The Sun.

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Good Wishes for the Chinese Republic.

May the Republic of China, supported by an intelligent and devoted citizenship, continue forever to stand as an example of the capacity and ability of men to rule themselves, restraining with wise moderation the violent passions of the mob, presenting to the world a united front in the defence of their rights.

May its internal politics be enlivened by a sufficient number of visionaries, cranks and demagogues to keep in fighting condition its thoughtful and sensible electors, on whose exercise of their privileges the nation must depend for salvation from chaos within and invasion from without.

May its dealings with other Powers be inspired by a determination to enforce respect for itself and to do exact justice to foreign nations.

May it be represented at the capital of the United States by a succession of diplomatists as witty, amusing and intelligently curious as Wu TING-FANG of ever pleasant memory.

Bryan on the Witness Stand.

We do not agree with our correspondent in his view of Mr. BRYAN's inutility as a Money Trust witness:

"To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: It is announced that the Peerless Nuisance is to be summoned to appear before the Congressional committee on the money inquiry.

"Why is it that the committee are so acquiescent to Mr. BRYAN's wishes?

"All he desires is to be allowed to appear. He does not care in what capacity. Only give him a chance to make a noise and he is in his native element and greatly pleased.

"That he will be of any value or assistance to the committee or anybody else nobody dreams, and it is not right to give a hearing from which no good can possibly be derived.

"NEW YORK, February 12. L. T. W."

On the contrary, we think that Mr. BRYAN will prove a most useful witness, if properly examined both as to generalities and particulars, particularly as to particulars. Nobody else is so well qualified as he is to exhibit the sleaziness of the entire fabric.

Further than this, certain considerations of ordinary humanity of men to man require that Mr. BRYAN shall have every facility for maintaining his proprietorship of the "Money Trust issue." Judging from past experience and present indications, if he is not assisted to keep his hold on his own "issue" it will be promptly and mercilessly appropriated by Colonel THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

Pasteur Belongs to the World.

The cabled reports that Mr. ROCKEFELLER has contributed to the fund for perpetuating the name and glorious achievements of LOUIS PASTEUR by purchasing the house of his nativity has aroused a feeling of humiliation among the French people. This is to be regretted, for the achievements of PASTEUR have proved the greatest blessing to all nations of the earth; it is a manifestation of false pride which in the nation as in the individual distorts the view. It should be a source of satisfaction to the people of France that a citizen of a nation to the upbuilding of which it has contributed a LA FAYETTE and a ROCHAMBEAU has offered another practical demonstration of grateful recognition.

The practical benefits which have resulted from the discoveries of PASTEUR must endear his name to every human being. Among these great services may be cursorily mentioned the wonderful discovery of the micro-organism which was devastating the wine growing regions of France and bringing misery to its people. By patient laboratory experiment and practical study of the "habits" of the vine PASTEUR evolved a method of destroying the blight not only in his own country but in all wine producing lands. Another result of PASTEUR'S scientific studies was the discovery that by subjecting wine, beer and other fermented liquids to certain temperatures they may be preserved long for home use and export, thus extending the profitable manufacture of these products, so that enormous wealth was added to all countries.

Last and best known to the people in general is the pasteurization of milk, which has made it possible to reduce infant mortality and thus diminish general mortality. By the discovery of the micro-organism which causes the souring of milk and by devising a simple method of destroying it PASTEUR has placed every mother under deep obligation, so that in every civilized country woman "rises up and calls him blest." There are many other benefactions which PASTEUR has originated; for example, he has robbed hydrophobia of its terrors.

Let the French people rejoice that the whole world acclaims with one accord the grandeur of their countryman. He has blessed other people more than his own. When the history of the world is written, after contemporaneous national faults and frailties, prejudices and hatreds have been buried in oblivion by the passage of time, the name of LOUIS PASTEUR will stand prominent among the benefactors of mankind. His precious laboratory work will be recognized as more beneficent than many achievements of military heroes or sagacious statesmen whose lives will pale into insignificance beside that of the great Frenchman.

PASTEUR'S apostrophe to his parents, which THE SUN has reproduced, is as creditable to his heart as are his scientific discoveries to his head. These ingenious and soulful lines limning the innate beauty of his character may well give pause to the rising generation which in its love of the material pleasures of life is losing much of that sweetness and joy which emanates from the cultivation of sentiment.

The Abdication of Pi Yu.

The end has come to the rule of little PI YU in the fourth year of his reign, the sixth of his age and the two hundred and sixty-eighth of his dynasty. This was brought about by the issuing at noon yesterday of an edict of abdication. That such a step would be taken by the ruling house was announced a week ago. The opposition of the princes of the clan and their efforts to secure conditions favorable to themselves delayed until now the final action.

