The Sun

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 1913.

Entered at the Post Office at New York as Second Class Mail Matter.

Subscriptions by Mail, Postpaid.

DAILY, Per Month	$0 50
DAILY, Per Year	6 00
SUNDAY, Per Year	2 50
DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Year	8 50
DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Month	75

Postage to foreign countries added.

All checks, money orders, &c., to be made payable to THE SUN.

Published daily, including Sunday, by the Sun Printing and Publishing Association at 170 Nassau street, in the Borough of Manhattan, New York. President and Treasurer, William C. Reick, 170 Nassau street; Vice-President, Edward P. Mitchell, 170 Nassau street; Secretary, Chester S. Lord, 170 Nassau street.

London office, Effingham House, 1 Arundel street, Strand.

Paris office, 6 Rue de la Michodière, off Rue du Quatre Septembre.

Washington office, Hibbs Building.

Brooklyn office, 106 Livingston street.

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

FORMER SENATOR EDMUNDS ON TREATY FAITH.

DEAR MR. JOHNSON: I have received your note of inquiry upon the subject and have no hesitation in saying that I think the so-called Panama Canal bill exempting the coastwise trade of the United States from the payment of tolls in passing the canal ought to be immediately repealed.

First, because I believe that both the language and spirit of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty compel us to subject our own coastwise vessels to the same tolls established for the commerce of all other nations making use of the canal. Such equality was, as everybody knows, the consideration made to Great Britain for her releasing us from the supposed obligations of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty of 1850. Although I am sure from the careful examination by the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations when the treaty made by President Arthur with the Republic of Nicaragua was under consideration that the United States was no longer bound by the stipulations of the treaty of 1850 and our engagement not to build a canal through the Isthmus had become entirely inoperative, the Hay-Pauncefote treaty was made in language so clear for universal equality that it is impossible to successfully construe it in any other way. If we have made a bad bargain we are bound by every consideration, as well of expediency as of justice, to stand by it.

Secondly, if, as a matter of expediency alone, we withdraw the favor proposed to our own coastwise commerce, although we might have the right to grant it, the way will be left open to deal with the subject in future in such a way as the public interest should require. Very truly yours,

GEORGE F. EDMUNDS.

PASADENA, Cal., January 6.

The Root Bill to Repeal an Inconsiderate Infraction of Treaty Faith.

A bill for the repeal of the legislation exempting our coastwise vessels from the payment of tolls at the Panama Canal has been introduced by Senator ELIHU ROOT of New York. Senator ROOT was a member of President ROOSEVELT'S Cabinet at the time of the negotiation of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty by his colleague in the Administration, JOHN HAY, and at the time of the ratification of that treaty by the Senate in December, 1901. Later he succeeded JOHN HAY as Secretary of State. There is no man living whose knowledge of the law and the facts is more precise or whose opinion concerning the nation's rights and duties under the contract with Great Britain should command more respectful attention in the Senate and throughout the United States.

On the paramount question of treaty faith and the preservation of the national honor a stirring reminder will be found in the foregoing letter addressed only ten days ago by the dean of American statesmen to Mr. ROBERT UNDERWOOD JOHNSON, editor of the *Century*. We are glad to have permission to print Mr. EDMUNDS'S communication for the benefit of Senators and Representatives in Congress and of the public.

The clear cut and unqualified declaration of Mr. EDMUNDS for immediate repeal of the coastwise exemption derives the more importance from the circumstance that before the Hay-Pauncefote contract was completed he was not among those Americans who believed that the old Clayton-Bulwer treaty still existed as a binding obligation.

As long ago as 1888 Senator EDMUNDS introduced in the Senate a resolution declaring—with special reference to France, but with equal significance as to England—that under the Monroe Doctrine we should regard with serious concern and disapproval "any connection of any European Government with the construction of any ship canal across the Isthmus of Darien or across Central America."

