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A Substitute.

How much simpler, franker and more convincing than that call to convention issued on behalf of Colonel ROOSEVELT and signed by certain of his most faithful political body servants would have been some such declaration of faith as the following:

"To all the people of the United States who know that the present form of government is a failure, the existing Republican institutions a fraud, the American public men of to-day criminals or incompetents, and who recognize that hereafter liberty will perish, injustice rule and the republic sink into deserved oblivion unless THEODORE ROOSEVELT is reelected President of the United States and all powers, administrative, judicial and legislative, placed in his hands, this call is issued."

It is true that this is what the document issued by the manufacturers of the Third Party means, but why not say it?

Manhattan Green.

On a cool, almost Arctic day like yesterday the wanderer uptown is glad but not surprised to find Central Park a bower of verdure as usual. You stand on the reservoir embankment or by one of those crystal lakes or meres and the old hymn rises in the memory:

"Sweet fields beyond the swelling flood
Stand dressed in living green."

It might be so; it must be so; it should be so; but we must allow for poetry. Here is water as of Damascus; a hundred miles of hose; no doubt the green is living, albeit an optical illusion makes it look as dead as 16 to 1, as withered as the hopes of Dollar BILL. This is official summer Central Park green. The grass burns up on account of excess of water.

If you ask a policeman, he may explain, weather and good nature permitting, that this is vacation time; the acres are many and the laborers are few. The term park "laborer" is always delightful. A discreet and gentle toil is theirs, as it is of all servants of the public. Would it make any difference if the park swarmed with those toilers? Soak too much in spots; have a sort of mud here while great spaces seethe and brown; do the work in the worst way, at the wrong time; what would the park be were its summer customs broken? What would happen if some ingenuous country gardener should water carefully, conscientiously, tenderly, knowing the difference between noon and evening?

Besides, wait long enough and it will rain. The clouds are to be smashed with dynamite and the waters of the firmament to be tapped on July 23 or thereabout. Let us be patient. The Central Park is green, that curious shade called Manhattan green.

Portuguese Disorders.

The reports of further royalist rebellions and disorders serve to call attention once more to the failure of the republic to realize the objects for which it was created and accepted at least passively by a majority of the Portuguese. Not merely the royalists but the socialists have been and remain hostile to the new régime.

If the republic has failed to maintain order it has been even more unsuccessful in remedying the great abuse of Portuguese administration, that of financial disorder. It was the complete inability of the politicians who served him to solve this problem which cost King MANUEL his throne and his father and brother their lives. But the ministers of the revolution have also failed, and their own financial statements, the most favorable witnesses possible, reveal the extent of their ineptitude.

Failing in fiscal administration, the republican ministers have also followed the unhappy example of their predecessors in employing power to crush not merely armed opposition but to fill the jails and even the former religious establishments with suspects and opponents, and have found in the worst examples of the French Revolution a model for their own action.

To-day the republic has to face the royalist opposition which was inevitable, the unchanging enmity of the Roman Catholic Church, which it has deprived of its vast wealth, and in addition the bitter opposition of the socialists and unionized laborers, whose extreme demands they had perforce to repulse and whose armed protests they had to repress by troops.

In addition the republic remains in fact the instrument of relatively few men, not united in purpose themselves and lacking any large hold upon either the comparatively small number of educated Liberals or the large mass of illiterate Portuguese citizens. In this situation it is plain that each disorder is fraught with real peril to the republic itself, and the possibility of a restoration of the House of Braganza at any moment must be plainly recognized.

The Commonwealth-New Hampshire Collision.

In the shadow of the Titanic disaster the collision between the Fall River steamboat Commonwealth and the battleship New Hampshire off Newport on Sunday morning impresses many people as a narrow escape from another great sacrifice of life. That view of the case is not well founded. The accident took place after daylight in waters where there was a great deal of shipping, and help would have come promptly from every side, particularly from the well disciplined crews of warships, if the Commonwealth had been found to be sinking after the crash with the New Hampshire.

Nevertheless the investigations by the Board of Steamboat Inspectors and the Navy Department should be just as painstaking, thorough and unsparing as if there had been a long death list. The fact ought to be recognized that navigation on the Sound waters and in Narragansett Bay may be attended with considerable risk during dense fogs. The use of searchlights, the sounding of whistles, an adequate number of lifeboats and liferafts and a moderate rate of speed ought to be insisted upon. If the New Hampshire was at fault in not being at the right anchorage or in not displaying the proper lights the facts should be brought out. If the Commonwealth was proceeding at too high a rate of speed under the existing weather conditions there should be no hesitation in spreading it upon the record. The question of what is a safe rate of speed for a Sound "liner" in a dense fog should be determined.