So complete a surrender of the Throne to the people was not thought of even at the beginning of the rebellion that has brought it about. But the Throne in China was never associated with the making of the nation, nor, according to the Western ideas, was it ever considered as presiding over the nation. It was not of the same flesh and blood. For this reason there was no royalist party there such as the civil wars of Europe have produced. There was, of course, a great body of people who having lived by favor of the Crown would wish its authority to continue, but not even in the castes which have so long misruled the country were there any great numbers of men who were willing to risk their lives and property from devotion to the cause of the Throne.

While the Chinese have always believed in the divine right of kings they have qualified this belief in such a way as to make it hold good only so long as the kings seem to them to be divine. In other words, good government exists in Chinese eyes only when the country is prosperous, free from war, pestilence and famine. Misgovernment is a sure sign that God has withdrawn His mandate from the Emperor and that the Emperor is no longer fit to rule. The Chinese assert that according to the Confucian canon they have a right to put an evil ruler to death. It is held not to be high treason in any way to proclaim this principle in public. The accepted unworthiness of a ruler has always meant the final overthrow of the dynasty and the replacing of the Emperor with one who is more worthy of divine favor.

The proclamation appears to be an unconditional surrender by the Manchus. There is nothing to indicate that they have succeeded in their efforts to safeguard any of the privileges upon which they insisted earlier in the negotiations. The edict declares that the Throne accepts the republican form of government and approves the conditions agreed upon between the republicans and the Premier, YUAN SHIH KAI is thus left practically at the head of the Government at Pekin. The republic remains in force at Nankin.

The Three Heads of Mr. Taft's Offending.

An editorial article in the *Outlook* admits that "the case, then, on behalf of what has been done during his Administration is even stronger than Mr. TAFT'S own presentation of it. It is a record in which not only as a great lawyer and judge but also as an eminent public man he has reason for taking pride." Why, then, does the eminent public man and great overruler of lawyers and judges who contributes his opinions to the *Outlook* not support that Administration? Why is an octet of Governors and divers small fry of other claqueurs tomtoming so sonorously to substitute the eminent public man in Fourth avenue for the President with a strong record of achievement? Why is there "widespread popular discontent" with the Administration?

For three reasons. One because Mr. TAFT "has allowed himself to become identified in the public mind with those elements in his party which have been frankly opposed to progress".

A notable illustration occurs in the closing sentence of his Cleveland speech: "On this, the natal day of WILLIAM MCKINLEY, let us take new vows in behalf of the Grand Old Party, standing by the constitution, standing by the rights of liberty and property of the individual and willing to face defeat many times in behalf of the cause of sound constitutional government." This might have been said in exactly these words by Mr. CANNON or any of the so-called standpatters who believe that the prime function of party government is to promote material prosperity or mere money making. In such a sentence there is no hint of that feeling for which the Progressive element of Mr. TAFT'S party stands, that feeling which is growing more and more throughout the country that in the end, when human rights clash with property rights, human rights should prevail. In this sentence there is no hint of really sympathetic understanding of that movement which has changed the complexion of Congress and which has put the reactionary element in both parties on the defensive.

So a man who stands by the Constitution, by the rights of liberty and property, is "frankly opposed to progress." Exactly what is meant by the thoroughly Rooseveltian apophthegm that "when human rights clash with property rights human rights should prevail" we do not pretend to understand. It would seem to be the President's business to execute the laws, the rights of the citizen, including the right of property, being finally defined and asserted by the courts under the Constitution.

The second category of Mr. TAFT'S offences is curious enough to be cited in full:

"The people of the country have come to regard the President as being interested more in the machinery of government than in the promotion of human welfare. He has done much to create and crystallize public opinion with regard to such matters as the tariff, as the Commerce Court, as judicial procedure, but with regard to the more vital questions the people have not felt his leadership. On the question of the draining of the country population into the city, the question of turning desert lands into a region of homes, the question of decent hours of labor and adequate wages, the question of living wages, the question of pure food, the question of the protection of children—on all such questions as these the American people have not felt the leadership of the President, and they have missed it."

In short, Mr. TAFT has been the President according to the Constitution, and not a "steward of the public welfare," a farm life uplifter, a university settlement, a sociological survey, an intermitter into many sorts of questions, most of which are none of his business officially. In the opinion of many, therefore, not to be classed as "decent" citizens, he has talked rather too much than too little on extraneous subjects; but this may charitably be attributed to the example of his predecessor. At any rate, most sensible citizens, whether "decent" or not, will not find fault with him if he is not a combination of the Contributing Editor, GIFFORD PINCHOT, JOHN MITCHELL, SAMUEL GOMPERS, Judge R. B. LINDSEY, ROBERT HUNTER and LINCOLN STEFFENS; if, in fact, he is more interested in "the machinery of government" than in miscellaneous humanitarianism.