In 1891, together with JOHN SHERMAN, WILLIAM M. EVARTS and others, Mr. EDMUNDS signed a committee report expressing the opinion that "the United States is at present under no obligation, measured either by the terms of the convention [the Clayton-Bulwer treaty], the principles of public law or good morals, to refrain from promoting, in any way that it may deem best for its just interests, the construction of this canal without regard to anything contained in the convention of 1850."

And yet without regard to his previous opinion of the validity of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty Mr. EDMUNDS sees clearly and says without qualification that the acceptance of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty ended discussion of that subject; that the existing treaty is a contract which cannot be violated without unspeakable shame to this republic; that the legislation which the Root bill purposes to repeal does in fact run against the treaty stipulations; and that justice as well as expediency demands that we stand honorably by our bargain with Great Britain.

Could there be from any source a more impressive argument in favor of the prompt passage of the Root bill for the preservation of the nation's honor?

A Significant "Raise."

On February 1 the United States Steel Corporation will begin to pay $1,000,000 a month more wages to those of its employees getting its lowest wages. It does this, presumably, because the men deserve the money and the corporation is able to pay the money.

The latter consideration or fact is worth pondering. It has a profound meaning for the whole community. Especially is it a rebuke to those timorous souls that break into gooseflesh every political Declamation Day.

No pitiless long distance ever uplifted uplifting voices, no blustering of amateurs at the established laws and customs of finance and trade, no ursine antics of speculators can affect the essential fabric of national prosperity. No length of tongue or ear, no obsessing flubdub of vote hunters can change the great fact that the crops of 1912 were gigantic, that labor is employed at high wages, that the farmers are prosperous, that business conditions are sound.

These are facts. The rest is mainly bugaboo.

The Albany Controversy.

If the Hon. CHARLES F. MURPHY had visited the Executive Chamber immediately after the inauguration and requested that the warden of Auburn Prison be removed and a Tammany district leader put in his place, can there be any doubt as to the extent of the popular outcry such an act would have provoked? If the Superintendent of Prisons had refused to comply with such a demand and offered instead his own resignation, would his act have excited anything but applause?

In the present instance it is not the Democratic leader of New York but of Cayuga county who has made the request, but can it be honestly argued that the request itself changes character with the politician making it? Is not the real question involved one of patronage, and as such equally dangerous, whoever raises it, for the reputation of a Chief Executive who has to the great satisfaction of the people of this State declared that his administration is to be free of suspicion of politicians' control or dictation?

The truly vicious thing about the present dispute is that it raises unfairly and almost dishonestly the question of Executive independence. Since the Hon. THOMAS MOTT OSBORNE is a conspicuous figure in the anti-Tammany ranks in this State, it is possible that a refusal to comply with any request of his, however improper, may permit critics, both of the Governor and of the Democratic party, to charge that the Governor is subservient to Tammany.

But such a charge would be too transparent to command even passing credence. The courage to resist the reformer attempting to imitate the boss in seeking patronage is just as necessary as that required to resist the boss himself on a similar errand. The proof of Governor SULZER'S independence must lie in his resistance to MURPHY, not in his compliance with those requests of OSBORNE, which MURPHY opposes, but which for wholly different reasons are objectionable to the people of the State.

Sophisticated Youngsters.

The criticisms made by a clergyman the other day upon the gilded youth of this country and the social functions which they attend will doubtless be laughed to scorn by the blasé little men about town and the sophisticated little girls against whom they were directed, but they are deserving nevertheless of some attention. "Boys 12 years old," said the clergyman, "send cut flowers to little girls, and call for the little girls in carriages to escort them to balls and receptions." He might have added a great deal more: that boys and girls, the children of wealthy parents, home from school for the holidays, spend their days and nights in a ceaseless whirl of gayety, with luncheons, dinners, theatre parties and balls engrossing most of their time and all of their attention.

