The Sun.

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If our friends who favor us with manuscripts for publication wish to have rejected articles returned they must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

Courtesy to the Fleet.

With the advent of the great naval fleet the necessity for self-restraint on the part of the visitors becomes apparent. It is unfortunately the fact that too many people assume the attitude that as naval ships are the property of the nation any citizen has the right to do pretty much as he pleases on board of one. This has been the history of visits to warships for many years. Visitors ought to bear in mind that while the vessels are public property, they are entitled to the same protection and care as public parks.

Furthermore it must be remembered that these vessels are the compulsory homes of officers and men detailed for duty on board of them. The men of the forecastle do not enjoy seeing strangers forcing their way into everything, trying to see everything, even the clothing in the ditty bags. Few people know how sensitive the sailor is, and his intelligence is lamentably underrated. Much consideration ought to be shown to him by all visitors.

The officers have no other privacy than that which is afforded by their cabins. Yet it is by no means unusual for visitors on warships to open the doors and stare in even when some officer who has had a long hard tour of duty is trying to snatch a short sleep. The wardroom orderlies are sometimes driven to their wits' ends to explain to visitors that at a particular hour they cannot push their way into the only place which can be used for the dining room of the officers' mess.

That breech mechanisms are not public toys the ships' companies will probably be able to convince visitors, but we beg for a general observance of the fact that the officers and crews live on the ships and are entitled to a certain amount of privacy, even at a time like this. They will readily sacrifice most of that which they enjoy at other times, but when requested not to enter any part of a ship the visitor should comply cheerfully. No such request will be made, except with very good reason.

Mr. Taft's Vetoes.

Nothing more impudent and dishonest has been heard in this campaign than the Democratic attacks on President TAFT in which his vetoes of bills that he could not approve are described as arbitrary, unwarranted and in violation of the spirit of American institutions. The fact is that in no veto has the President exceeded the powers of his office or failed in obedience to his oath of office.

The measures Mr. TAFT disapproved were presented to him in the regular course of legislation. He did not approve them. He returned each to the House in which it originated, with his objections.

It is not charged that he refused to sign any bill which he approved. He did not go one step beyond his duty. He did not usurp any power or authority not distinctly and specifically conferred on him by the Constitution. He did not subordinate his judgment to apparent popularity or suspend the functions and obligations of his office in favor of personal advantage.

Were Mr. TAFT more of a politician and less of a man he might, in spite of his disapproval, have signed some of the bills he vetoed. Had he done that he would have been guilty of a betrayal of his country meriting impeachment and removal from office. But the course he followed was in exact compliance with his oath of office and the Constitution of the United States, a fact that not all the mock heroics of politicians can obscure or alter.

Intervention in the Balkans.

The announcement from Paris that after preliminary exchanges of views the Great Powers have determined to intervene in the Balkans, making Russia and Austria their mandatories, doubtless removes every danger of war save one. Deprived of all opportunity to obtain money or supplies, menaced by Austrian and Russian armies and fleets, Bulgaria, Servia and Greece are hardly likely to insist upon war. It remains to be seen whether Turkish statesmen will be able to restrain the rising passions of the Mohammedans.

The terms which the Great Powers seem determined to impose upon Turkey are in reality such as to constitute a virtual partition of the Ottoman Empire in Europe. Macedonia and Rumelia and probably Albania also are to have the right to name their local and legislative representatives and the first two will have Christian Governors. Turkey will retain titular sovereignty and receive certain taxes, which will go to meet the Turkish debt, but if reform is to mean anything it must mean that Turkish garrisons will be withdrawn from all European Turkey save the narrow district about Constantinople. For Turkey this is an obvious and considerable reduction of resources and empire.

The cardinal principle of the present policy of the European Powers is based upon the preservation of the titular integrity of Turkey. In other words, Bulgaria, Servia and Greece having demanded that there be reforms in Turkish provinces whose inhabitants are racially related to these nations, Europe has intervened and undertakes to guarantee reforms, but in guaranteeing them also declares against any subsequent partition of the provinces among the Balkan States.

The reason for this guarantee is plain: Austria expects some day to go to Salonica. Any reform now which by increasing the territories of the Balkan States would place all or any of them across her pathway would necessarily be rejected. Hence the present formula, which leaves the Balkans in statu quo so far as boundaries are concerned and thus maintains the "open door" to Salonica, is the only one that Austria can accept. In the situation Austria, backed by Germany, holds the strategic position, and her wish must be law for the new Concert of Europe.

It would be idle to regard the present arrangement, however vigorously enforced, as more than a makeshift. But, if Turkey accepts it, it will serve to keep peace. To-morrow the little nations which have temporarily coordinated their policies will perhaps relapse into their chronic state of mutual jealousy, and then conditions will be radically changed to the advantage of Austria.