The third head of Mr. TAFT'S offending is that "the people have come to feel that President TAFT is primarily an interpreter of laws rather than an administrator of laws." In view of the respective records of Mr. TAFT and his predecessor in the matter of enforcing the laws this statement must be taken as an instance of that ironic humor in which Mr. ROOSEVELT abounds, not seldom to the mystification of his clerical and secular brethren in Fourth avenue.

The Winter in New England.

To be a prophet with honor at 88 is the felicity of "Uncle" HORACE JOHNSON of Middle Haddam on the Connecticut River. Skaters have flitted by on its sheeted bosom from Windsor, above Hartford, clear to Saybrook Point, a distance of sixty miles. Voluntown, over near the Rhode Island line, has had a temperature of 26 degrees below zero; Canton, up in the Farmington Valley, has reported 20 degrees below; and memories of "old fashioned winters" are ingloriously mute.

It may be that "Uncle" HORACE'S planetary method of forecasting weather by a judicious mingling of "astronomy, meteorology and mathematics" from the top of his barn is not convincing; but when he is right the credit is his, and when he is wrong nobody cares. Did he not predict the blizzard of 1888; also the great Connecticut earthquake that wound up all the eight day clocks in the State? He added measurably to his fame by announcing as long ago as last September an Arctic winter this year for New England.

The returns from New England for the month of January are now in, and if the modest frame house in which "Uncle" HORACE JOHNSON makes the weather does not become a shrine there's no spell in genius. He is vindicated from Fort Kent to Noank. Maine and Vermont contend for the lowest temperatures recorded. Thus at Ashland in northern Aroostook there was a reading of 39 degrees below zero, while Bloomfield in Vermont, on the Connecticut River, near the Canadian line, claimed the same figure, ousting Northfield from the distinction of being the Medicine Hat of Vermont. Other below zero temperatures in Maine during the month were: Farmington, 34 degrees; Gardiner, 34; Millinocket, 33; Houlton, 33; Greenville on Moosehead Lake, 32, and Fairfield, 32. In Vermont, St. Johnsbury, 35; Enosburg Falls, 35, and Woodstock, 34. Ashland was also the coldest place in Maine during the month, with a mean temperature of exactly zero. In this respect Vermont was a poor second, with a mean temperature of 5.6 degrees above zero at Bloomfield and the same at Northfield. New Hampshire's lowest reported temperature was 26.5 below zero at Benton, under the shadow of Moosilauke. Massachusetts could do no better than 24 below at Westboro. Of twenty-eight stations in Massachusetts Provincetown, at the tip of Cape Cod, was the warmest, with a minimum temperature of 4 degrees above zero and a mean of 24.2, but to pay for this advantage it had the heaviest snowfall, 29.5 inches. Maine's blanket of snow was thickest, 45.4 inches at Greenville; the snowfall all over Maine was heavy. From Chelsea, on the Orange county tableland in Vermont, 29 inches was reported; New Hampshire's deepest was 26.5 inches at Benton.

February up to the 11th of the month, when there was no abatement of the rigors of winter, invited comparison with January, and when the long cruel siege is over the complete record will doubtless confound "the oldest inhabitant" if he harks back to his youth and avers that the season is becoming milder and milder.

The Wabash is sufficiently renowned in story and song; but the town of Wabash, Ind., had laid no claim to fame until word was sent out to the world that Farmer ORA ABSHIRE lived near there. ORA was out driving on what he had always regarded as his private thoroughfare, for, being opposed to the operation of motor cars on public highways, he naturally holds that when he is driving the street is closed to other traffic. He gave rather vivid proof of his convictions in this respect by hurling an axe at a passing automobile occupied by LEWIS BING. LEWIS escaped, but his tire went bing! bang! bing! and flattened out on the country road, severed and scuttled by the battle axe.

Farmer ABSHIRE was inconsiderately arrested, thereby denying his inalienable right to fling an axe, when he has oftentimes seen such an act seriously depicted in clever pictures. Why not apprehend the cartoonists? ORA ABSHIRE has studied their teachings to his cost.

Among the applicants for the incorporation of the Brotherhood of North American Indians SOMKEEN WATERS of the Cayuses, WAH-RAH-E-GAY of the Chippewas, PILE OF CLOUDS of the Nez Perces, CRAZY BULL and FAST-TRACK of the Sioux, NO SHIRT of the Walla Wallas and WE-QUICK SALUSKIN of the Yakimas deserve consideration; but CHARLES WATSON, WILLIAM H. LYONS and JOHN J. DOHERTY, respectable though they may be, have no rights that Congress should respect in such a matter. They are rank intruders, and the secret password should never be confided to them.

