The Sun.

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American Indian Day.

On the whole this is the most refreshing thing thus far offered to a mind dazed and deafened and darkened and spoiled by the everlasting, ancient, weary yawp of a Presidential year:

"TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* There should be a new American holiday. This holiday should be called 'American Indian Day.'

"The descendants of nearly every race who have come to America celebrate some kind of a holiday. Historical events have their anniversaries and great men are remembered by special days. We are told that there are too many holidays now and further propositions must not be considered. Here is a day, however, which has been overlooked and which simple justice should recognize as eminently worthy of nationwide celebration—this American Indian Day. It should rank with Independence Day, and indeed its observance by all Americans, whether of 'imported' or of aboriginal ancestry, would call into being many important and interesting exercises and discussions.

"Who is not interested in something connected with the American Indian? Why, the very soil beneath one's feet once was his. He fought desperately, it is true, and against frightful odds. No patriot ever fought more gloriously than he; and if he was sometimes cruel, his desperate and hopeless condition contributed to make him so. We malign the red man in one breath and praise him in another. We defame him in history and emulate him in practice. We exterminate him, and we study him for clues as to the development of the stages of human culture.

"Here, then, is an opportunity to make good. American Indian Day will provide the chance for the historian to discuss him before his audience, for his friends to extol him, for his enemies to learn the good about him, and for our boys and girls to 'play Indian' and thereby absorb a greater love of the outdoor world. Here is a chance for a great day for the Boy Scouts, for the Camp Fire Girls, for the Order of Red Men, for historical societies, for school exercises and town pageants. Here, too, is a great day for the red man himself. With his friends discussing his rights and his needs he will be the gainer. His own organizations, such as the Society of American Indians, will profit by such a day.

"What day shall be chosen? What time of year is best? This is another question. Some August vacation day would suit many and give a chance for a great field day. Then, too, October 12 would be another good day. It is the real Indian day anyway, and as a holiday already recognized its use as American Indian Day would furnish the new holiday with a flying leap into being.

"Historians, scientists, educators, fraternal men and Indians to whom this idea has been suggested, hail it as the very thing which has been needed.

"The mere mention of such a day opens up a suggestion as to its possibility. This mention of it is put forth as a suggestion that the white American and the red American get together and push this proposed day into existence. Ninety million 'imported' Americans and 265,683 Indian Americans ought to see the opportunity.

"ARTHUR C. PARKER, Archæologist.

"Science Division, Education Department, Albany, September 14."

The fortunate folks in the newspaper business get so many holidays that it would be unsocial justice for them to ask for more. Yet for the American Indian, the one original "American," in the mind of some cynics the only "American" who is not a snob at heart—for him all might be said, if every other "true American" were not now saying everything.

He had his virtues. He was given to oratory and decoration and treachery and falsehood. From whatever shores of Asia or elsewhere he came to us, he was the original Roosevelt.

Tender and true, the "copper colored" Douglas, he deserves 365 holidays, and in leap years 366. Only a few of us have to work, and the American Indian should have his holiday.

On November 5 his good faith, his manly way of making war, his justice and kindness to his enemies, his freedom from boastfulness, his veneration for women, will be honored with the honor due to an illustrious werowance and first class medicine man.

The Discoverer of "Finger Prints."

In the published reports of the eugenic congress recently held in London we have looked in vain for the mention of the man who was the founder of a scientific method which bids fair to be adopted by enlightened communities for the conservation of their most precious asset, the physical, mental and moral integrity of the offspring. If he were living to-day FRANCIS GALTON would deprecate this allusion to his great but unrequited work; and yet he even coined the word "eugenics." For the enlightenment of our readers it may be mentioned that the great English student of humanity and ardent advocate of its betterment also discovered the value of "finger prints as a method of identification of human beings" and applied the process for the furtherance of justice in the detection of criminals.

The average man does not realize that this mode of identification is absolutely unassailable, never having failed when fairly tried. Twenty years have elapsed since this remarkable discovery. To-day it is utilized in many odd but useful ways. Unlettered persons no longer need to sign documents with the mark of the cross; a finger print is far more positive and absolutely proof against forgery. Banks are already confirming signatures and corporations are beginning to identify employees in this way. We are informed that finger prints are insisted upon as signatures to receipts for payment to the workmen constructing the Panama Canal.