The Near Eastern question can be settled only when by war or bargain the interested nations, which are Austria, Italy and Russia, with their allies reach a point of agreement. Not being able to reach such an agreement now, the two rival camps, the Triple Alliance and the Triple Entente, have fallen back upon the familiar substitute of a modus vivendi, but like every other Balkan modus vivendi the present plan settles nothing and postpones everything; and what arrangement by European concert to which Austria is a party can be viewed as a finality after her enterprise in Bosnia and Herzegovina?

Praise for a Good Man.

Here are words of gold for CHARLES SUMNER'S godson, whom we venerate as a paper maker but have to deplore as a speech maker:

"TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The charm of THE SUN of the past twenty-five years was that it would have its laugh and its gibe whether it invented a character to poke fun at, or took a figure in actual life to drape its humor on. The result has been that readers have learned your editorial page was replete with good nature, and if at times it was apparently too captious and critical of public men, it was evident good natured raillery was the only indiscretion of which THE SUN could be charged.

"THE SUN of to-day is much THE SUN of old, except it seems to me that it has lost a deal of its good nature. The name 'ROOSEVELT' is too much of a nightmare with you, and for that reason perhaps you are a little unjust to the Progressive candidate for Governor of Massachusetts. You do not know Mr. BIRD. If you did you would treat him differently. CHARLES SUMNER BIRD is an exceptional man in many respects. He is independently wealthy, is a money maker as a paper maker, who in his early years worked twelve hours a day in his father's mills, and then and there learned that the cooperation of labor with capital was not properly appreciated by the latter. When he became manager of the mills he abolished twelve hours as a day's work, ran the mills twenty-four hours each day, placing three shifts of men at work, and placing each man on an eight hour day, for which he paid him twelve hour pay. He found by experience that three shifts of men, each on an eight hour basis, were better for the men and better for the business. It was economically and humanely correct. That is the rule of his employment to-day, and he now controls four mills.

"Again, when a man dies, having served CHARLES SUMNER BIRD as an employee, and it appears that there is a dependent widow with orphans, the salary of the dead man continues on the payroll and is charged up against the maintenance charges of the business. No better epitaph can be written of any capitalist than the relatively recent words of Mr. BIRD, addressing a widowed mother of a small family: 'As long as you are DAN COSTELLO'S widow you will draw DAN COSTELLO'S pay.' That statement illuminates CHARLES SUMNER BIRD, in whose mills there never has been a strike or even a serious discussion of labor problems.

"Another feature of this kind of employer, whom THE SUN would have us see through its funny glasses. When an old employee becomes superannuated and is retired he goes out of the mills, but his name continues on the payroll as long as he lives. 'An honest business should be honest to the men who have given the best they had in life to its service,' says Mr. BIRD.

"This is the Progressive candidate for Governor of Massachusetts. He believes in conservation of property, industry and the home, just as THE SUN does, but he believes in the conservation of men, women and children first. You and he do not differ fundamentally, only in those particulars where he reads out of the 'Book of Life' a solemn bounden obligation as [a neighbor which some of our later day captains of industry have apparently overlooked.

"Let us laugh with THE SUN. We Bostonians love it for its sparkling brightness: we laugh with it at times, and again, at other times we laugh at it. Your Roosevelt discussions are far from discouraging. Ten years hence they will be positively humorous. Nevertheless, THE SUN is a light of good nature well worth keeping in view. It certainly cannot be charged with agreeing with its readers for the money that it makes. JAMES P. MAGENIS.

"BOSTON, October 5."

Our friend, if he will permit us so to call him, Mr. MAGENIS seems to us a trifle mistaken. Everybody speaks well of Mr. BIRD. We knew him ages ago, in the good old days of the Hon. FRANCIS W. BIRD, his father, a Mugwump before the race was born, an original independent, a man of spirit and spine, when not to be a regular and Grant Republican was to bear the outlaw's mark. There was a Bird Club dining at Parker's forty odd years ago; but as there was a Banks Club too Massachusetts should not be too proud; nor is the habit of "dining" at 2 P. M. to be entirely praised by the judicious. Twelve noon is another matter, and marks the surviving and majority habit of Americans.

Mr. BIRD never had a strike in his factories. He is kind to his employees. Good for a "good" capitalist; the Standard Oil "crowd," still awaiting from the Colonel that returnable unreturning $100,000, can say the same thing of themselves.