This week's Fountain Inn *Tribune* launches forth in a furious attack upon NAPOLEON BONAPARTE.—*Columbia State.*

How long will this unbridled audacity let itself go? Nobody is safe, not TIGLATH PILESER II., not LA FOLLETTE.

A "reformed cannibal" is visiting in New York.—*Atlanta Constitution.*

He was a fool to reform until food is cheaper.

THE MAN WITHOUT A SHIRT.

Encouraging Report for the Light Clothing Brotherhood.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Some two years ago a discussion ran in the columns of THE SUN about the benefits of light clothing, in which one man suggested the discarding of the undershirt. Being already a believer in light clothes I discontinued the undershirt, and this makes the third year that I have worn no undershirt of any kind, wearing the usual nainsook shirt next the skin.

Inasmuch as colds are the most common form of trouble and since so many other ailments have their inception in colds, it is interesting to note that during these three years I have been absolutely free from colds, grip or sickness of any kind, where formerly I seemed to have a cold as regularly as any one.

I wear light underdrawers, light socks, and my heaviest winter suit is only a sixteen ounce cloth, which is very light. Two of the past three years I spent in the trying climate of Boston, where I wore a very light overcoat, and here, where the average 8 o'clock morning temperature for November was 5 degrees below zero, where the December average was 2 degrees below and the January average was 7 degrees below, I wear a heavy ulster. I never get overheated, hence no colds, and never have to go through the dangerous changing from heavy to light underwear.

The air that reaches the body of one thus dressed is a great tonic for the nerves. I do not advise any one to discard clothing they are accustomed to wear, but begin in the summer by dressing as lightly as possible and never exceeding the limit which is suggested above.

This system does away absolutely with the teetotaler's red nose recently complained of in THE SUN. A. W. M.

CLAYTON FORKS, N. D., February 10.

The Emasculation of Hymns.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: A comparative inspection of two or more denominational hymn books will prove an interesting, although not a very instructive, entertainment, in showing the manner in which the hymnsmith mutilates the works of the old masters. Watts and the Wesleys, having been prolific writers as well as strong thinkers, have suffered greatly from hidebound dogmatists. I have before me two hymnals containing that rattling old war cry, "Am I a Soldier of the Cross." Here is a stanza from each:

Thy saints in all this glorious war
Shall conquer, though they die;
I see the triumph from afar
By faith I see it nigh.

Whether this is as the author penned it I am not able to say. It is logical, however, it is also good verse.

Here is the way it appears in another hymnal:

Thy saints in all this glorious war
Shall conquer, when they die.
They see the triumph from afar
And *sing it in the sky.*

The italics and the score mark are mine. Not even Newman's classic "Lead, Kindly Light" has escaped the snarling of the vandal. In a hymnal published about twenty-five years ago the first line reads: "*Send* kindly light." And yet there are good people who refuse to justify lynch law.

J. W. REDWAY.

MOUNT VERNON, N. Y., February 12.

Bishop as Is.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: You say "If English dictionaries may be trusted, bishop is a hot drink." Is it possible there is in THE SUN no knowledge of Ambrosia?

Get busy, as follows: Stick a lemon full of cloves and roast before an open fire until it is a dark brown, pound eight ounces of loaf sugar to granulation, grate a little nutmeg, ginger and cinnamon, also two cloves and one allspice (Anglice pimento); take the thin rind of a lemon, and put all this in a bowl with a pint of Spanish port wine (not the California abomination) and a bottle of claret. Let the mixture stand quite close to the fire for one hour and then strain the spices out; heat the mixture thoroughly, but do not let it boil; place the roasted lemon in a heated bowl, pour the hot liquor over it, squeeze the lemon with a spoon to the bottom or sides of the bowl, add one wineglassful of cherry brandy, and drink it hot as convenient. It may be made in advance and warmed if desired, but the sight of the preparatory process and the beneficent odor will be missed by the true epicure.

Where did Mr. Charles Dressel get his idea that bishop was not a hot drink? Out upon such heretical ignorance. Also, is it not rather surprising that no one has claimed Dickens to be a Celt, a lineal descendant of Whatha Dickens, of immortal memory? W. P. POND.

NEW YORK, February 12.

A Ruling on Paroles in Ohio.

From the Columbus Dispatch.

A first or second degree murderer may not be paroled until after he has served twenty-five years, so Attorney-General Hogan holds, reversing a ruling by former Attorney-General Sheets. This may annul some paroles given heretofore.

