives. The best form of government is a government in which the people have the right to elect their representatives. The best form of government is a government in which the people have the right to elect their representatives.

NEW YORK STREETS. A Tested Method of Construction That Should Be Tried in This Town. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Traveling in an automobile, as I do and have been doing for the past two years, through the boroughs of Manhattan, Bronx, Brooklyn and Queens, has given me ample opportunity to compare their streets and boulevards with those of other cities. My experience teaches me that our streets are poorly constructed, and they wear out faster than they can be repaired.

Observation in other localities teaches me that the construction of a substantial street that will last and give off no dust, is a very simple matter. First a layer of from six to ten inches of rubble or pebble stone, about the size of stove coal, mixed with cement and water and rolled to six inches of broken stone a little larger than nu coal, rolled down smooth by heavy steam roller. Over the surface a coating of hot tar and asphalt, not more than enough to run down between the broken stone, thus forming a smooth surface. The broken stone, actually there, will be left on top a thin coating of tar and asphalt not more than one-quarter to one-half inch in thickness. More than this is unnecessary. Third, after the tar and asphalt have cooled and become hard, apply a layer of about one-half inch of coarse sand, which the vehicles will grind into the tar and asphalt, and thus a surface hard and smooth will form. After the first rain washes the surplus sand away there is no dust, and subsequent oiling is unnecessary.

Both common sense and experience should by this time have taught our city street and highway commissioners that asphalt will not wear and that broken stone alone is a great improvement over the present method. Think what a luxury it would be in our great city to be able to ride over streets and boulevards and parkways that are firm, smooth and solid, and that give off no dust.

Our street and highway commissioners are at all spectacles let them visit the cities of Danbury and South Norwalk, Conn. In the former are streets so constructed several years old and showing no wear. In the latter city is a beautiful example of recent construction.

Upon a recent visit to Grand Gorge in the Catskills I observed a piece of road of this construction one mile long, from the railroad station to the dam. The road was absolutely dustless. This is a hard used piece of road, thinly and poorly constructed as compared with the specimen in South Norwalk, yet it has stood the test of four years.

Why, oh why, do our city and county authorities not give us streets and highways that will last for years without repair, and at the same time rid the city of this incessant cloud of disease breeding, stifling dust? S. JOYNS. SOUTH NORWALK, Conn., August 1.

A MANAGER'S MEMOIRS. Stories Told by the Parisian Impresario M. Schurmann. Paris correspondence Pall Mall Gazette. The well known Paris Impresario, M. Schurmann, who has toured most of the theatrical and musical celebrities of the world, has been constrained to write his memoirs under the suggestive title of "Secrets de Couillasse." Some "stars" show avarice and pettiness of disposition, and a general feeling of being embarrassed to the director of a tour. Paderewski and Adelina Patti appear to possess the highest suffrages of M. Schurmann. He declares that the former is the most noble minded of any artist he has ever met, and that he has given her a fee, amounting to £100 a concert, in charity, while the latter deserves every penny of her £400 an engagement, is always exact and punctual in fulfilling her obligations, and is so respected that she is never popularly favored. On tour she lives for her art, and allows nothing to interfere with it.

The caprices of other artists form a large section of the book. Sometimes the tour comes to a sudden end, and the artist's behavior of the "star" or her demand for more money "because the manager is making so much." In one case a most profitable enterprise had to be abandoned, for the leading young Parisian actor refused to appear at a general assembly of an impresario has his joys and triumphs, especially in the case of the author who has met every one practically of note in the world of music and drama.

There is a story of Suzanne Despres, who gave admirable performances of Ibsen's "Hedda" in "A Doll's House" and Jules Renard's "Poil de Carotte" in a provincial town. The enthusiasm was tremendous. A society was organized to give her a party of expressions of pleasure. Before she left the actress's dressing room she took the heroine on one side and said: "May I ask you a question? Why were you dressed as a little boy with red hair in the play 'Poil de Carotte'?" She had taken "Poil de Carotte" to be the sequel of the Ibsen drama. Mr. Schurmann was so disgusted that she should never be induced to revisit the locality.

A popular picture of Maeterlinck would perhaps be a pale consumptive young man, a neurotic dreamer who lives on poetry and water in a world apart. Hence his surprise and delight in meeting a young girl, with a Belgian accent, who asks what there is for lunch as he gets out of the theatre, whether there is any good beer in the place.

Schurmann says he has never known an actor or actress to be so good as to perform in his plays. When Maeterlinck visited the Gymnase a week after "Poil de Carotte" had been given, he said, remarking to the manager: "After 10 o'clock the best place is bed." "If I waited for inspiration," he says, "I should never work. I sit down before 10 o'clock and write for ten or twelve hours. If the ideas come I write them down. If they are absent, I smoke my pipe and read. I have had complete new plays written in Copenhagen announced the fact with a great flourish of trumpets, and I had been in the theatre for a week or more, remarking to the manager: "After 10 o'clock the best place is bed."