Years ago we had "children's parties" which began early and ended early; there might be games or there might be dancing; there were refreshments, but not an elaborate meal, and thirst was quenched with lemonade and, maybe, claret cup. Such functions were enjoyed the more because they were not too frequent; they were regarded by both parents and children as in the nature of a "treat," and there was an element of adventure in retiring to bed at the abnormally dissipated hour of 11 o'clock. A still rarer "treat" was the occasional visit to the theatre, the piece seen being carefully chosen as appropriate to a youthful audience, and the whole affair being the subject of eager anticipation for a week before and of delighted reminiscence for a week after the event. The result was that when the children of that generation grew up they had some pleasures and sensations in store for them. The débutante looked forward eagerly to her first ball; the young man savored something of the zest of maturer life.

It would be a daring or a very simple hostess who would offer to-day to entertain her young guests not at an "At Home" but at a "children's party," with light refreshments and claret cup, and would expect to bid them good-by at 10 o'clock. Such entertainments now must be all in the manner of grownup affairs. They must be preceded by a course dinner, kept going by an elaborate supper, with champagne as an essential of the feast, and terminated some time in the morning with hot soup and various delicacies of the season or out of season, as a stirrup cup to cheer the guests on their homeward way. A night at the theatre is a mere relaxation from the more strenuous activities of social existence, and the piece seen must be the latest Broadway success if it is to gain the critical approval of these blasé youngsters.

It is rather pitiable to think that these little boys and girls have run the whole gamut of social entertainment before they are well into their 'teens; that life holds for them no mysterious promise of experiences they have not already probed to the depths. The amazing thing is, not that some of the gilded youth of this country plunge in after life into degenerate dissipation, but that so many of them become useful and responsible citizens. It speaks well for the sturdy stock from which they are sprung.

The New Senator From Maine.

We don't try to hide our fondness for the Hon. OBADIAH GARDNER, a genuine farmer in politics, a prudent and sensible man. But we yield joyfully to the primaries.

The Hon. EDWIN CHICK BURLEIGH, now or formerly of Linneus, was the undoubted choice of the Maine folks and so deserved to be elected. He is in the prime of life—he won't be 70 till next fall; he has been a school teacher and surveyor, like so many of the older race of statesmen; he tried to be a cavalryman, but the United States medicos wouldn't pass him, another instance of threatened men living long; he has been Governor of Maine and a Representative in seven Congresses; he publishes that old standard and solid contemporary the Kennebec *Journal*. He is at least as great a man as GARDNER; he knows the ropes; and in spite of the pastoral letter of Mr. ROOSEVELT to Dirigo Progressives is not a bit more reactionary than no small part of the Progressive downeast flock. A "reactionary" is a Republican who didn't plump for Oyster Bay. That's all.

For particulars inquire of Colonel FRED HALE.

Our Salvation From Corrupt Policemen.

This town and its people would be in a bad way if the corrupt members of the police force were as intelligent as they are vicious. Fortunately for honest men, the crime protecting policeman is as stupid as he is greedy.

Were this not the case the whole social fabric would be at the mercy of a comparatively few individuals gifted with inordinate appetites and destitute of the slightest traces of conscience. They have abundance of energy, brazen indifference to all the tenets of decency, definite ambition, and nothing but scorn for any standard of conduct that in any way affects or influences respectable persons.

But they are hopelessly dull and thick witted, ridiculously deficient in imagination and inventiveness, and their "system" repeats with unfailing regularity the excesses and blunders of its founders. On the methods devised by them, crude as they are, no improvement has been made. The open palm, the bludgeon and the false affidavit, these are the tools of their trade and calling. As long as they use so little brains in their excursions for the acquisition of other folks' money they will continue to be merely annoying, but they cannot fairly be counted as dangerous.

Park Comfort Stations.

One of our correspondents calls attention to the fact that after making several attempts to initiate a rectification of serious defects of insanitary character in the comfort stations of several small city parks he addressed a communication to the Borough President, MCANENY. The letter was transmitted and elicited the reply from Mr. STOVER that he is making an effort to place entirely new plumbing in the stations.