The Hon. CHARLES SUMNER BIRD, as his godfather's godson, must have all the non-human virtues that make virtue so popular among the cynical; and he has a thousand good human qualities in spite of his godfatherly name. He follows the hounds fearlessly; he plays a very good game of polo, we hear; he is a good judge of dogs, but of candidates and principles some of us may think him a less infallible judge. For example, he finds it

"Intolerable that laws passed by both branches of the Legislature and approved by the Governor should be nullified by the courts."

We don't like to hear even the best of paper makers talking that way.

Getting What You Buy.

Underlying the new rules governing the making of weights and quantities of a number of commodities, made public this week by the Board of Regulation and Tolerances, is the simple idea that the buyer is entitled to know what he is getting for his money. The grosser frauds, perpetrated by hanging hooks on the scales, attaching putty to the pans, and selling the butcher's thumb, are all adequately provided against now and strict enforcement of the law is all that is necessary to insure the customer getting sixteen ounces when he buys a pound of goods. There has long been a considerable abuse in goods put up in cartons, and this the new enactments are intended to curb.

Many of the advertised and popular cereals, which seem to have driven bulk goods out of the market, are sold now without any statement of quantity, and an illuminating example of one contributory cause of the high cost of living was exposed recently, when the progressive shrinkage in the sizes of the containers of one food was exhibited in this town. When the new rules are in operation each package must bear in legible characters a statement of the weight of its contents. Bread, now generally sold by the loaf, must be sold by the pound, with the weight marked on each loaf. Candy, in buying which the public has long paid at the rate of $1 a pound for waxed paper and cardboard, under the new dispensation will come so labelled as to advertise how much of sweets and how much of wrapper the thoughtful husband carries home. So with other commodities: the purchaser is to know what is delivered to him.

All these things are excellent and will undoubtedly contribute to the happiness and welfare of the community. Yet they will not relieve the consumer from the necessity for vigilance. Enlightened rules can do something, but the really effective protection against fraud in weights and measures, as well as against substitutions, is an alert and suspicious intelligence on the part of the shopper, without which no intervention by the State can accomplish important results for his benefit.

The British Ambassador's New Distinction.

Hitherto mountain climbing and angling have been the favorite recreations of the Right Hon. JAMES BRYCE, his Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the United States; flying will now be added no doubt, for Mr. BRYCE after coursing through the air for twenty-five minutes on the Massachusetts coast with Mr. W. STERLING BURGESS last Saturday said that he was delighted with the experience.

It is now thirty-five years since Mr. BRYCE toiled up to the ice capped dome of Ararat. He has told the story in his book "Transcaucasia and Ararat." At 13,600 feet the last of his Cossack guides deserted him, and he went on and up alone, as might have been expected from the indomitable Scotch-Irish blood in him. Only fifteen persons, if NOAH be counted, have set foot on the pinnacle of Ararat, so that to achieve it is to be one of a select company. Previously Mr. BRYCE had climbed the Shreckhorn, in the Alps, and tradition says, the Pic de Néthou, in the Maladetta group in the Pyrenees. His exploits as a mountaineer won him the presidency of the Alpine Club in 1899.

At the age of seventy-four cutting ice steps on glacial peaks is denied the most wiry and energetic of men, that is to say, the Right Hon. JAMES BRYCE, but there is left him the seat of honor in an aeroplane, from which he can survey the world from any altitude, even an altitude higher than Ararat, for M. LEGAGNEUX has recorded himself at 17,881 feet. Mr. BRYCE of course has no intention of attaining such a height, for it is possible only to younger men of abnormal vitality, but he has pointed the way aerially to retired mountain climbers—the whole blue dome is theirs if they will follow his example.

Probably Mr. BRYCE will not be reprimanded by his sovereign, for the English are a sporting people and love adventure for its own sake. If Mr. BRYCE is to be taken to task at all it will be by his American friends, who know that none of his predecessors understood this country, its virtues and its failings as well as he, and that a rupture of amicable relations with England is not to be feared so long as a man of such learning, wisdom, tact and self-control occupies the British Embassy at Washington.

By many people Mr. WILLIAM A. PEFFER was not supposed to be alive when his death at Grenola, Kan., was reported yesterday; yet no man in the country was better known from 1891 to 1897, when, as a Populist, he represented Kansas in the United States Senate. He rose to fame in that dismal year for the Republican party when it elected only eighty-eight members of the House of Representatives. "Sockless" JERRY SIMPSON also came in on the tidal wave. Mortgages in the hard times of 1890 were as thick in Kansas as jackrabbits. The Populist platforms bristled with radical remedies for the state of the nation.