The Commonwealth, by the way, has been in collis on before and in an early morning fog. On September 27, 1908, she ran down and sank the Norwegian tramp steamship Volund near Race Rock. All on board the Volund were saved with the help of sailors of the navy, who were on their way to Washington and who manned the Commonwealth's boats, and there were no casualties on the Sound steamship. The Volund, according to Captain SCHJOTT, was groping along through the fog at the rate of three knots, and he declared that the Commonwealth was making thirteen knots. In the collision off Newport on Sunday morning the Commonwealth, it is said, was proceeding at a speed of twelve knots. This is probably an excessive estimate, for it is to be presumed that knowing that warships were in his vicinity Captain W. B. APPLEBY was taking no unnecessary risks. But it is a question particularly to be inquired into.

To the landsman it seems imperative that no passenger steamship in a thick fog on Narragansett Bay, or off Newport, shou d maintain more than enough speed for perfect control of the vessel. In the case of a steamship nearly 500 feet long it is obvious that the rate must be higher than when a ship of small tonnage like the Volund is feeling her way through the fog. It would be well for the Board of Steamboat Inspectors to establish a standard for Sound waters, on which the traffic is never light, even in the thickest weather.

Battling Bob and the Colonel.

Nothing in the current literature of centrifugal schismatics is better adapted to interest the curious than the second "challenge" of Senator LA FOLLETTE to ex-President ROOSEVELT to publish the details of his expenses in seeking the nomination. For the practical politician, or political practitioner, its interest has passed. He is no paleontologist, nor yet any psychologist. And the interest of the squawk of Battling BOB to Colonel ROOSEVELT, though politically paleontological, is perennially psychological. In other words, it is a human interest.

Superficially regarded, the challenge of Battling BOB to Colonel ROOSEVELT is a random impertinence. The slenderness or absence of any basis for a towering superstructure must remind the observer of Senator LA FOLLETTE'S own aspiring projects of law. It is not required by any law or custom that a candidate for a nomination shall disclose his disbursements in his quest of that unholy grail; wherefore the LA FOLLETTIAN hypothesis, that such a disclosure is required by "one of the basic principles of public morality and political decency," BOB and the Colonel both construct those basic principles to meet their immediate exigencies.

Do you not yet see the point? The point is psychological. Battling BOB has made his successes in Wisconsin by appealing to the forces of envy, hatred, malice and all uncharitableness. He has raised his bray against all his peaceable and contented fellow citizens, and his trouble making and discontented fellow citizens have followed in his rear. Every wild ass's colt in Wisconsin has twisted a sympathetic tail and emitted a sympathetic heehaw. When Battling BOB carried his vocal, aural and caudal appendages into national politics he encountered the redoubtable Colonel, who really possessed the national record to which Battling BOB so heehawishly aspired. The result was that the LA FOLLETTE boom, begun in a bray, ended in a whisper.

He did not see why his bray should not go on in ever widening circles, round all the American pastures of the wild ass's colt. When it was upraised in Chicago and died away dumb and echoless, everybody's explanation was ready. His also, but his was different from everybody's. His was that Colonel ROOSEVELT had diverted himward, by pecuniary trick and device, the surge of enthusiasm which would, if undiverted, have streamed to Battling BOB. Wherefore Battling BOB demands an accounting in the ostensible interest of "public morality and political decency." Poor BOB!

It may be observed that while public morality and political decency may plausibly be invoked to coerce the winner to divulge his expenses, there is no reason provided in the nature of things to compel a candidate to tell what it has cost him to get licked. Doubtless the account, could it be elicited, would be interesting. It would infallibly remind the cultivated reader of the bill of items rendered by Mr. ALFRED JINGLE to Mr. PERKER of the expenses of the futile elopement with Mr. WARDLE'S sister. It will be remembered that, after some trifling particulars of coach hire and the like, the staple of the Jingle account was an unitemized claim for "breach of honor," and "loss of the lady."

The World's Foremost Orator and Poet.

Our esteemed contemporary the Philadelphia *North American* published yesterday one of the most quivering and affecting letters, all tears and fire, that ever flamed and dripped before these weeping yet rejoicing eyes. Beat, drums! Wave, banners! Trumpets, all your exultations blow! The word procession comes:

"As an American my heart at once burns with shame and pity for the honor of our country as it is degraded at Chicago. The scene was the attempted crucifixion of the man whom the world knows and will forever know to be the foremost American of this generation. The attempted humiliation of this man, the very flower of American civilization, is the scurviest picture on the kinetoscope of the age. To what depths of humiliation have the rotten votes of negro delegates and the perfidy of brazen bosses sunk the American people? Not the horrid stains on the memory of the corrupt and flippant CHARLES, from the rotting bones of dead CROMWELL at Temple Bar; not the stigma ineffaceable to the honor and humanity of the British people from the caged and dying NAPOLEON will surpass this reproach upon our national character."