The Courage of Damocles.

He saw the sword suspended by a hair.
"That's nothing dangerous," he cried, "my own
hair often lasts after the barber says it is falling out."

Why He Was Grouchy.

Knicker: Jones got out of the wrong side of the bed this morning.
Bocker: He couldn't help it. It was a sleeping car and every side was wrong.

Wise.

Knicker: Is he trying to get the farmer vote?
Bocker: No, the agriculturist vote.

Reasonable Question.

Candidate: Smack.
Baby: Am I the firthst you ever kissed?

In Line at Election.

From the Washington Star.

"Let me see the tickets,"
Said she in dainty tone
"I've really been too busy
To fix one of my own.
I fear the decorations
Are not in proper taste.
But I'll stop and look them over
Since I have the time to waste."

Hey, you fellers, tip your hats
And each put on yer coat
Stand aside, O Hoolihan,
An' let the lady vote!

"Who are all those people
Standing back in line?
They must stop their voting
Till I finish mine.
Let me have a pencil,
My purse? I've let it fall!
What a dreadful lot of names!
I'll have to read them all."

Hey, you fellers, quit yer row!
Kelly, save yer throat!
Step yer cussin', Flannigan,
An' let the lady vote!

OUR FOREIGN COMMERCE IN 1911.

The Record Year for Exports.

The exports of the United States for the calendar year 1911 exceeded those of any preceding year, either calendar or fiscal. The imports, measured in values, have been exceeded once by a calendar year and once by a fiscal year. Had prices in 1911 equalled those of 1910 the value of exported commodities would have been materially greater than it was and the imports as well as the exports would undoubtedly have broken the record.

Compared with the shipments of several years ago the exports of foodstuffs, meat and dairy products and cattle, sheep and hogs seem small; but even at somewhat lower prices the sales of 1911 exceeded those of 1910 by $60,000,000. The figures for such commodities are:

1906	$363,200,000	1910	$812,500,000
1907	412,900,000	1911	873,500,000

The increase in shipments in 1911 over those of 1910 may be shown, measured in quantities, thus:

	1910.	1911.
Corn, bushels	37,292,157	59,305,477
Wheat, bushels	22,667,406	31,692,350
Flour, barrels	8,301,131	11,227,941
Cattle, head	91,555	118,611
Bacon, pounds	122,781,728	196,955,851
Hams and shoulders, lbs.	126,302,575	186,728,614
Lard, pounds	501,721,002	520,059,500

As production in 1911 was not on the whole appreciably if at all greater than in 1910 the inference is fair that the greater surplus for export was created by lessened demand at home, probably as a result of economies in thousands of American households. This does not necessarily mean that there was any unusual suffering for food, and it may well mean a wholesome domestic economy in many homes where economy is an unwonted practice. There was an increase in shipments of eggs from 5,683,208 dozen to 13,276,160 dozen; of fruits and nuts from $23,000,000 to $29,000,000, and of vegetables from $1,679,828 to $6,678,711. Sales of fish show a fractional decrease. Due largely to conditions in the cotton market, exports of raw materials made only a small gain over 1910, the figures for the respective years being $646,811,659 and $662,019,810. The 7,097,299 bales of raw cotton shipped in 1910 brought $537,800,000, while the 1911 shipment of 8,097,401 bales brought only $517,000,000, a record value barring 1910. Copper exports gained about 10 per cent. These two items form about 92 per cent. of all shipments of raw materials.

Sales of manufactured goods made a new high record. Our business in that department shows these figures of exports of leading articles of domestic manufacture from the United States, calendar years 1891, 1901, 1911:

	1891	1901	1911
Iron and steel	$61,000,000	$105,000,000	$250,000,000
Copper	9,000,000	21,000,000	103,000,000
Refined mineral oil	41,000,000	67,000,000	109,000,000
Wood manufactures	25,000,000	46,000,000	91,000,000
All other manufactures	86,000,000	197,000,000	421,000,000
Total	$180,000,000	$417,000,000	$965,000,000

The gain in iron and steel is particularly notable. The rate of progress in this branch of export trade may be given in a record of some of the leading articles for 1906 and 1911:

	1906.	1911.
Steel rails	$5,905,411	$12,229,045
Structural iron and steel	6,140,861	10,270,977
Wire	8,770,002	11,057,596
Cash registers	2,564,115	3,656,020
Sewing machines	2,865,228	3,417,474
Typewriters	5,091,211	10,065,907
Builders' hardware, saws and tools	14,275,137	17,328,231
Pipes and fittings	8,541,030	11,476,743
Metal working machinery	7,913,327	10,745,135
Sheets and plates	6,223,129	22,972,560