Lieutenant FATROT of the New York Police Department has suggested also that "birth certificates be accompanied by the baby's and mother's finger prints," and it has been mooted even that all individuals establish a record of their identity by depositing their finger prints in the police or some other legally designated office, to be duplicated in a central office at the national capital. Since the finger prints are reliable until decomposition has obliterated them their value in establishing lost identity is obvious. Many suits for fraudulent insurance claims would be prevented if the insured were compelled to add a finger print to the usual signature, furnishing mute but unerring evidence.

The application of this simple signature in practical life will doubtless be constantly enlarged. Meanwhile the ingenious originator, who has not profited and did not contemplate profiting from his discovery, should not be forgotten. Indeed, it were but just and proper to designate this mode of identification as Galtonisation or Galtonism.

The Next Legislature.

One of the minor details of the State campaign which is still not without passing interest is the possible effect upon the Legislature of the present split in the ranks of the Republican party. In 1910 the Democrats carried the Assembly for the first time since 1892. Last year they were overwhelmingly defeated and the Democratic membership reduced to about the normal size of recent years.

But an examination of the returns in the Assembly districts reveals the interesting fact that of the 102 districts which chose Republicans not less than seventeen were carried by pluralities which were below 500, and sixteen more by pluralities which were less than 1,000. Another surprising detail is the fact that of these thirty-three districts only seven were in New York city.

In the Assembly of 1912 the party division was 102 Republicans, 47 Democrats and 1 Socialist. It is clear then that if the split in the Republican ranks resulted in any considerable division of the Republican vote for Assemblymen between Republican and Bull Moose candidates a Democratic Assembly would be assured. The fact that of the thirty-three districts carried by less than 1,000 in 1911 seventeen, or more than half, were carried by the Democrats in 1910 also deserves mention.

The Democrats now hold the State Senate by 29 to 21 Republicans and one Independence Leaguer, whose vote in most cases has been with the majority. The possibility of another Democratic Legislature is one of the things that must be considered by the voters and party leaders during the campaign.

Moro Virtues.

There is probably no better American authority upon the Moro character than Major JOHN P. FINLEY, U. S. A., who has been brought into close relations with the Mohammedans of Mindanao in the capacity of Military Governor. Most writers have found few or no redeeming qualities in the non-Christian Moro. For instance, Mr. JOHN FOREMAN, whose laborious and very readable book "The Philippine Islands" is a standard, has this to say of these wild people:

"In theory the Moros accept the Koran and the teachings of MAHOMET; in practice they omit the virtues of their religious system and follow those precepts which can be construed into favoring vice; hence they interpret guidance of the people by oppression, polygamy by licentiousness, and maintenance of the faith by bloodshed."

In this country the opinion entertained of the Moro is that he is impervious to civilizing influences, vicious, cruel, treacherous and rabid, and therefore that the best Moro is a dead Moro. In an article in the last number of the *Army and Navy Journal* Major FINLEY presents a very different view of the non-Christian Moro, whatever his worst traits and failings are. Major FINLEY has found the following virtues general among this savage people:

"Abstemiousness and freedom from the use of alcoholic drinks.

"Love of their children, and a very general desire for their education, especially of the boys.

"High personal pride and dignity, which resents undue familiarity and is flattered by consideration.

"Opposition (among the better class) to the vice of gambling because it is prohibited by the Koran.

"Fidelity and efficiency as laborers, especially when the terms of agreement are fair and strictly complied with.

"Courtesy, hospitality and a keen sense of humor.

"Tolerance of the religion of others, but bitter hostility if their own is interfered with.

"Submission to punishment for a violation of the law when they understand the law and the function and power of the courts.

"Faith in governing officials who win their confidence."

It appears then that there may be worse and more intractable people than these Mohammedan wards of the United States. They have some virtues and some standards that are not too common among the Christian nations of the West. Economic reformers are no doubt needed in Mindanao, but there is no dearth of sound ethics. This tribute to Moro character by an American soldier explains why the United States army, which possesses the military virtues in a high degree, has had so much success in introducing the fundamentals of civilization in Mindanao. There is a Mohammedan proverb quoted by Major FINLEY that one day of justice is worth seventy years of good wishes. The American Governors of the Moro province, WOOD, BLISS, HOYT and PERSHING, have been firm and swiftly punitive when occasion required, but invariably they have been fair, just, tolerant and catholic to their savage charges. Hence to the amazement of Europeans the inexperienced invaders from the Christian United States have achieved an impressive success as colonizers of a wild people.

"Races" in Connecticut.

Somewhere on this page is a letter from a felicitous resident of that town of ancient, patriotic and "law school" memory Litchfield of Connecticut. A town of rare fortunes, speaking humanly, virtuous in its youth and singularly beautiful in its age.