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NOTE ON SUBWAY DELAY. Public Service Board Now Letteth Its Servant Speak. Because actual work has not been begun on the Lexington avenue subway, although ground was formally broken on Monday, an impression has gone abroad that there is to be further delay in the beginning of the work. For the purpose of explaining the situation the Public Service Commission yesterday authorized acting Chief Engineer Alfred Craven to issue this statement:

I desire to say that under the ordinary procedure and as provided in the contract to erect the Lexington avenue subway, Bradley has sixty days from July 15, the day of signing his contract—within which to commence work. This is the period allotted to the contractor to get together his plant, to erect his working platform and do the preliminary work in order to proceed with the work in an orderly manner. The fact, however, that Bradley is particularly well equipped for subway construction will be able to actually commence work in a much shorter period than the above and get the subway under construction in selecting the best points of vantage for working and in providing plans for his working plant; that will not only be less for the long period that will be necessary and will be able to start a subway, but the working points will be so arranged that they will cause the least inconvenience to the public and to the property owners that may be more or less affected by the work. I am expecting within a few days, made to order, to be able to approve the plans, as above noted, and Bradley can then proceed ahead with his construction. The number of working points will then be increased as fast as possible and as is consistent with the safety of the work, and a great work of a work that involves so much a responsibility not only on the contractor, but on those with whom will rest the responsibility of seeing that whatever is done is properly done and the inconvenience to traffic and to the public along the route will be reduced to a minimum.

WILCOX, CRAM AND METZ SAIL. Three Wise Men of Gotham Off to the Mauretania for a Holiday. Chairman William R. Wilcox and J. Sergeant Cram of the Public Service Commission sailed on the Mauretania yesterday, and so did ex-Comptroller Herman A. Metz. Mr. Metz had to say, just before sailing, about subways: "You can characterize all of the negotiations with one word, 'fake.'" He added that what the people actually want in the way of subways is the ability to ride as far as possible for five cents. Mr. Metz also said that he was going for a day in London and then was going on to Germany.

Chairman Wilcox said that he was going abroad for a few weeks rest, as the Public Service Commission had to do the subway situation. While he is away he said, he will study the municipal operation of traction lines in Belfast and in other cities.

Robert Adamson, secretary to the Mayor, and Mrs. Adams were also on the Mauretania. They are to make their headquarters at London. They will be embarking to the director of the Municipal Street Cleaning Commission, Commissioner Edwards were at the pier to see the Adamsons off. Dr. O. M. Leiser of the Health Department, who is a physician to the Giants, was another of the Mauretania's passengers.

ALARM BY CITIZENS UNION. Which Says That Under Proposed Charter Mayor Could Stop Subways. The Citizens Union sent out a statement last night in which it was insisted that should the proposed charter be passed in its present form the building of new subways would be in danger of being blocked because the new charter would give to Mayor Gaynor the power to determine who should operate the new lines.

It is asserted that the charter as now drafted would allow the Mayor to veto every subway contract if he so wished, and that the Board of Estimate would not have the right to nullify the Mayor's veto. It is added in the statement:

It is proposed to pass this charter early in September, and it is for this reason that the Board of Estimate has been authorized to contract with the Brooklyn Rapid Transit Company in all human probability be its own terms go into effect immediately; the Mayor would have the power to make a single contract and all that has been done to obtain rapid transit for the city may go for nothing.

ALL WANT THE MARINE BAND. Southern Senators Descend on the White House Asking a Tour. WASHINGTON, Aug. 2.—When Representative Ollie James, who is working for the Senatorial job from Kentucky, secured the Marine Band to play at the Blue Grass State fair at Lexington, Ky., his popularity took such a rise among the voters of that State that several Senators from Northern States decided to follow his example and file a request for the famous band to play at the band through Dixie, commencing September 5. The President assured the Senators that their request was entirely pleasing to him and he has accordingly written to the Secretary of the Navy, Beekman Withers, who is ex-officio bandmaster, telling him that if it is agreeable to him he would like to see the tour arranged.

Gov. Dix to Be in Albany To-day. ALBANY, Aug. 2.—Gov. Dix will return to Albany to-morrow to attend a meeting of the State Trustees of Public Buildings. Several State contracts are to be awarded. Immediately after the meeting the Governor will return to his Lake George cottage.

Movements of Naval Vessels. WASHINGTON, Aug. 2.—The collier Hector has arrived at Norfolk, the despatch boat Dolphin at New York and the battleships Iowa, Indiana and Massachusetts at Gibraltar.

The destroyer Mayrant has sailed from Philadelphia