It were wise on the part of the Board of Estimate to furnish the funds for the much needed sanitation of these places, which are resorted to not only by loungers or promenaders but by the large number of workmen engaged in the erection of skyscrapers in the vicinity of these small parks. The comfort stations should be larger than the present cramped places, and they need to be provided with faucets supplying water for manual ablution, the absence of which is a serious defect. The park engineers will doubtless also recognize the necessity of placing these comfort stations below the street surface, thus insuring less encroachment on the park and obtaining ample space for the necessary conveniences.

The public comfort stations, which were first constructed under the Strong administration, have been of immense service to the working people and other frequenters of the parks. They demand the utmost care to make them, as their appellation indicates, comfortable and sanitary in every respect.

According to the latest report of the Department of Agriculture the producer of corn, wheat, barley, rye, buckwheat, potatoes and eggs is getting some seventeen per cent. less than he got a year ago. One of the many economic mysteries. The producer gets less, the consumer pays more, and everybody looks wise and heaves a figurative brick at the accursed middleman.

Acapulco, the Mexican port on the Pacific to which the cruiser Denver has been ordered to protect American citizens at the request of Consul EDWARDS, has no railroad connection with the city of Mexico. The Interoceanic and the Mexican Central are building lines in that direction, but according to a recent map of the National Railways Balsas is the last station in touch with the capital, and Balsas is nearly 100 miles from Acapulco. It is a rough country for railway building and the cost of cutting through the Sierra Madre del Sur must be enormous.

The story that a force of rebels under JULIO RADILLO is threatening the town and that the Mexican commander of the garrison admitted his inability to protect Americans in the suburban region may well be true. Acapulco is conspicuously the best port on that side of Mexico and would be a prize for the insurgents if they could capture and hold it. The presumption is that the American Consul did not call for aid until the emergency actually arose.

The consolation prize of an election to Congress from the Thirteenth Massachusetts district, where Captain JOHN W. WEEKS, the Senator-elect, received a majority of 2,351 in November, may not tempt Mr. SAMUEL W. MCCALL. He has been the ablest and the most independent Representative from Massachusetts during his long service in the House, and he can ill be spared. At sixty-one Mr. MCCALL is still full of usefulness. He should be drafted.

At all events the Hon. OBADIAH GARDNER is now free to accept a Cabinet job.

"MONKEY CRITICS."

The Tennyson of Mercer County Defends a Gracious Phrase.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Your elaborate praise of the phrase "monkey critics" in connection with the name of Mr. G. B. Shaw goes much too far. Almost anybody would be flattered to receive such courtesies from THE SUN. But your amiable habit of overcompliment, persisting from generation to generation, sometimes leads to a result contrary to that which you benevolently intended, as, for example, in the case of the late President Cleveland. It is not well that a person or a phrase should be too much favored by THE SUN.

The particular expression which you have touched with the effulgence of your luminosity does not really deserve to be hailed for its blandness, for its grace, for its amenity. It is not comparable in these respects with the delicate style of M. Anatole France, who described his fellow countrymen as "the Penguins." Its only merit is that of simple truthfulness.

1. It is merely a descriptive phrase, not necessarily derogatory. Monkeys, large and small, are agile, amusing and extraordinarily clever animals, not deficient in good business sense. They are most entertaining when in pursuit of the cocoanut. No menagerie is complete without them. The largest crowd is always attracted to their cage. People who admire and love them would consider a comparison to such amusing creatures complimentary. It is true that Mr. Rudyard Kipling does not like them. He has written unfavorably of them as the "Bandar Log." But Mr. Kipling is merely a late Victorian, and his opinion is not decisive.

2. It is also an ancestral phrase, a family name, so to speak, which has not only been accepted but strongly emphasized by the writers to whom it refers. They not only recognize the probability of arboreal habits in our distant progenitors but they look into the family tree for guidance in the reorganization of society, and they advocate the abolition of many domestic and social institutions which at present obscure in man the image and likeness of his simian forefathers.