A few declining ancients, and they only, will be stirred by the "question," if question there is, of the supersession of the "old stock" in New England.

To some extent the old days and ways are gone from New England. It is simple for the enlightened souls of to-day to cast a stone at that old strong, enduring and productive home of many of us, that mighty mother of the past.

Let those things be for praise or for reproof, the praise of prosperous descendants that JOHN ENDICOTT would have loved to put into the pillory, the censure of fortunate later "races" that had no share in the heat and burden of those early difficult days.

In the newspapers, though not in the published intercourse of life, there is a certain friction, a contrast triumphant usually for the newcomers, between the "old stock" and the new.

We have not noticed it in such poor observations of life as lie before eyes not sharpened to sociological lore.

We seem to remember the "old stock" honorably entitled to its discharge and having done sternly and with small reward most of its work. And we see the newer stocks equal to their labors.

Something, perhaps, might be said for these and other makers of the United States, the homespun, forgotten, terrible race that beat the climate, the frosts, the Indians, the Devil, in whom they sincerely believed. They had not the moral and intellectual benefits of automobiles; their divine immortal thirst had to be content with Jamaica, Medford or New England; the easy political and social virtue of to-day would have been beyond their comprehension.

So much, in the cheerful forgetfulness of the present, should, we think, be given to the past.

We welcome every addition of physical or moral temperament to the American "type," which does not exist at present. The one thing, poor enough, no doubt, that interests us in the transformation or supplantation of races in Connecticut, or anywhere else in these United States, is to know how much of tolerance, how much of "world experience" and knowledge, how much even of the admirable multiloquence of waiters or the accomplishments of intelligent Belgium, Holland, Germany, Russia is gained by the new United States.

Our way of looking at it may be wrong, but to our doubtless darkened eyes it does seem that "races" are much alike; that in Connecticut and elsewhere in the United States the opportunity is thrown away of a bilingual or trilingual American "race" almost as intelligent as the Swiss and so forth.

New Orleans Commissioner charged with being a partisan.—*News despatch.*

Plainly an error in the transmission of the despatch. New Orleans Commissioners are only charged with not being partisans.

I don't know whether or not America is more interested in an athlete than in a writer.—PIERRE LOTI.

That depends perhaps on the author and the athlete.

ROSCOE M. DRUMHELLER, a Democrat, has been nominated for Congress in the Third Washington district. ROSCOE is a pleasing given name, but it is completely eclipsed and lost in such a combination. Mr. DRUMHELLER can make as much noise and burn as much red fire as he pleases, but he cannot be elected in a district that is normally Republican by 15,000 votes.

Brazil is going into rubber planting. The Government believes it can best conserve its immense natural resources by compelling the exploiters of rubber forests to plant extensively wherever they are taking rubber from the land. The new law is based upon the conviction that the rubber districts may be made to produce more rubber than ever before and that planting will be sure to keep Brazil far in the lead as a source of this product.

Twenty years ago it was doubted that rubber could ever be made a plantation industry. The experiments in Nicaragua and several other American republics were failures. Sir W. T. THISELTON-DYER of Kew Gardens wrote that the results of introducing South American rubber plants into southern India "are not such as to justify any further expenditure in the matter." But time and perseverance have completely changed the outlook. Rubber planting in Ceylon is proving very profitable, and it is also successful in the Congo, Kamerun, Uganda and other parts of Africa.

It was high time to reform the wasteful and destructive methods by which the demand for rubber was until recently met. Even Brazil sees that she must plant if she would keep her preeminence. There is no doubt that the expansion of this comparatively new industry will be able to meet all future needs of the rubber trade.

"Costermonger."

From the London Standard.

Ribbed costard apples, a cooking kind, are now to be seen in the shops. The costard is referred to in the household accounts of Edward I., in whose reign the street seller of the apple was called a costardmonger—hence "costermonger" and "coster."

THE FIVE GREAT POLITICAL ZONES.

The Duke of Dixon has made the official announcement that the country is to be divided into five zones, Bull Moose Ranges, posted until November 5. These zones are for purposes of "organization." Besides these material or geographical zones there are to be five great corresponding zones in the moral universe where My Policies are to roam at will. The "ideal" zones will resemble the five zones of the world and will probably have similar if not identical names. For example, there will be the frigid zones at opposite poles, the north black pole and the best white south pole. But the south frigid zone will be too cold for black delegates to inhabit the country. Then there will likewise be the two temperate or variable zones where the older of My Policies will live and luxuriate in soft ease. These softer or temperate policies will include My Views on the tariff, on the inheritance tax and the fifty-seven varieties of the judicial recall.