Senator PEFFER was the daddy of the new party of that day, a man angular, sallow, bearded to the waist, and a tireless talking machine. His peculiarities made him a fascinating subject for the cartoonists. No man's features were known better, no man was more ridiculed. But PEFFER was honest and courageous, and he never flinched from his convictions. He served Kansas diligently and made a better Senator than some of his successors. He was retired when prosperity returned and the farmers began to pay off their mortgages. Mr. BRYAN has complained that Colonel ROOSEVELT stole some of his ideas; it is just as true that Mr. BRYAN appropriated some of WILLIAM ALFRED PEFFER'S.

Was there a touch of symbolism in the Mayor's decorations? From our office windows they have suggested an attempt to give City Hall Park the semblance of Vineyard Haven in honor of the visiting sailors.

As for politics, they come after the fleet and ball games this week and a long way after.

LA FOLLETTE spent $63,961.—*Headline.*

Fortunately it was not his own money, so that he could afford it.

Greeks war on big hats.—*Headline.*

One Balkan outbreak that even the Great Powers can't prevent.

THE "POPULAR" CONCERT.

Where Are the Good English Ballads of the Ante-Polyglot Era?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* When asked on Sunday morning what I intended to do in the afternoon I promptly replied: "Sleep!" but it was not to be. A musical friend dragged me to what I believe to have been a Franco-Portuguese, German-Austrian, or maybe Balkan-Turkish (if at present that were possible) popular concert. I had no programme, but it doesn't much matter what it was, for one can never understand the words of a song as given by most modern vocalists. The scene of action was one of the most dismal I have ever looked on. It suggested suicide, the only relief on the stage being a piano with the maker's name on it in large letters. A young lady appeared and played charmingly what my friend said was a Pastorale Variée. His imagination was so extremely vivid, as he described the various supposed incidents, when he said that the shepherds and shepherdesses were all going to sleep, I followed their example. But he awoke me for further joys.

A full fledged lady, who might well enough have been Lady Macbeth or Diana Vernon, attacked several songs most aggressively. I know she sang one love ditty by her actions, but there was no billing or cooing about it. She loved her sweetheart with an ardor he would have had some difficulty in restraining. The inevitable encore came, and I'll swear the words of the song were in Esperanto. Then appeared a gentleman who looked like to me all the world a magazine editor with a (basso) profound sorrow. I could see him rise on his rubber heels and cast away manuscript in the waste paper basket in a sarcastic fury. Lastly the young pianist obliged again, her right hand frequently crossing her left, as if to pick up some notes the latter had forgotten, while the left hand did the same favor for the right. And that was the polyglot popular concert.

May one ask if we are ever to have any good English ballads again? Why does every young lady on being asked to sing or play blazon forth with fireworks? Are there no songs like "When Sparrows Build," "Twickenham Ferry," "Sweethearts," "Only Once More," &c.? Are there no more Antoinette Sterlings, no more "Caller Herrin's"? In my youth I used to go miles every week to hear an English ballad concert, and now I am getting on in years I would even go to the expense of a taxicab for the same purpose, and there are many others like me.

BROOKLYN, October 7. PETER PIPER.

Imagination in the Kitchen.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* If you will turn to early spring you will see why gastronomic art is no more. For you then permitted philosophical condemnations of poets to pervade your editorial page, even allowing "E. H. J." to make such heart-rending intimations as that poets were of less importance than bricklayers, &c. Now in a recent editorial article, "Ten Cents for—What?" THE SUN wails in woful lamentation against its successful extermination of poetic cooking. Many at that time warned you against the consequences of unholy war on poets, but without avail.

Nevertheless, cooks were poets then, are now and ever will be. No one but a philosopher would say that a well cooked dish is not a poem and the cook who made it not a poet, the most important person in the world.

But the cooks properly took THE SUN at its word, drank their tears and ate their own cooking and followed THE SUN'S philosopher and substituted philosophical trappings for gastronomic poems, and now the restaurants are filled with philosophers who are so full of common sense that they have no appreciation of gastronomic creations.

Some day imagination will be again respected. Then gaudy furniture, glaring draperies, shrieks called music and butter (who, when dining, uses butter?) will pass away and life will be full of joy.

JAMES D. DEWELL, Jr.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., October 7.

Makers of Wealth.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Though it be not possible, as "M. P. C." justly observes, to determine even approximately the contribution of each worker to the wealth he labored in conjunction with other factors to produce, nevertheless that is what has to be determined somehow, since there is no "ideal" society.

If the determination can be made neither mathematically nor approximately, we are condemned to make it as best we can in this practical but imperfect world. And he who in any way helps to make that determination so nearly exact as human circumstances will allow is so far forth a benefactor of his kind. According to the current economic doctrine of supply and demand, the "market" determines the amount every wage earner receives for his hire.