From CICERO against CATILINE to ROBERT LEE HENRY against the Money Trust, from DEMOSTHENES to ADAM BROWN LITTLEPAGE, where will you find "the likes" of this? And as good remains behind:

"Who is this American whose humiliation was designed and shamelessly perpetrated by the base ingratitude of some who but for his devotion to them had remained in that obscure mediocrity which nature had planned? The historic muse, with face averted from their perfidy, will record that he is the Assistant Secretary of our Navy, whose provision filled the magazines of DEWEY'S squadron for the May day at Manila; the Colonel of Rough Riders who at San Juan bore to victory the flag 'by angel hands to valor given'; the Governor of the Empire State, who since CHRIST drove the money changers from the temple has done more than any other to make graft hateful to mankind."

And so on with many a stately sentence and semicolons like a flood. Breathless with adoration let us rest a moment and then bear as best we may the ineffable empyrean flame, the brandy and benedictine of impassioned speech, the sugar and water of pathos:

"This man whose handshake as the highest type of American citizen the monarchs of every degree in the grand old world beyond the deep had eagerly sought, on whom the Academy of France has bestowed the lofty honor which for centuries has been coveted, often in vain, by the foremost members of the human race, but who, illustrious as he is, honored and caressed by the princes of earth as he has been, and honored by human nature as he ever will be, is never so happy as when in manly greeting he clasps the grimy hand of labor. Ever prone to bend the listening ear to the plaint of sorrow and distress, who palsied the greed of the coal barons, hushed the wail of freezing children, brought hope to the anguished hearts of mothers, every energy of whose mighty soul has been consecrated to the uplift and the betterment of man, his record is so replete with lofty achievements that briefest epitome is impossible."

The author of this chaste and temperate discriminating essay on the best, the greatest and the most modest of human (if he be only human) creatures is vouched for by the editor as "a Judge of the Federal court, a man of international reputation, who is one of the ten best known jurists in the United States." We sha'n't try to look behind the veil. It is too hot to summon up "the ten best known jurists," and BEN LINDSEY is the only one we can think of at the moment. This Judge is the world's one and foremost orator, letter writer and poet. No doubt it was his decision not to leave the bench for literature that inspired in his hero the doctrine of the recall of judicial decisions.

From the plains of Kansas comes a shout for reform, the burden of which is: "Revive the old fashioned dried apple pies!"—*Chicago News.*

A good deal easier to revive them than to survive them. They were tests of constitution and viability. If Kansas was founded by habitual eaters of dried apple pie the world has new reason to wonder at the heroic endurance of that stern old race of pioneers. At the same time it may not be considering too curiously to speculate if a certain tendency to tumefaction noticeable in the political speaking and writing of recent and contemporary Sunflowers is not an inheritance or a stigma of dried apple pie.

A Correction.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* My attention has been called to a telegraphic despatch from Battle Creek in THE SUN of July 1 which stated that Governor Osborn ordered his chauffeur to run over a crossing policeman in that city. Permit me to advise you that this article is absolutely untrue in every particular. M. E. HADRICH,
Private Secretary.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, LANSING, Mich., July 5.

In justice to Governor Osborn we make the correction and express our regret.

A Brief Chinese Chronicle.

From the Peoin Daily News.

A farmer got as far back of Hanyang was ploughing and hit a shell. The plough is no more. The man is reported to be minus an arm and part of one side. He was taken to the nearest camp.

THE DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

As Abridged and Clarified by a Republican Critic.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I beg leave to submit the subjoined:

We, the representatives of the Democratic party of the United States, in national convention assembled, reaffirm our devotion to the principles of democratic government formulated by Thomas Jefferson, most of which we are opposing.

TARIFF REFORM.

We oppose tariff revision by a nonpartisan commission of experts, declare that the tariff should be revised by politicians, and denounce the President's action in vetoing the tariff bills which were purposely so framed as to invite and demand vetoes.

HIGH COST OF LIVING.

We think the high cost of living, which has increased throughout the world, is due to the tariff and the trusts in the United States.

ANTI-TRUST LAW.

We indorse Representative Henry's statement: "The Chinese anti-trust law provides: 'Those who interrupt commerce are to be beheaded!' * * * To compromise, with a felon's stripes, would be mild." Let us make China our model. We point with pride to conditions in China.