The Duke of Dixon says that one of the "organization" zones will be located at Boston. It may also be definitely stated that Boston will be located within the moral temperate zone; indeed, it is doubtful if the tariff policies will thrive at all in that semi-frigid locality. My Views on reducing the wool schedules will become so temperate in the region of Boston that they will almost cease to exist. The Springfield *Republican* is also located near Boston, and it may be stated that when King Khakhi gets within earshot of it or the Boston *Transcript* very little will be heard about disfranchising negro delegates in the south frigid zone. Undesirable citizens, like Sumner and Garrison, used to live in that locality and they didn't believe in "political serfdom," as a poisoned colored editor has recently called it.

However, it must be borne in mind that the temperate zones are also called the variable zones, and when the swing around the circle brings the royal speaking car into Atlanta or Birmingham the voters will be taught out of a totally different moral geography. Just as the Southern schools use histories written by Confederate historians, so My Little Plain People in the South will learn that black delegates have no right to exist at all in the south frigid zone. For their "ultimate good, of course."

Kansas and California and Oklahoma will also be in the variable zones when it comes to telling them precisely when and how to pull a Judge off the bench, as in time of lynchings for example, when we have a specific illustration of the recall, brief and direct. Woman suffrage will inhabit these localities to a marked degree; indeed, the moral master is to tell us for the first time how and why he has always and consistently been in favor of woman suffrage, just as he has been a "dozen year old" tariff reformer. Out in these States the tariff will warm up to such a degree that schedules will melt completely away, and the great complaint will be in the event of King Khakhi's victory that food and clothing prices may become so low as to make them vulgar. We may even be told that cheap clothes will make cheap and indecent men, so cheap will things become under the Third Empire.

Mention has yet to be made of the greatest and most fundamental of all the five zones, the torrid zones. In these unmoral and uninhabitable regions the bosses and big business malefactors are to be literally burned to a crisp. Here in these infernal swamps and jungles they have been luxuriating for years. In fact, certain wicked and lying poisoned editors hold that they reached their height of greatest luxuriance during the First and Second Empires of King Khakhi the Immaculate. In these torrid zones live all types of undesirable citizens. It would take one with the knowledge of Dean Swift to describe adequately all the corrupt giants and sneaking pygmies that are to be hunted out and slaughtered as Mr. Harriman was. (Hunted out on the eve of election and held over for slaughter until it became "practical.") Then the torrid regions are infested with countless moral dwarfs like Senator Root and Nicholas Murray Butler, or Joseph H. Choate and John Wanamaker, men who were drafted and then dwarfed during the First and Second Empires. They inhabit the torrid moral zone chiefly because they have been accustomed to caves so long that now they are unable to recognize The Light of Oyster Bay, The Beacon of Hope, The Rushlight of Mankind.

The report is unconfirmed, but it is none the less believed to be accurate, to the effect that King Khakhi is to be accompanied by two wise guides when he goes hunting in the Tropic of Cancerous Political Growths. Big game requires big guides, and it is said that the Marquis of Flinn will show his Majesty the lairs of "known bosses," while Lord Harvester, the Earl of Perkins, will smoke out the rich bad malefactors of big business. Lincoln said: "It takes a horse thief to catch undesirable citizens."

Governor Baldwin's Hold on Connecticut.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Connecticut has been wonderfully fortunate in the possession of such an old fashioned Democrat as Governor Simeon E. Baldwin. Gratitude is due him for his fearlessness and sturdiness in rebuking the brazen assumptions of the third term candidate. More men like Governor Baldwin are sadly needed in this country at the present juncture. His reliability and good sense give him the support of Republicans as well as Democrats in Connecticut. E. T. W.

NEW YORK, September 14.

The Musical Hohenzollerns.

From the Westminster Gazette.

The announcement that the Kaiser Wilhelm has composed a number of patriotic airs, which are to be sung by the troops at the German army manœuvres, is a reminder that the Prussian royal family has a special talent for the creative side of musical art. Prince Henry of Prussia has composed several marches which are very popular in the German army and navy, and last year the Emperor presented to the Royal Academy of Music a splendidly bound volume of musical compositions by Prince Louis Ferdinand of Prussia. William II. is particularly proud of the stirring "Song of Aegir," of which he is both composer and librettist. The Kaiser's famous ancestor Frederick the Great was easily the most prolific of all royal composers, having over one hundred compositions to his credit.

Humane French Burglars.

Paris correspondence London Daily Mail.