It is the unease arising from the shortcomings of this system that makes the worker a ready and eager listener to every Marx who has a remedy to offer. That a remedy is needed can hardly be denied. What it is to be or where it is to come from is the question. Whoever invents or brings into pass will be the workman's friend.

Socialism has not yet done so, and some believe that it can never do so by the way it presently handles the business. Whether the State as now constituted could by legislative interference bring about a fairer division of the common product is one of the great questions involved. J. A. M.

CHESTER, October 5.

Forever.

Men may no longer pass the lie,
With epithets they may not vie;
The little man at last may count,
The cost of living cease to mount.

We each may have a jewel cook,
New York may catch each nifty crook;
Each lover's quarrel may be patched,
And every spouse's sample matched.

The janitors may all grow meek,
The porters turn the other cheek,
The crops may always bump the bumps,
And stocks may always jump the jumps.

The country may be always saved,
All airship flights be safely braved,
We'll have, though other woes are nil,
The "Trouble in the Balkans" still.

MCLANDBURGH WILSON.

KING KHAKHI ON THE STAND.

Satisfaction in Loyal Circles Over the Achievement of the Perfect Witness.

All the loyal subjects agreed that his Majesty had made a most perfect witness when he appeared before the Senate excavators. Had he not regarded the witness chair as a revolving throne from which he had the opportunity of a lifetime to issue proclamations on the essence of virtue? Had he not been flippant, a royal prerogative that the cowboys admire? Had he not sung the praises of physical prowess in his encomium on Battling Nelson and John L. Sullivan, the "hundred per cent. males," worshipped by the great mass of husky voters, and by the more timid of the Moosettes? Had he not held himself in control almost as well as did his Grace the Duke of Dixon? "Manners," said an authority, "were invented to keep fools at a distance." King Khakhi and the Duke did not propose to allow themselves to be heckled by fools; they kept them at their proper distance.

However, the chief characteristic, admired by every follower of Mohammed the Moose, was his direct answer to every question. When he was germane, it was an artistic rebuff. Seth Bullock says that the theory of the old school of travelling salesmen used to be this: If you want to sell a man a suit of clothes, begin by talking about a watch, and merely mention that you happen to know where a suit of clothes might be purchased at a bargain. It disarms suspicion. And so with King Khakhi; when he was asked about Harriman's gold watch he talked about Penrose's dirty suit of clothes. It is a poor cat that can't climb the hedge backward. Let us quote the record verbatim:

"When I was Police Commissioner of New York city, if a member of the police force had done in connection with the enforcement of the laws against liquor selling what Mr. Penrose says he did in this case I would have thrown him off the force."

A mild switch from the year in question, 1904, back to "when I was Police Commissioner." And speaking of my knowledge of campaign contributions, that reminds me of boozy cops. Now I take it I have answered the query to the satisfaction of every one. Let us proceed with the investigation.

The investigation had to do with evidence; but when the evidence was contrary to the acute moral sense of Theodore Righteous, it was to be damned as "hearsay evidence." When, however, the evidence was in support of the spotless memory of Truthful Moosevelt, "hearsay evidence" was the best obtainable. Lay the deadly parallel answers side by side:

"Now in regard to the Harriman fund," began Senator Clapp.

"There is no testimony against me except hearsay evidence," interrupted the Colonel, "hearsay statements of men that are dead. Mr. Archbold and Mr. Penrose purport to give statements of what Mr. Bliss had to say; Mr. Bliss is dead."

But two minutes later, long enough for the plain people to forget, behold Handy Andy use the same verbiage in his favor:

"Have you believed all these years that the Standard Oil contribution was not made?" asked Senator Paynter.

"Cortelyou told me that; and Mr. Bliss told Mr. Loeb that; and only the other day Mr. Cortelyou told me that he had been informed by Mr. Bliss that no contribution had been made by the Standard Oil Company."

And now to recapitulate: Mr. Archbold and Mr. Penrose purport to give statements of a man who is dead, and they should be punished. Mr. Loeb and Mr. Cortelyou purport to give statements of the same dead man, and should be placed on high with the angels.

Seth had been working on his pocket edition of Shakespeare, and he said that he heard tell of college professors wasting a lot of time figuring upon just what years such and such a play was written, but that he thought it was more sensible to figure what year each play was written for. And that after hearing King Khakhi testify, he was sure that "Lear" was composed for 1912. And if any one doubted him let him read over King Khakhi's versions of good and bad hearsay evidence and then turn to where the mad king said:

Get thee glass eyes;
And, like a scurvy politician, seem
To see the things thou dost not.

SUNFLOWER MATHEMATICS.