We regret the "rule of reason" interpretation of the Sherman law. We want no reason in ours. We would dissolve combinations; the Union is a combination and should be dissolved.

RIGHTS OF THE STATE.

We have always believed in State rights.

INCOME TAX AND ELECTION OF SENATORS.

We congratulate the country upon the triumph(?) of the income tax, and will try to make it inoperative by abolishing incomes; also upon the probable success of the proposal to elect Senators by popular vote, which will defeat the purpose for which the framers of the Constitution created a Senate.

PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARIES.

We favor Presidential primaries, which make it harder for men of moderate means to run for office.

CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS.

We oppose contributions by corporations to the campaign funds of other parties.

TERM OF PRESIDENT.

We favor a single Presidential term for Dr. Wilson in the interest of Mr. Bryan.

DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS.

We invite attention to the fact that the Democratic Congress has been so busy playing politics that it has even neglected to pass the regular appropriation bills, thus threatening a paralysis of the Government. It has also taken measures to provide an adequate and well proportioned little navy.

REPUBLICAN EXTRAVAGANCE.

We denounce Republican extravagance and prefer the Democratic kind.

PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATIONS.

We favor the physical valuation of these properties. This is a specimen of Democratic economy. It would cost the Government more than the army and navy, and would be of doubtful value if ever completed. It has taken the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad two years to make a physical valuation of its property in four or five of the States it enters. Our valuation will be made by a competent commission of schoolgirls.

BANKING LEGISLATION.

We oppose the Aldrich plan because Mr. Bryan does not understand it, and will substitute for it legislation which will expedite the movement of American capital abroad which we have caused.

RURAL CREDITS.

National banks should be allowed to loan money on real estate, as our legislation will impair the value of other securities.

WATERWAYS AND POST ROADS.

We favor the good old fashioned river and harbor pork barrel, with a fat supplement for post roads, and will devote particular attention to the improvement of our usual line of retreat via Salt River.

RIGHTS OF LABOR.

The courts should not interfere by means of injunctions with the right of strikers to destroy other people's property.

CONSERVATION.

We propose to eat our cake and have it.

AGRICULTURE.

We would so regulate the trade in farm products that prices shall be higher for the farmer and lower for everybody else.

MERCHANT MARINE.

We believe in fostering a merchant marine, but condemn the only method of doing so that has ever been successful.

PURE FOOD AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

We favor the strengthening of governmental agencies relating to pure foods and public health, and so does everybody else.

CIVIL SERVICE LAW.

We believe that the terms of service of all persons in the classified civil service should be declared to have expired within a limited time, as proposed by the Democratic Congress, so that their places can be filled with Democrats.

THE PHILIPPINES.

We are in favor of hauling down the American flag in the Philippines, as we tried to in Hawaii.

ARIZONA AND NEW MEXICO.

We welcome Arizona and New Mexico to the sisterhood of States, especially Arizona.

ALASKA.

We demand a Territorial government for Alaska and believe that officials of Territories should be bona fide residents thereof; but our record does not indicate that we will adhere to that principle in selecting such officials.

PROTECTION OF THE NATIONAL UNIFORM.

We would protect the national uniform, and have tried to make this easier by reducing the number of such uniforms in both army and navy.

PENSIONS.

We are willing to pension any large body of voters if a pretext for doing so can be found.

RULE OF THE PEOPLE.

The Democratic party, through Messrs. Murphy, Sullivan, Taggart and its other leaders, offers itself as an agency for the overthrow of corruption.

CONCLUSION.

This is no bluff. We really mean it this time, and when in office will do what we now promise—if we can change some of the laws of nature. PAUL WEBSTER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 8.

Mere Formality.

Stella—Are you engaged?

Bella—Well, I expect the notification committee to-night.

ALMS AND THE MAN.

Of Giving to Beggars in Accordance With the Precepts of Elias.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Whenever I go to church, and I often do, I miss the weekly paying of custom at the street corner to the old man or woman who, I am sure, died wealthier than I shall. Tipping a crossing sweeper in my youth was much more satisfactory than tipping a waiter nowadays is. These shabby Sir Walter Raleighs deserved what they got. You could smile at your own reflection in your unmuddied patent leathers, and be sure that she who had come to church for the same purpose you had would regard you as the nattiest of Beau Brummels.