Humane burglars broke into the shooting box of M. Lindet, president of the Paris Law Society, at Fosse Mousson yesterday, and after ransacking the place carefully destroyed traps and snares for animals which they found there. On a wall where the traps had been hanging they scrawled the words: "Be kind to animals or else we will return."

EARLY BASEBALL AT YALE.

When the Graybeard "Grads" of To-day Were Young Barbarians.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* A Yale college paper published an editorial on baseball from which the following remarks are taken:

We are not an admirer of the national game. We don't understand it and we don't want to. We regard all devotees to this so-called amusement as partly, or more, insane. We are entirely opposed to the game on all possible grounds, morally, mentally, physically, religiously, and most of all pecuniarily. The greatest agony which we can possibly imagine would be to be compelled to read from beginning to end an account of one of those finger destroying baseball matches.

The paper was the *College Courant*, published at Yale by Yale men, and the issue in which this surprising tirade appeared was that of October 17, 1868. Naturally, in view of this quite positive expression, the volume of the *Courant* is not so rich a repository of baseball news as the ransacker of second hand bookstores had hoped to find after lugging home his bulky purchase; but fortunately the college editor was too conscientious a journalist to permit his personal dislikes to conflict with the performance of his professional function. So, though in meagre detail, some interesting information is embalmed in the neatly printed pages of the *Courant*.

Baseball at Yale began with the organization of a university team in 1865. The first games with varsity teams from Harvard and Princeton were played three years later.

As the first number of that lively and entertaining sheet the *Courant* bears date of July 10, 1867, the first two years of Yale baseball are probably lost to history unless the records may by happy chance turn up in some ancient graduate's scrapbook.

The liberal scale on which scoring operations were conducted in the stone age of baseball was mentioned in a recent letter to THE SUN. In line with that reference is a paragraph of correction, October 2, '67: "Our types made us say that in the baseball match between the first and second divisions of the senior class a week and a half ago the first division beat by a score of 52 to 6. It should have been 52 to 46."

Some other scores were: July, '67, Yale 23, Riverside 13; October, '67, Yale 13, Waterbury 8 (1 hour 52 minutes); same month, Yale 46, Columbia 12 (2 hours 30 minutes); June, '68, Yale 14, Morrisania, then the national champions, 18. For this last game the number of "fouls struck" is given: Yale 20, Morrisania 36.

The box scores of those days enumerate flies caught, flies missed, strikeouts and out on fouls, passed balls, "bases given" and home runs.

In July of '67 the class teams at Yale and Harvard had a busy day at baseball, Yale '70 beating Harvard '70 in the morning game by 38 to 18 in three hours and eighteen minutes and Yale '69 winning from Harvard '69 in the afternoon match, 23 to 22, in two hours and forty minutes. The report of the first game, three short paragraphs and the box score, is quite modern in its crisp conciseness, giving the state of weather, place and time, size of crowd, brief general analysis of play, with notice of individual stars and the information that "bets offered, 2 to 1 on Yale, found no takers."

In the second game Harvard offered 2 to 1 and many bets were made during the first two innings. Yale got in 9 runs in the fourth and the aleatory eagerness of the Cambridge lads leaked away. The report of this game is of the flamboyant style: "Then began a general outburst of triumphant joy on the part of Yale, which to appreciate one must see and feel, for it would be impossible to give an accurate description." These games were played at Worcester the day before the intercollege freshman and varsity boat races on Lake Quinsigamond. "The well known cry of 'Ahvad, Ahvad'" is merrily quoted.

In announcing a game with Columbia in October, '67, it is heralded as the first trial of skill in any sport between the two colleges; but Columbia "has so nobly stood by Yale in her contests with Harvard that we have begun to regard Columbia rather in the light of a good friend than as a stranger college." Yale won, and it is magnanimously recorded that the New Yorkers "sustained their defeat most gentlemanly." That was a big night in New Haven, for 125 of the boys of Yale and Columbia gathered about the Tontine's festal board and made enough noise to shatter a dozen welkins.

The box score throws an amusing side light on the quality of the fielding, for in a game in which fifty-eight runs were scored only six players were left on bases.

In 1868 Yale played very successfully against the best clubs in New England and Massachusetts, and in May a challenge for a varsity game was sent to Harvard. The challenge was accepted, but strangely enough the *Courant* neglects to record the match, if it ever came off. The first Princeton game recorded was won by Yale at New Haven in July of 1868; score 30 to 23. In 1869 editorial comment on a season of successes notes "the disgraceful defeat by the Harvards at Worcester, coming like an extinguisher."