A Poet's Discussion of the Figures of the Kansas Drys.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Arithmetic is a subtle science and percentage is worse. When the Attorney-General of Kansas recently informed the Prohibitionists of Tennessee that drinking and its bad effects had decreased 2,000 per cent. among the Sunflowers under prohibition rule, it was accepted as a great and glorious proof of the power of prohibition. Nobody ever thought to stop a minute and calculate, any more than did Attorney-General Dawson when he looked at the figures and dug out the per cent.

Even some of the newspapers of New York, where per cent. is a vital matter, didn't stop to think, and announced in headlines this 2,000 per cent. reduction. Sadder still, several New Yorkers to whose attention I called this amazing reduction took it for granted, and when I explained, I'm a goat if they didn't insist that there could be a reduction to that extent and still something be left over for prohibition to work on.

Only once in my experience have I known of a reduction exceeding 100 per cent. and that was in the case of a business friend of mine. He had gone half and half with another man and in a year or so the firm went flat broke. I saw him shortly afterward and asked him about it. He said he had lost 200 per cent. on the investment. "But you couldn't," I said, with a mild grin at his faulty arithmetic. "Just the same I did," he insisted. "How could you?" said I. "One hundred per cent. was all you had in it." "True enough," he sighed, "but I had to pay the other fellow's part as well as my own."

Can it be possible the Kansas prohibitionists are furnishing 1,900 per cent. of the terrible examples they are weeding out of their State?

NEW YORK, October 5. W. J. L.

And So We Changed the Subject.

"Let us have a Parcels Post," said the Average Citizen.

"We must and we will have a Parcels Post," thundered the Honorable from Congress.

"By all means," assented the Postmaster-General.

"And at once!" emphasized the President with a fist thump on the table.

"Aw, let's not," drawled the Express Companies.

Orphans' Day.*

O dreadful news!
O fatal day!
Such awful carnage—
Deuce to pay!
War in Balkans?
Greeks all slain?
Gore in Turkey?
No—guess again.
Japs in slaughter?
China disrupt?
Italian massacre?
No—give it up?
Well—cling tight now—
Hold your breath;
For 'tis a sad, sad
Toll of death.
Weep for the orphan!
This is the day
When 40,000 grandmas
Pass
Away!

*Mostly office boys. J. W. LOW.

MR. ROOSEVELT AS A WITNESS.

A Question About His Testimony Before the Clapp Committee.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Ex-President Roosevelt knew Mr. Harriman to be "a practical man"; at least he told him that they were "both practical men." Now, why, instead of spending five hours in verbose and turgid denunciation, in giving masked advice to his superiors and in self-laudatory stump speeches for political effect in his campaign for a third term, since he says it was Harriman who asked pecuniary aid of him and not he who asked it of Harriman, why does he not give the people some cause to believe him by telling us what reason existed for Mr. Harriman taking any personal interest in the election of Mr. Higgins as Governor of the State of New York? Mr. Harriman was not seeking office. Mr. Harriman was not a politician, as Mr. Roosevelt is and always has been. Mr. Harriman's aims were all personal, as no one knew better than did Mr. Roosevelt. Mr. Harriman took no interest in State politics except as they affected the Federal polity and as they affected Mr. Roosevelt; that is why Roosevelt classed Harriman with himself as "practical." What inducement had Harriman to ask aid of Roosevelt for Higgins, except to aid the pair of them, Roosevelt and Harriman, the "practical men"? Why did not Mr. Roosevelt give us some light on this subject? What does he take the people for when he puts up to them such silly palaver? Bosh! He "crams his words into our ears against the stomach of our sense." P. W. O.

BROOKLYN, October 5.

The Rooseveltian answer to the foregoing would be that Mr. Harriman's interest in Governor Higgins grew out of his personal relations with Mr. Odell.

Tom Jones on the Campaign.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* One hundred and sixty-three years ago a very wise man, Henry Fielding, wrote a very wise book, "The History of Tom Jones." So wise was it that mankind insisted that no womankind should read. For his own sake also Theodore Roosevelt should insist that no man should read it to-day, because among other things it says, "The worst of men generally have the words 'rogue' and 'villain' most in their mouths." This Theodore Roosevelt thought the world did not know.

Was Henry Fielding indulging in prophecy when he wrote, "Predominant vanity is, I am afraid, too much concerned here"?

Were these other words also in anticipation of Theodore Roosevelt's appearance before the Senate committee? "For let a man be never so honest, the account of his own conduct will, in spite of himself, be so very favorable that his vices will come purified through his lips, and, like foul liquors well strained, will leave all their foulness behind."

"In reality," says Henry Fielding further, "I know but of one solid objection to absolute monarchy, the only defect in which excellent constitution seems to be the difficulty of finding any man adequate to the office of an absolute monarch.