Giving alms is a kind of "gamble," which I could never conquer. I gave up backing horses because, though I didn't know anything about the game, I nearly always won. That proved conclusively to me that there must be something radically wrong about the system, or rather the many systems of that diversion, but I have always gambled on a beggar. He may lie or tell the truth. If he is honest, he deserves my dime; if he is acting, his representation is generally much better than some I see on the stage and therefore worthy of my tribute. Charles Lamb says, "give, and give always," a precept I shall always follow, especially as the ingenious beggar is not only an actor but manager and author of his own piece. Charity societies don't agree with me, I know, but I am not a bureau. Nor do clergymen support my views. I asked a worthy divine once on a time to preach a sermon on this subject. He promised he would, but as I caught him the next day furtively giving a nickel to a beggar he cried off, saying he was too prejudiced in the matter.

Still, I should like to have my conscience pacified on this subject, for there is always a skeleton at my feast which reminds me that very probably there is some one starving while I am eating. As I have known what starvation means my banquet is spoiled when I am in a philosophical mood. I suppose we are all beggars actually, that is we are all preying on our neighbors, and personally I would much rather ask a stranger for a dollar than friends or relatives. The latter would most certainly refuse the loan, while friends have a way of setting a date for its return. A stranger takes the full risk and sometimes finds his bread come back like hot cakes.

I love the Golden Rule, but I reserve to myself the right to follow the other rule, and break it sometimes, when a case is too flagrantly spurious. Meantime can't the intellect of this educated age devise some means by which the deserving poor shall never be without food until the promised panacea of socialism makes this earth a paradise for us all? PHILANTHROPIST.

NEW YORK, July 8.

PROMISE AND PERFORMANCE.

Cynical Memories and Predictions of Democratic Tariff Reform.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The first platform of the Democratic party declared "that an adequate protection to American industry is indispensable to the prosperity of the country," and that "an abandonment" of the protective policy "would be attended with consequences ruinous to the best interests of the nation."

The present platform, written by William Jennings Bryan, whom we may expect to take a leading Cabinet portfolio in case of Woodrow Wilson's election, declares for a revenue tariff, but qualifies that declaration rather liberally in terms that sound or may be made to sound in certain quarters like the party's first platform, for there is the saving clause about Democratic revision not "hurting" any "honest or legitimate business."

All of which reminds one of what happened when a Democratic Congress presented the last Democratic President with a Democratic tariff act, called the Wilson bill—don't forget the name or that he was a college professor who taught free trade—which that Democratic President characterized as "an act of perfidy and dishonor."

So what's the use of getting our expectations up or getting too overheated or excited about taxes disappearing? With Louisiana Democrats wanting sugar protected, with Florida wanting fruit; with Georgia wanting cotton; with South Carolina wanting tea; North Carolina strong for protective duties on lumber and peanuts, and so forth and so on. I say, what's the use of getting our expectations up or getting all excited? J. D. MASON.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 8.

MANHATTAN HONEY.

Bees of Central Park Supplying Nectar to the Hirsch Family.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In THE SUN of Sunday is an article in reference to a roof apiary established by a Quaker City girl. The article in question remarks that this young lady is, so far as known, the only person using the roof of a city building as an apiary.

It may interest you to learn that I have been for a long time employing 80,000 busy bees to collect all available honey in Central Park and store it away in nice wax combs for the use of the Hirsch family and their immediate neighbors—and this on a tin covered roof in the busiest and second largest city in the world.

And the honey they collect, in the opinion of the family and neighbors, fully equals if not surpasses in sweetness and color of wax any produced from the finest clover fields in the open country, and for the following interesting reason. Several park officials have informed me that there are a good many foreign blooming trees and shrubs that have been brought to this country and transplanted in Central Park. These with their continual blooming give a never ceasing supply of nectar during the summer. As a bee on its honey flight will cover as much as 50 miles from its hive, from which my hives are located the entire park is at the mercy of the little never tiring honey gatherers.

But the remarkable thing about my busy pets is that though they are surrounded by big towering apartment houses I have never received a single complaint in regard to their misbehavior. HARRY HIRSCH.

NEW YORK, July 8.

English View of War of 1812.

From the London Chronicle.

Preparations already afoot to celebrate the centenary of Anglo Saxon peace in 1915, writes a *Daily Chronicle* correspondent, add interest to the circumstance that the war whose termination will then be commemorated began 100 years ago to day.

In order to find crews for the great fleet that was necessary for the checkmating of Napoleon, British captains were authorized to search any American warship or merchant vessel if they suspected that there were deserters on board. The United States submitted to this indignity for fourteen years, during which thousands of Americans were taken from under their own flag and forced to serve in British ships; but war at last became unavoidable, and was declared on June 18.