In other lines these gains appear:

	1906.	1911.
Agricultural implements	$24,741,762	$36,241,683
Automobiles and parts of, except tires	4,109,186	19,178,484
Chemicals, drugs and dyes	16,372,020	24,236,856
Copper, except ore	89,015,011	105,327,846
Manufactured cotton	42,961,948	45,686,591
Binder twine	5,078,092	200,309
Manufs. of India rubber	6,583,478	12,501,202
Leather	32,977,597	39,269,715
Boots and shoes	9,653,731	14,937,537
Naval stores	20,810,212	27,370,969
Mineral oil	85,738,866	105,922,818
Leaf tobacco	31,896,196	42,032,340
Wood and manufactures of	77,235,229	97,090,888

Taken as a whole the export trade indicates a growing interest and activity on the part of American producers in that vast foreign market in which they can and should occupy a much larger place than that hitherto held. Our sales of foodstuffs need little or no stimulus. The market exists as a demanding market and sales are effected without active effort. The same is to be said regarding sales of such commodities as copper and raw cotton. The market for finished and partly finished wares requires constant and aggressive attention. The figures indicate that it is getting more of that treatment than ever before and the country is correspondingly benefited. Every dollar's worth of manufactured goods sold abroad puts money into the hand of a wage earner in this country.

By groups the five year gain on the import side has been:

	1906.	1911.
Foodstuffs in crude condition and food animals	$158,118,168	$193,189,963
Foodstuffs, partly or wholly prepared	140,520,131	177,445,535
Crude materials for use in manufacturing	447,938,822	503,001,466
Manufactures for further use in manufacturing	249,555,019	287,747,637
Manufactures ready for consumption	334,810,660	356,652,235
Miscellaneous	9,686,411	11,130,472
Total	$1,520,649,250	$1,533,067,130

The imports of the country indicate both a larger gratification of personal wants and a more abundant supply of general requirements. The gain in the first five years of the last decade was more notable than the gain of the last five. The advance since 1901 has been from $880,119,910 in that year to the $1,533,067,130 of 1911. Many lines and many interests are represented in this expansion. In ten years there has been a $40,000,000 gain in chemicals, drugs and dyes; a decline in quantity and an increase in total value in coffee; a gain of $20,000,000, or nearly 200 per cent., in copper; imports of raw cotton have risen from 68,000,000 pounds valued at $8,700,000 to 101,000,000 pounds valued at $21,530,000; imports of breadstuffs have risen from $2,000,000 to $15,000,000; under the operation of the Payne tariff law works of art show advance from less than $1,000,000 to more than $27,000,000; manufactures of cotton show growth from $11,000,000 to $60,000,000; imports of fruits and nuts were $20,000,000 in 1901 and $41,000,000 in 1911; hides and skins, $55,000,000 and $81,000,000 respectively; India rubber, $28,000,000 and $88,000,000; diamonds and precious stones, $24,000,000 and $42,000,000; raw silk, $40,000,000 and $69,000,000, while manufactures of silk show no increase; sugar, $80,000,000 and $100,000,000 in spite of enormous expansion of the domestic industry; tobacco in all forms, $19,000,000 and $37,000,000; wood and manufactures thereof, $22,000,000 and $52,000,000. In some lines, such as wool, comparison is unfair because of special immediate conditions. In some lines the advance is due in part to prices and in other lines it is due almost entirely to quantity.

Considering our size, our resources and our population our foreign commerce is a small business, but it does show growth. The total exports and imports were $2,345,795,770 in 1901, $3,118,745,006 in 1906 and $3,625,593,976 in 1911. This does not include trade with our non-contiguous territory.

THE EFFICIENCY OF THE ARMY.

Must It Be Impaired Because Money Has Been Wasted by the Politicians?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: This being a "Presidential year" Congress is indulging in its usual prediction antics in the name of economy. The Sherwood pension bill adding some $70,000,000 to the pension list passed the House without a ripple, because the veterans, their sons and grandsons vote. On the other hand the Democrats in Congress, in order to save three or four million dollars, are willing to legislate a part of the army out of existence and ruin its efficiency. During the last session a member said upon the floor of the House: "We have to look out for these militia fellows, for they all vote. So far as the regular army is concerned it cuts no political figure, and we give it what we want to."