"To conclude, as the examples of all ages show us that mankind in general desire power only to do harm, and when they obtain it, use it for no other purpose, it is not consonant with even the least degree of prudence to hazard an alternative when our hopes are poorly kept in countenance by only two or three exceptions out of a thousand instances to alarm our fears. In this case it will be much wiser to submit to a few inconveniences arising from the dispassionate deafness of laws than to remedy them by applying to the passionate open ears of a tyrant."

This Theodore Roosevelt must have thought the world had forgotten.

FREDERICK S. DICKSON.

PHILADELPHIA, October 7.

Sauce for the Goose and for the Gander.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The editorial article appearing in THE SUN of October 3 "The Sleazy Syracuse Platform" was evidently designed, as perhaps is perfectly appropriate, for the entertainment of those readers who happen to agree with the sentiments expressed rather than as an unbiassed summary of the Democratic platform. But for the sake of those readers who may not happen to agree with the general sentiments expressed, would not an editorial article somewhat on this order be equally appropriate?

But what shall be said of the eager platitudes of the catchall adopted recently by the Republican State convention?

"We believe in equal justice for all men without regard to race or color."

"We believe in the great educational advantages of the New York State fairs. * * * We believe an agricultural survey of the State should be made by the Department of Agriculture."

"We recognize the importance of simplifying legal procedure, both civil and criminal."

"We favor a further advance in legislation * * * and the passage of such laws as may be necessary for the protection of the lives, health, safety and welfare of employees."

Which of the two platforms do you consider states more plainly and fairly (assuming that a platform's purpose is to convey its message to the minds of all classes of voters, those who may perhaps not appreciate the technicalities of a constitutional amendment or parse sentences, as well as the intellectual) its attitude on the question of "woman suffrage"? P. M. ALBRO.

BUFFALO, October 6.

Our Buffalo correspondent will find upon investigation of the files that THE SUN'S opinion of the Republican State platform was set forth with sufficient clearness at the time of its adoption.

The Tariff and the Cleveland Panic.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* There seems to be some confusion as to the relation of the Wilson bill and the panic that occurred during the first part of Cleveland's second administration. The fact is that the panic began in the latter part of the Harrison administration and Cleveland inherited it. The Wilson bill had nothing to do with it.

When President Cleveland left the White House at the close of his first administration there was a surplus in the Treasury of more than $200,000,000. When he entered the White House at the beginning of his second administration he was confronted with an empty Treasury and overdue obligations amounting to many millions. He really had to issue bonds to keep the wheels of government running. The panic, or business depression, Harrison bequeathed him started in Europe and was felt more acutely there than in this country.

In the last half of Cleveland's second administration business had begun to revive and his successor got the benefit of it. And the Wilson bill in the last year of its existence raised more revenue than any previous tariff bill, even with the income tax provision stricken out.

BROOKLYN, October 7. A. B. S.

A Wet Celebration Proposed.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Something should be done this year to commemorate the glorious deeds of 1812, done 100 years ago. Could not some contest be arranged between the rival seamen of the great English speaking nations?

A friendly drinking bout between the rival navies would be most desirable. If the American navy has not lost its efficiency the Government might once again hear an inspiring message, "We have met the enemy and they are soused. One punch bowl, one demijohn, twelve magnums and 100 schooners." E. G. LEMCKE.

NEW YORK, October 5.

The Extra Charge.

Weary Willie—But I split enough wood for a meal, mum.

Mrs. Knicker—You'll have to split an extra log for the bread and butter.

A Plutocrat.

Knicker—Did he speak from a cart tail?

Bocker—No; from an extra tire.

DEFENDS STEFANSSON'S BLOND ESKIMO REPORT

American Museum Issues Statement Regarding Its Expedition's Discoveries.

EXPLORER ALSO TALKS

Interesting Collection of Dress and Utensils Put on Exhibition.

In refutation of certain criticisms made in Europe and rumors in America concerning the discovery of blonde Eskimo in the Arctic regions by Vilhjalmar Stefansson, the following statement was issued yesterday by Dr. Frederick A. Lucas, director of the American Museum of Natural History:

The Stefansson-Anderson expedition to Arctic America was organized in 1908 and sent out under the auspices of the American Museum of Natural History. The expedition was charge of Vilhjalmar Stefansson and Dr. R. M. Anderson, both graduates of the University of Iowa. Mr. Stefansson devoted his attention to the anthropological work of the expedition, while Dr. Anderson was occupied with the zoological work for the museum.