Probably most people in this country remember the war only for the victory of the Shannon over the Chesapeake. As a matter of fact, however, the Americans had five sound triumphs to their credit before the Shannon came along to vary the monotony of our disasters. Before the end of 1812 we had lost the thirty eight gun frigates Guerriere, Macedonian and Java and the eighteen gun Frolic, while early in 1813 the eighteen gun Peacock fell an easy victim to the American Hornet. Altogether there were fifteen of these single ship encounters, and the British ship was beaten in ten of them. In every case save one, however, the American vessel was superior in force.

The American navy at the outset of the war comprised only sixteen vessels, while Great Britain possessed over 600. The war lasted over three years, and we lost twenty-one ships before peace was proclaimed.

Lieutenant Provo Wallis, who was an officer in the Shannon at the time of her fight with the Chesapeake, died an Admiral of the Fleet in 1862 at the age of 100.

What Is Literature?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I have been reading a number of different kinds of books lately, supposed to be literary books, so to say, and I am prompted to inquire: "What is literature?" A critic tells me it is not newspaper matter, nor yet plain narrative in books, nor yet transcripts of actual events and conversation, nor yet reports of proceedings in pamphlet form, with a few other exceptions. So many indeed that I am compelled to believe that real literature, prose or verse, is artificial expression in writing of artificial human conditions. If that is not the definition, what is? W. J. L.

NEW YORK, July 8.

THE DILLINGHAM BILL.

Responsibility Disclaimed on Behalf of Immigration Commission.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I notice in THE SUN this morning a letter from Mr. J. H. Patten in relation to the alien insane in which he speaks of the Dillingham bill as the bill of the Immigration Commission. In that Mr. Patten is in error. The Immigration Commission made certain suggestions, some of which are covered by the bill and some of which are not. It did not present any bill and the Dillingham bill was not printed at the time the commission went out of office.

So far the action of the individual members of the commission in relation to the bill has been as follows: Senators Dillingham, Lodge and Percy in the Senate voted for it; Professor Jenks in the appendix of his book on immigration prints a bill differing in many respects from the Dillingham bill; Representative Burnett voted in the House committee to take up the bill for consideration, and later voted to strike out all after the enacting clause and insert simply the literacy test. I was heard before the committee in opposition to a great deal of the bill and in advocacy of some of it. So far as I am aware the remaining three members of the commission have expressed no opinion at any place or time in relation to the bill. Therefore whatever may be its merits or demerits it is not the bill of the Immigration Commission. WILLIAM S. BENNET.

NEW YORK, July 8.

GAELIC CONFUSION.

Hibernian Teddy Said to Be Drinking at the Wrong Fount.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* One word more, explanatory. "Philo-Celt" must excuse me if I have unintentionally misled him in the matter of Father O'Flanagan's latest Gaelic association. I am not authorized to speak for nor am I called upon to defend Father O'Flanagan. He is an accomplished apologist and well able to explain his own business if he deems it expedient to do so. But I understand he is at present in Chicago preparing a great feis for the Windy City. That is a side line of his activities. His main object now, I dare say, is boosting his Gaelic Literature Association, which has been floated under such brilliant auspices.

"Philo-Celt" confuses this brilliant aggregation of Gaelic scholars—Messrs. Hudson Maxim, Theodore Roosevelt (the famous T. Hibernicus), S. S. McClure, James Anthony Brogan, &c.—with the Irish Texts Society, an entirely different body, a body of competent Irish scholars who are year by year translating interesting old Gaelic manuscripts into English, devoted Irish scholars doing national work. Their work is laborious and not spectacular, entirely unsuited to the abilities and temperaments of the gentlemen named above, who have Father O'Flanagan for their "director."

This Gaelic Literature Association purposes to promote among other things (2d) "the growth of healthy Gaelic influence on world thought, and as a means to that end assist those agencies that are at present working to keep alive and develop the Gaelic speech wherever it is now spoken." Now, among "those agencies that are at present working to keep alive," &c., can "Philo-Celt" name any more industrious spreaders of Gaelic speech in this country than Father O'Flanagan himself, Donal O'Connor and the other Gaelic leaguers who are working to the same end, unselfish and far travelling agencies? Then there is that other agency, the *Irish American*, a weekly paper of which I am informed Mr Brogan and Father O'Flanagan are the chief owners. This weekly tells of the doings of the leaguers and prints a column or so of Gaelic every week, undoubtedly promoting "the growth of healthy Gaelic influence on world thought" and therefore, one may suppose, entitled to generous tap from the G. L. A. fountain.