Congress is always complaining about "military expense." Congress alone is to blame for "military expense." Let me cite one of many cases to prove the point. Some twelve years ago I was stationed at Fort D. A. Russell, Wyoming, then a small, unimportant post, situated high and dry upon a windswept mesa near the town of Cheyenne. It was upon a single line of railroad, more than a thousand miles from any source of adequate supply. Water was scarce, blizzards raged in winter and the wind howled incessantly. When one walked about the reservation pebbles from the gravel strewn parade stung the face and hands like shot. It was about the last place in the world to quarter, supply and instruct a garrison of soldiers, and at that time the War Department was trying to abandon it. The purpose for which it was originally established, as a point for the outfitting of Indian expeditions, having long since ceased to exist, it was of no further military consequence. Was it abandoned? Oh, no! Senator Warren, later chairman of the Senate committee on Military Affairs, happened to live in Cheyenne, and the Senator was looking out for his town. He not only prevented the War Department from abandoning the post, but he succeeded in inducing Congress to appropriate and spend upon it in the ten years ended June 30, 1911, for useless buildings, extravagant water systems and other items that go to fatten the pocketbooks of contractors and local merchants, the sum of $3,500,000. It would have been far better for the Senator and for the country in general if Congress had turned over the money in a lump sum to the Senator to distribute among his constituents, for that is all the expenditure amounted to anyway.

The Senator was a wonder for planting military funds in the sagebrush wastes of Wyoming. Note this case. The town of Sheridan, located on the Burlington railroad in the northern part of the State, seeing the deluge of cash in the offing, asked for a loop off the Senator's military pork barrel. Also some people had a ranch near the town that didn't pay and wanted to dispose of it. Also the Burlington was interested, so a military post was determined upon. The rub was that there already existed a post forty miles south of the town and another some fifty miles north in the latter in the center of the Indian reservation, where there might be some use for it. However, all joined hands and the Senator put his shoulder to the wheel, with the result that Fort McKinney was abandoned and given to the State and Fort Custer was thrown into the scrap heap. After they had been disposed of the Senator persuaded Congress to appropriate money again to consolidate everything and construct the establishment Fort Mackenzie at Sheridan. I trust the United States the sum of $4,120,268.50, it was not desired by the War Department and it is of no military value whatever.

The useless and absurd expenditures of public money cited were made to please a single member of Congress. Such instances are repeated in the establishment of other posts, and then Congress, realizing the travesty of the performance, tries to cast the blame upon the army, since it is not engaged in politics.

The present Congress, or rather the Democratic leaders on the Military Committee, are making a great fuss about military economy in the riders attached to the army appropriation bill. Whenever you reduce the number of educated officers in the military establishment you strike the most direct blow at its efficiency. In view of the fact that good officers are difficult to secure they should be retained and they should exceed the number corresponding to the enlisted force in time of peace, in order that they may be available for an expanded army in war time.

Mr. Hay should not receive the support of Congress in his attempt to make political capital of the army appropriation bill.

CHICAGO, February 8. TACITUS.

The Burden of Flatbush.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: The traffic department of the Brooklyn Rapid Transit Company issued a statement on Saturday saying that the company had given special attention to the Flatbush service during the last two weeks because of the numerous complaints concerning the operation of cars in that section. The company declared it had been unable to find grounds for the complaints or reasons why it should increase the service.

The company admits that a large proportion of the cars used on the Flatbush avenue and Brighton Beach lines in the rush hours are taken off when traffic lets up. It asserts that the cars maintain an average of two minutes headway throughout the entire day and early part of the evening. But I have waited half an hour for a car and have overheard many complaints of fellow passengers concerning the way that the company handles the Flatbush people. There must be some reason for the dissatisfaction. The Public Service Commission has had men watching the service for some time, but nothing has as yet been done. J. J. CUD.

FLATBUSH, February 12.

The Good Old Ghost.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: The season for ghost stories has, I suppose, passed away by this time, and anyway we don't hear so many of them as in my boyhood's days. Some time ago, however, I looked at an apartment, the rent of which was so cheap that I had no hesitation in taking it there and then. That there was some drawback I had no doubt, but I took chances. A little later a voluble neighbor let me into the secret. Years ago some one had expired in the kitchen and it was considered unsafe to enter the culinary department after 11 P. M., as a particularly destructive shade, who objected to company, would on the appearance of a mortal create havoc by throwing the pots and pans about. That night I tested this spook scare, but beyond sending a few mice scurrying about the kitchen there is nothing happened, so evidently the ghost has followed the fashion and disappeared forever.

WILL O' THE WISP.

NEW YORK, February 12.

Absentees From the Post of Duty.

From the Ridgefield Park Bulletin.

About fifty Parkites and their out of town friends sought shelter from the cold which kept the thermometer hovering around the fifteen mark in the Little Ferry station. It availed little. The stove in one room was out, while in the other the fire was out.

Shears and Pen.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: There are two barbers in the barber shop of the Narragansett Hotel, one named Victor, the other Hugo. May they enter arm in arm? M. S.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., February 12.