Financial difficulties darkened the outlook for this year. The "National Convention" had ruled that in games between professional and amateur teams the proceeds were to go to the former. Lack of funds for the entertainment of visiting clubs had laid the Yale management open to charges of inhospitality, because of which one club refused to send a nine to New Haven.

Who of the old grads remembers the games between the Atoms and the Molecules, the Fatty Acids and the Alkalis, Sans Souci and Hunkidori? Who of them does not!

GRAYBEARD.

NEW YORK, September 14.

GIRLS WANTED!

New Mexico Sends an Invitation to Bachelor Maids.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Having frequently read of the preponderance of bachelor maids in New York city, I offer the suggestion that some of them visit this glorious section of God's own country and look over the male bachelor prizes, and not wait until the santo campo gets 'em. This is the great Pecos Valley, not far from the border line of Texas, and the climatic conditions here are fine, if not the finest (this is no boast) in the whole world. The altitude is 4,000 feet, and we have almost perpetual sunshine the year round. In short it is a paradise.

As to its products, it is famous for its alfalfa, fruits, flowers and other good things. Of course its mesas and ranges with their vast herds of horses, cattle and sheep are the background of its prosperity.

Let the fair ones come here for vacation. They will remain and be fed on tortillas, encholadas, chili-con-carne and tamales, with ample liquid joys that will give each a new lease of life. Once here the effete East will be forgotten in this land of the Montezumas.

Much could be written concerning this beautiful land, but for the present, "Nuf sed." JOHN ELWELL MADISON.

ROSWELL, N. M., September 9.

World's Oldest Museum.

From the Scientific American.

Dr. Otto Kümmel, head of the East Asiatic department of the Berlin Museum of Ethnology, tells of the oldest museum in the world in the bulletin of the Société Franco-Japonaise. This museum may be found in the city of Nara, the former capital of Japan. Since its foundation, in 756, it has gone through all the changes of the Japanese Empire without one single addition to its collection. Dr. Otto Kümmel is one of the few Europeans who were permitted to visit this museum. It opens its doors but once a year, on a day in spring, when a special committee inspects the collection, and a new list is made out. The museum contains about 8,000 articles, which are said to be the most beautiful specimens of decorative work which have ever been produced by human hand, such as lacquer ware, decorative furniture, enamel ware, cambriclike fabric, &c. The origin of the majority of the articles is uncertain; some came from China and others from Corea, but most of them appear to be of a more exotic origin. All, however, came of a time prior to the year 756.

RURAL NUTMEGIA.

The Predominance of Slavs and Latins in It Denied.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* From reading the letter in THE SUN in regard to foreigners taking possession of the abandoned farms, so called, in Connecticut, one would almost believe that the country towns of the State had become a sort of Italian or Hungarian commonwealth. The observations of Mr. Sackett may be correct in regard to farms near good markets and close to the cities or prospering manufacturing places like Willimantic, but when he says in substance that in many of the counties Slav and Latin families are taking possession of almost every old farmhouse on the abandoned farms his statements are too general and are disproved by statistics.

Comparatively few foreigners are settling in the back hill towns of this State, and of those who do many are not prospering. An intelligent farmer who lives in one of these towns informed me that of all the foreigners who had bought farms and settled in his vicinity only one was prospering, and that this one wished to sell out. In some cases Jews have bought these old farms and attempted cultivation of the land. As far as newspaper accounts go I have seen nothing but that which indicated the success of these people, but actual observation shows that, if without much capital, Jews do not take kindly to the life of the backwoods farmer. They become pedlers and buyers of calves and enter kindred occupations.

There are 168 towns in Connecticut and the census of 1910 shows that of the back hill towns the population in many has been stationary or nearly so for the last decade, in three towns there has been a gain of one inhabitant, while in fifty-two towns the population has actually decreased. Will Mr. Sackett explain how this can be if "almost every old farmhouse covers a brood of children and almost every acre of soil has changed its nominal ownership," and "when the house will hold together and when its leaking roof may be shingled to exclude the rain you will find it sheltering a Slav or Latin family"?

JOHN T. HUBBARD.

LITCHFIELD, Conn., September 14.

FRIVOLOUS FLINGS.

Terpsichore Among the Poppies Shows a "Glimmer of Soul."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Many years ago at Dumpton-on-the-Sands in England I came upon an idyllic couple among the poppies. I hated to intrude on their peace, when all at once the sound of a cornet in agony and a fife in distress were heard. Up jumps Angelina: "Lor', I wish they'd come by 'ere," said she: "I'd jump like steam. I could just do a dance." And Angelina would have danced in her own peculiar way, a romp, maybe, a rushing galop, but I don't think she would ever have been guilty of any modern fandango. To me she was a wild flower on the edge of a cliff, but she had at all events a glimmering of soul. I haven't seen Angelina for many a day, and I am sure she would balk at these azure audacities of Terpsichore.