The financial features of Father O'Flanagan's association are adaptable to every size of purse. The fees ascend in an aeroplane sweep from the plebeian "associate membership" fee of $5 a year to the pluperfect "benefactor's fee" of $25,000. Nor is the subscription form lacking in facile elasticity which enables the cash to be applied as circumstances require. A friend who is disposed to contribute to things Irish showed me one of them, from which I transcribe the following:

"I promise to subscribe dollars for the current expenses of the Gaelic Literature Association." Current expenses. No hidebound tying up of funds in that subscription; the funds are left fluid and available for use by the proper "agencies."

"Philo-Celt" lugs Shane Leslie into this controversy. That picturesque personality and brilliant lecturer did indeed for a moment seem to be the bright star for Father O'Flanagan to annex, and great were the hopes upon his advertising value. But, alas! his purpose in coming seems to have been achieved and he has left his reverend manager in the lurch. Hence this new move; hence T. Hibernicus; hence Maxim and Brogan and the other Gaelic wonders of Father O'Flanagan's brand new menagerie. The subtle criticism of "Philo-Celt" may puncture some of the humbug which hovers over this new aggregation, whose authority is as vague as its purposes. GAEL.

NEW YORK, July 4.

The Increase of the Cost of Living.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Referring to Mr. Roosevelt's new found issue of the cost of living, it seems to me it would be useful to show the facts in regard to the following points: What was the index figure for price of commodities, as furnished by the Bureau of Labor at Washington or by *Bradstreet's*, when President Roosevelt began his first administration in September, 1901, and when he ended his second administration in March, 1909? What were the total expenditures of the national Government in 1901 and in 1909? What was the approximate population of the country in those years? What was the comparative percentage of increase for the foregoing items?

While Roosevelt was President did he accomplish anything toward revising tariff inequalities? Did he even advocate any change? Did he attempt to do anything else to lower the cost of living or to lessen the cost of government while he was in position to make such an effort? Did he do anything toward reciprocity with other nations? J. D. BARRY.

NEW YORK, July 8.

A New Plural.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Mooses is a very awkward plural for moose. Why not meese? G. F. K.

NEW YORK, July 7.

Time at the Table.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* How long is the patron of a public dining room entitled to occupy his seat at a table, provided there is no rush and tables are plenty for all comers? The question is prompted by the fact that I was asked to vacate a half filled table d'hôte place the other evening after I had finished my dinner, unless I would add further to the receipts of the proprietor by buying drinks. Neither myself nor my companion being a drinking man, we declined to buy and left. As the place has no license to sell liquor isn't an order to vacate under the circumstances rather rubbing it in? T. D.

NEW YORK, July 8.

The "Fan's" Ambition.

I would like to be an umpire,
In a natty suit of blue,
With a counter in my fingers
And a vision keen and true,
Handing out the little lemon,
Philadelphia, to you!

I would like to be an umpire,
Taking in my "ten per day,"
Calling strikes and balls at random,
While the howling fans all say
I'm a "robber" just for giving
You Chicago Cubs fair play.

I would like to be an umpire,
Standing proudly at the plate,
Making the St. Louis rooters
Wish they'd never passed the gate,
And dispensing to the Pirates
An unpleasant sort of fate.

But I would not be an umpire
When the scrappy game is o'er,
When authority has vanished
And both teams are feeling sore;
For I might get what was due me,
And perhaps a little more!

LURANA SHELDON.

FEWER STEERS AND THEY WEIGH LESS

Beef Packers' Paper Gives Figures to Show Why Meat Is High.

AVERAGE 37 LBS. LIGHTER

Which Meant 46,250,000 Pounds Less Meat at Chicago in Six Months.

Nearly every housewife who makes faces at her butcher and says curt things every time she buys a steak or roast for the family dinner has her reason for the prevailing high price of beef, and it isn't always complimentary to the man who cuts the meat. The butcher too has his ideas and in most cases he passes the blame along to the wholesaler. The wholesaler has his opinion also of the causes which have made the prices rise steadily until they are higher than ever before, and says that the high prices are due to a shortage of beef.

In the current issue of the *National Provisioner*, the official organ of the American Beef Packers Association, "official statistics" on cattle are given, which show that for the first six months of 1912 there were received at Chicago, Kansas City, St. Louis, Omaha, St. Joseph and Sioux City—the six principal Western markets—3,200,000 head of cattle, or 400,000 less than in the corresponding period last year. The organ further points out that buyers at smaller market centres, especially in the East, have been obliged to go to the larger centres for their supplies, indicating that the shortages in the smaller centres are proportionately greater than in the larger ones.