Betewen May 13, 1910, when he first came in contact with the Eskimos of Cape Bexley, and May 18, 1911, when he left the Prince Albert Sound people to return to his base near Cape Perry, Mr. Stefansson saw about a thousand persons, roughly speaking. He took cephalic measurements of 208 of these.

It appeared both to Mr. Stefansson and to the Alaskan and Mackenzie River Eskimos who accompanied him that the people visited differed considerably from any Eskimos they had seen before. Perhaps the most striking feature was that beards were not only more common and more abundant than among the men of the western Eskimo but also of colors varying from black to a very light brown tending to red.

The blond tendencies are most prominent in southwestern Victoria Land, but they are met with at least as far east as a hundred miles east of the mouth of the Coppermine River, Coronation Gulf. Although no scientific census was taken to determine the exact degree of blondness of every individual seen, Mr. Stefansson feels safe in saying that more than half the individuals seen have eyebrows lighter than black and ranging all the way to a very light brown.

The tendency to blondness seems less strong in the women than in the men. A few individuals had curly hair and perhaps a dozen had eyes noticeably lighter than the ordinary Eskimo brown, ranging to blue or blue gray.

These and other facts of a similar character were observed by Mr. Stefansson and will in due course be published by the museum. It is too early to settle definitely on any theory explaining the facts. Of the various explanations that have so far been suggested it seems to Mr. Stefansson that the one open to the fewest serious objections is that of the admixture of a large amount of European blood at some fairly remote period. In this connection the disappearance in the fifteenth or sixteenth centuries of the Norse colony from Greenland suggests itself as a possible source of the Europeanlike character. Many things militate against the supposition that they can be derived from any of the Franklin expeditions of the middle of the last century. One of these is that the only Eskimo of this district seen at close quarters by Franklin himself is described by him in terms which fit very well the blond type found to-day. The purely biologic theories that might explain the facts also seem to have serious drawbacks.

With reference to the discoveries of the expedition in Arctic regions, Explorer Stefansson said yesterday, in reply to some of his critics: "I am not making any lecture tours for profit and cannot see what my object would be to make statements that cannot be proved. The field up north is an open one and any one can go there and see the Eskimo tribes for themselves."

Two bands of missionaries from abroad have entered the field recently, according to letters received by the explorer yesterday. Two missionaries represent the Church of England and others the Roman Catholic Church.

Mr. Stefansson reaffirmed yesterday that he visited three tribes of blond Eskimos who had previously seen white men, but said that eight or ten other tribes of the Eskimo living on Coronation Gulf, Dolphin and Union Straits, so far as known had never met white men.

About 500 specimens of Arctic curios gathered by the expedition were placed on exhibition in the Natural History Museum yesterday. They include elaborate costumes worn by the Eskimos of Coronation Gulf, for some of which fabulous prices were paid; seal harpoons, the wood utilized from driftwood and the points made from caribou antlers; bows and arrows of spruce with the cords of caribou sinews.

The arrows can be projected for a hundred yards, easily, and are quite as fatal as a modern bullet. The Eskimos are not particularly good marksmen. An American boy can shoot with greater accuracy, says Mr. Stefansson.

The Eskimos are good singers and take up readily American hymns and popular ragtime music.

A quaint musical instrument—the only one discovered by Mr. Stefansson in the far North—is a drum of sealskin, with a frame of spruce.

Dr. R. M. Anderson, companion of Mr. Stefansson on the Arctic expedition, is now en route homeward bound on the whaler, Belvedere, and is expected to arrive in San Francisco the first or second week in November.

RESTRICTED SALE OF MILK.

Board of Health Passes Resolutions in Effect June 1, 1913.

Resolutions greatly strengthening the safeguards surrounding the sale of some quarts of dipped or loose milk a day in this city were passed by the Board of Health at yesterday's meeting. After June 1, 1913, it will be illegal to sell milk dipped from cans except in approved milk stores under permits from the Board of Health, or in stores in which foodstuffs other than milk products are sold in original packages only.

In making public the resolutions Commissioner Lederle pointed out that many of the 14,000 places where dipped milk is sold are grocery stores, where many other commodities besides milk are handled and sold in a manner which must necessarily cause much dust.

"The solution of the dipped milk problem," said the Commissioner yesterday, "has been one of the chief objects the Department of Health has had under consideration in connection with the extensive programme for the improvement of New York's milk supply which has been developed within the last two years. The facilities for the proper cleansing of utensils, for the protection of milk from flies and for proper icing are often very inadequate and in too many cases the room where the milk is sold communicates directly with living apartments."

Commissioner Lederle said that as the enforcement of the ordinance would seriously affect the business of a great number of small storekeepers ample time has been given for the adjustment of trade conditions to the new requirement before it is rigidly enforced.