Pronouncement by Monsieur Gaillot.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: William Shakespeare was a Norman. His name was derived from Jacques and Pierre.

ANTOINE GAILLOT.

NEW YORK, February 12.

Easy.

In the land of Tomsytarvy
Once I wandered for a space,
And I found to my amazement
'Twas a most surprising place.

Not a single wheel was turning,
Not a single sign of shirk,
All were bent on having pleasure,
Not a blessed sign of work.

When I asked them how they did it
"Tis as a very simple way
Any work to be accomplished
They put off till yesterday.

McLANDBURGH WILSON.

SALE OF GOVERNORS ISLAND TO THIS CITY

Proposition Advanced on the Floor of the House by Chairman Fitzgerald.

OUT ON A POINT OF ORDER

Butler Ames Offers an Amendment Providing for the Sale to the City of the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—The proposition that the Federal Government give Governors Island to the city of New York was advanced on the floor of the House to-day by Chairman Fitzgerald of the Appropriations Committee on an amendment to the army bill. His motion, to the effect that the Secretary of War be directed to enter into negotiations with the proper officials of New York city with respect to the sale of the island, was knocked out on a point of order by Minority Leader Mann, but Mr. Fitzgerald will advance the proposition in a different form soon.

"If Governors Island is not to be utilized for the mobile army," said Mr. Fitzgerald in offering his motion, "it is indefensible to keep it merely as a residence for high officials of the army and as the site for a small army prison. Undoubtedly it is a delightful site for an official residence for officers in charge of the Department of the East, but it should not be maintained in practical idleness and uselessness. Within a few minutes journey from it are hundreds of thousands of people who would be benefited by access to the splendid park that might be established there."

Chairman Fitzgerald called attention to the fact that Governors Island contains 174 acres, is within five minutes by ferry from lower New York and that on it is situated Fort Jay, one of the posts recommended by the War Department for abandonment.

Representative Butler Ames of Massachusetts at this point offered an amendment directing the Secretary of the Navy to enter into negotiations with the city of New York for the sale for park purposes of the Brooklyn navy yard property. Mr. Fitzgerald, who hails from Brooklyn, smiled and made a point of order against the amendment, suggesting that it might more properly be considered on the army bill.

Representative Hay of Virginia, chairman of the Military Affairs Committee, at this point withdrew the point of order he had made against Mr. Fitzgerald's Governors Island proposition, but Minority Leader Mann promptly renewed it.

"I appreciate," said Mr. Mann, "the delicate position in which the Appropriations chairman finds himself. No wonder the gentleman wants to sell Government property to meet the deficit that will certainly be created if the Democratic side of the House carries out its present policy."

Mr. Mann said that Mr. Fitzgerald took excellent care of his own constituents and was willing to give them Governors Island for a public park and playground, but it was apparent that he would not consent to get rid of a useless navy yard in which so many of his constituents were employed. He added that if the city of New York keeps on for the next year in the financial course it has followed of late it would not be able to pay for Governors Island.

"I see no reason," the minority leader added, "why we should be selling the assets of the Government to pay current expenses just because of threats you Democrats are making against the prosperity of the country. Those threats will soon be ended. You won't be in power much longer."

Mr. Fitzgerald insisted that the sale of Governors Island was an entirely practicable proposition if Fort Jay was to be abandoned. On the other hand he insisted that to get rid of the Brooklyn navy yard would remove the check the Navy Department is now able to exercise on private ship builders.

When the House adjourned at 5.45 this afternoon an amendment by Chairman Hay of the Military Affairs Committee forbidding further expenditure of money for the twenty-five posts recommended by the Secretary of War for immediate abandonment was pending.

CORTELYOU AND MADDEN TILT.

House Committee Hears Clash Over Old Fraud Order.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—There was a lively tilt between ex-Postmaster-General Cortelyou and former Third Assistant Postmaster-General Madden at to-day's session of the House Committee on Expenditures in the Post Office Department. The committee is considering the case of the Lewis Publishing Company of St. Louis, against which a fraud order was issued in Mr. Cortelyou's regime, at which time Mr. Madden resigned at Mr. Cortelyou's request.

Mr. Cortelyou told the committee he had become "uneasy" concerning the conduct of the office of the Third Assistant.

"Did I not ask to be relieved of all connection with the Lewis case?" asked Mr. Madden, who now is attorney for Lewis.

"I believe you did," replied Mr. Cortelyou.

"As a matter of fact, I made that request because I felt confident that the Department was preparing to give Mr. Lewis a raw deal," said Mr. Madden. "I could not say that to your face at the time, but I say it now. It was the reason for my ref