Not only has there been a great falling off in the number of cattle sent to the six big markets, but the average weight of the cattle, it is said, has been less. Reports for June show that in Chicago the average weight of each carcass was thirty-seven pounds less than the average weight shown by the reports of a year ago. Chicago received 1,250,000 cattle in the last six months, and the falling off in weight would indicate a loss there of 46,250,000 pounds.

The *National Provisioner* says: "Newspapers have made much of reports from the Government Bureau of Statistics, assuming to give the live stock movement for the year, and to show heavier receipts than a year ago. The figures here given effectually dispose of any such deductions from the Government figures."

Receipts of cattle at the six principal markets for the last three months, the period of rising beef prices, are compared in weekly compilations made by A. L. Reiser:

Week ending	Receipts.	1911.	1910.
March 30, 1912	128,338	138,975	121,410
April 6, 1912	93,975	110,881	87,181
April 13, 1912	101,355	121,551	81,905
April 20, 1912	124,140	125,242	115,035
April 27, 1912	122,871	116,547	117,883
May 4, 1912	127,512	119,579	121,391
May 11, 1912	125,992	128,418	125,043
May 18, 1912	96,157	131,737	118,758
May 25, 1912	107,855	142,251	124,077
June 1, 1912	107,155	138,257	117,217
June 8, 1912	98,518	145,468	129,789
June 15, 1912	97,742	162,346	123,300
June 22, 1912	130,955	164,224	138,991
Total, 3 months	1,468,656	1,753,909	1,701,563

Decrease for second quarter of 1912 as compared with 1911, 285,244 head.

Decrease for second quarter of 1912 as compared with 1910, 234,037 head.

Total decrease for the first six months of 1912 as compared with 1911, 328,449 head.

Total decrease for the first six months of 1912 as compared with 1910, 433,551 head.

The meat packers' organ further says: "Not only were the highest prices ever known paid at many of the big markets in June for top cattle, but the average price for the month was also the highest, and that included all kinds of dressed meat. At Chicago in June the average steer price was $8 per hundred, compared to $7.95 in May, $6.05 in June a year ago, $7.50 in June two years ago and $6.45 in June three years ago."

In Chicago last week corn fed cattle sold at $9.55 a hundred pounds.

The *National Stockman and Farmer* recently said:

What the cattle business of this country needs most of all is a good long rest. It needs a rest from the tariff agitation which threatens to throw our markets open to the meats produced on cheap or free lands with cheap labor. It needs a rest from the agitation and boycotts which harm the producer temporarily and the consumer permanently. It needs a rest from misrepresentations, from foolish restrictions as to storage and from overtaxation in some places.

Producers cannot be expected to rush into beef making when confronted by the probability of serious competition from the outside and boycotts from the inside. They should be encouraged to produce more beef, but they will not do so unless they may reasonably expect the same kind of a market other producers enjoy.

PREPARE FOR PANAMA TRADE.

Newman Erb Goes West to Perfect Traffic Arrangements.

Newman Erb, president of the Minneapolis and St. Louis and chairman of the board of the Ann Arbor Railroad, will leave on a thirty days inspection trip of the roads to-day.

His inspection will be extensive and it is expected that while he is on the trip he will complete arrangements for the incorporation of a new company to put through the extension programme that has long been outlined for the combined roads of the Minneapolis and St. Louis and the Iowa Central, to the Canadian border line.

The plan includes a through arrangement for traffic southward from Canada to the Gulf by connection with the Missouri, Kansas and Texas, to be in readiness for the Panama Canal traffic.

The southern terminal of this northerly extension, it is thought, will be Waterloo, S. D., on the present line of the Minneapolis and St. Louis. To the south the connection of the through line with the M., K. and T. will be at Moberly.

A part of the original plan outlined during the life of Edwin Hawley was a joint rate and traffic arrangement with the Canadian Northern in Canada.

2,300 AT COLUMBIA.

Summer School Has 700 More Than Last Year—N. Y. U. Has 555.

With a registration of 2,300 students, which is 700 more than last year, Columbia University began its twelfth summer session yesterday. Many of the students have been attracted by the opportunities offered to study music. The courses include the history of music, harmony, counterpoint, conducting, sight reading for pianists and voice culture.

The festival chorus of 300 voices under the direction of Walter Henry Hall will prepare two oratorios, "The Messiah," to be given on Tuesday evening, August 6, and Mendelssohn's "St. Paul," on Thursday evening, August 8. The soloists will be Miss Marie Stoddart, soprano; Miss Mildred Potter, contralto; Lambert Murphy, tenor, and Clifford Cairns, bass.

Forty-seven clubs, representing as many States of the Union, were organized yesterday. Their object is to further social intercourse among the students.