If these frivolous flings are to come into vogue, whose fault will it be? No woman will allow herself to be tempted into these outrageous gambols against her will. The situation lies absolutely with her. The magazine editor, the novelist, the theatrical manager, the playwright, all cater for womankind. She is the Mrs. Grundy. Once she allowed the squires to get drunk after dinner; now she is shocked at a one bottle man. She is the representative of the ethical level of the age, not of fixed pruderies, and she is—woman.

Adam Smith said that conscience was only the reflection in ourselves of our neighbors' opinions. If we didn't value their opinions there would be no morality. So find out the state of Mrs. Grundy's conscience, and you will see the fall or rise of these trots and hugs, and whatever the result of your search may be you may be quite sure that mere man will follow blindly. L. T. H.

NEW YORK, September 14.

OUR HARD HIGHWAYS.

First Up, Then Down, and Always Bad Wherever Found.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* One of the first things noticed and criticised by visitors is the continual digging up of the streets, tearing up the pavement to mend leaks in gas pipes and to mend telephone and electric light cables.

No doubt it is a necessary evil that must be endured. Defects in telephone and electric light cables must be remedied, and the only way to reach the cables is to tear up the streets. Places of business in front of which the digging is going on are affected by the work. Trade falls off until the work is completed, and often people are so satisfied with the change to other stores that they fail to come back.

Then, again, many of the stores employ wagons and trucks to do their distributing. When the streets in front of the stores are torn up, sometimes for weeks at a time, it is impossible for the wagons to stand in front of the business places. They are forced to take positions at points perhaps a block away. In such cases it is necessary for the drivers and helpers to carry the goods the extra distance to put them into the wagons, and just that much time is lost in delivering. So the business man is a heavy loser.

Furthermore, it is characteristic of New York to leave the pavements in an unsettled state for months after they have been torn up. Large bumps and warts remain in the pavement until finally laborers pave the streets. In the meantime autos, wagons and other vehicles are shaken up and damaged by the continual bumping over the unfinished pavement. C. P.

NEW YORK, September 14.

TRAVEL ZEPHYRS.

How to Have All the Car Window Breezes and Keep the Cinders Out.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Persons who wish to see out of their car windows and at the same time to breathe air that no one else has inspired, having a perfect right to keep their windows open, should pay scant heed to the mollycoddles behind them. But occasionally such a one is a gentle soul, and I suggest this way out for him:

If the cinders blow back toward the bewhiskered curser in the seat behind, he may hang his coat on the rear hook, thereby stopping the gap and giving himself more breeze. If the cinders then become objectionable to him, he may take his discarded paper, fold it up across and across and wedge it in the fore part of the window opening so that its end projects three inches outside the car. In this way he has a perfect cinder shield on the same plan as the little boards on the frames of Pullman windows.

Thus does a little common sense satisfy all concerned. PROGRESSIVE.

TORRINGFORD, Conn., September 14.

A Cinder Deflector.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* If a car window or any other window has a strip of wood one inch in front of it running across the bottom of the sash, said strip to be six inches high, the window may be raised three inches.

M. PERCY REYNOLDS.

DANBURY, Conn., September 14.

The Farmer.

From the Denver Republican.

The farmer is an Optimist—
Put in a cap O, please—
He never doubles up his fist
And lets bad language breeze
When sudden storms of any sort
Sweep o'er his choicest land,
But when the freight car crop is short
He talks to beat the band.

The farmer never tears around
And threatens anarchy;
E'en when his seeds dry in the ground
No lark so blithe as he:
He takes a philosophic view
When rust gets in his wheat,
But if the freight cars don't come through
His language is all heat.

The farmer ne'er bewails his luck
When things go wrong at home—
When all his precious garden truck
Ne'er greens above the loam;
But when he hears somebody say:
"The cars are short, I guess,"
He sits him down without delay
And writes unto the press.

FIRE COMMISSIONER ASKS FOR $11,299,157

Johnson's Estimate for 1913 Carries Increase of $2,661,792.

WANTS 1,000 MORE MEN

Forty-two New Stations Must Be Manned and Equipped Next Year.

Fire Commissioner Johnson has sent to the Board of Estimate a statement of the amount of money he will want for 1913.

For maintenance and for enlargement he asks for $11,299,157, an increase of $2,661,792 over the amount wanted for the current year.

Much of the increase is demanded, he says, for new equipment and additional men. There are forty-two new fire houses just completed and nearing completion in various parts of the city. New apparatus and other things will have to be bought for many of these houses.

The Commissioner says he will require an addition of 1,000 men in the uniformed force and 281 new men among the civilian employees. The large number of new fire fighters are to form the crews of sixty-one additional companies that are to be organized. The salaries of these men will account for $1,249,900.

There has been a demand from the men from deputy chief down to third grade firemen for an increase of pay. Captains and lieutenants, who had their salaries increased not long ago, are excepted from this programme. If the increase is to be granted it will mean $703,000 of the appropriation for next year.

The unprecedented growth of the city calls for a corresponding enlargement of the Fire Department. The Commissioner points out that the thousand new firemen needed exceed the combined fire forces of Washington and Buffalo, and are greater than the combined forces of Rochester, Denver, Kansas City and Toledo. Boston has less men than this proposed addition.

The proposed increase would make the uniformed force of this city 5,429 men.

The estimate makes provision for three new deputy chiefs, one of them to command the marine division; three new battalion chiefs, forty-seven captains, eighty-two lieutenants, seventy-four engineers and five pilots.

The amount required for supplies is $1,180,760. This includes the necessaries for the new fire houses.

There are nineteen pieces of fire fighting apparatus of the automobile type. It is contemplated to add eighty-seven more pieces before next summer. The contracts for most of these machines have been awarded. A new fireboat is also to be added.

Commissioner Johnson lays stress upon the necessity of more money to enlarge the force of the fire prevention bureau. He wants $534,360 for next year, and says the present force is quite inadequate to meet the conditions confronting this new branch of the service. There should be at least 100 new men in the bureau, as the force has to look after 350,000 structures.

The Commissioner asks for $5,000 to employ outside detectives to get evidence against firebugs, as he thinks they could more easily get the necessary evidence for prosecution in the courts than the investigators in the Fire Marshal's office, who are well known to many people.

Additional blasting inspectors also are needed, he says.

The Commissioner suggests that the salary of the Fire Commissioner should be $12,00 a year instead of $7,500 as at present. He doesn't think he could get the increase himself, but his successor ought to have the bigger salary for the heavy duties of the office in protecting from fire 5,000,000 lives and $7,500,000,000 of property.

"I would devote the rest of my life to this work, but it is not at all likely that I will be permitted to do so," he wrote.

HAVEN'T FILED EXPENSES.

Candidates for Congress Have Violated the Law This Year.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 15.—More than two-thirds of the candidates for Congress of all parties have failed to comply with the law requiring them to file with the proper officers in Washington statements of the campaign expenses prior to conventions or primaries. The penalty for violation of this law is a fine of $1,000 or imprisonment for one year, or both.

If the Government decides to prosecute more than two hundred candidates will be made defendants in the courts. The indications are that the law will be administered with some degree of leniency inasmuch as the act provides that prosecutions shall not be started unless it can be shown that it was wilfully violated.

The act provides that each candidate for nomination to the House or to the Senate shall file not less than ten days nor more than fifteen days before a primary or convention an itemized statement of expenditures and disbursements made in the course of a campaign.

The reports made to the officers of the House and the Senate show that candidates expended very little money for campaign expenses this year. In the majority of instances the statement is made that nothing was expended. The highest amount spent in any district was $5,000, which was used by one of the candidates for Congress in Florida.

The law requires further that each candidate shall list the nature of any promise that he may make as a means of inducing support. Only one candidate admitted that he had made a promise. This was a promise of a chicken sandwich to a colored voter. The promise was made and kept, according to the affiant.

A curious feature of the law is that no machinery is created for its enforcement. Apparently no prosecution would be possible unless formal complaint was made, accompanied by specific evidence of violation.

NEW BAGGAGE CHECK IN USE.

Pennsylvania Railroad Will Record It if Your Suitcase Is Broken.

A new baggage check embodying several special features designed to expedite the delivery of baggage was placed in service yesterday by the Pennsylvania Railroad.

The duplicate part of the new check when delivered to the passenger will be punched to show the denomination of the piece of baggage, whether trunk or suit case, &c., and to show in what condition it is received—bottom broken, hinges loose, &c.

The number on the tag part of the check is placed at the bottom, while that on the duplicate part is printed at the top. Thus the two may be quickly matched.

These features it is hoped will reduce the number of errors and complaints in the delivery of baggage.