3. Finally, in its application to Mr. Shaw, the phrase is limited to his activities as a critic. It was not applied to those creative dramatic works in which he has betrayed his superiority to Shakespeare. But to his critical works in which he has confessed, explained and illuminated his consciousness of that and other superiorities the phrase was applied. It seems to have some applicability. His critical faculties are agile and prehensile, various and unexpected, not distinctly useful but always amusing in action. As he skips lightly on the tree of literature, gathering cocoanuts and now and then flinging one at a statue in the temple, you admire his equipment for the activity in which he is engaged, and recognize his claim to descent from the cleverest and most entertaining of all monkeys. The phrase which you have overcomplimented is purely impressionistic and has nothing but its accuracy to commend it. HENRY VAN DYKE.

PRINCETON, N. J., January 15.

OUR MANNER OF SPEECH.

Sure Mark, the Professor Says, of Breeding or Its Lack.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* It is in the voice, my mentor tells me, that we find the surest mark of gentility or of the lack of it.

He was delivering to me, a man of careless speech, what amounted to a lecture on my deficiencies. Just hear him talk.

"A good 'voice,' by which," he said, "we mean not the actual voice alone, but as well the whole manner of speech, comes only from good breeding, from inheritance, or by careful, thoughtful cultivation, such a voice being one that is pleasing in intonation and gracefully appropriate in modulation and inflection, while the speaker must be also clear in articulation and enunciation, and of course correct in pronunciation."

How many people do we know who combine in their speaking all these essential qualities of a good "voice"? To be of the highest value and effect this voice, or manner of speech, must be natural on the part of the speaker, not artificial.

NEW YORK, January 14. B. B. E.

Wail of a Beanseeker.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I "eat out" and I want baked beans. Why can't I get them in any of the so-called "good" restaurants of Manhattan? Almost any one can get a sticky brown mass of manhandled beans called "Boston baked beans," which is supposed to be a dish of baked beans. It isn't; it's a felony. Boston never knew how to do anything with beans except to cook and doctor them until they come forth a very bad imitation of a boarding school girl's first mess of chocolate fudge.

Around town in the quick lunch or hasty pudding chains of restaurants one occasionally can get a plate of "New York beans," cooked as nature intended the bean to be cooked, flaky and mealy but unbroken, each bean a pearl, each pearl a prayer, with here and there a few dark brown beans from the top, or crust, and just hard enough to crunch with gusto.

"Boston baked beans" should be a misdemeanor by statute at the very least, inasmuch as every dish of them is a felony in fact. I want beans.

NEW YORK, January 15. F. O'M.

Wailing Philæ.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In regard to the deplorable submergence of Philæ, what prevents a masonry wall being built, at no great cost surely, around the entire rim of that mere isle high enough to rise slightly above lake level when the Assuan floodgates are closed and the stored waters at their highest? Staircases on inside of wall would give access to the ruins.

MELVIN R. DREW.

PERTH AMBOY, N. J., January 15.

Some Weather Predictions.

Where, oh, where is the zero weather
We were promised we should get?
Where, oh, where is the good old winter,
Which has not arrived as yet?

Where, oh, where are the jingling sleigh bells?
Where are all the skaters at?
Where, oh, where are the coal man's profits,
Which beforetimes were so fat?

Where, oh, where are the blooming blizzards?
Where the streets chuck full of snow?
Where, oh, where are the icebound rivers
That about now ceased to flow?

What, oh, what is the Weather Bureau?
What that meteorological bird?
It ain't no prevaricator;
It's a shorter, uglier word
What?

W. J. LAMPTON.

GATHERING THE NEWS.

New and Economical Service Now Offered to the Press.

[Subjoined will be found a sample of the Unicorn Syndicate Press Reports, designed for use throughout the country during the present period of inquiry and investigation. Newspapers subscribing to these reports will receive them by mail days in advance of the sessions, and may complete them by inserting the names of counsel, witness, dates, &c. By this service thousands of dollars now spent for telegraph tolls will be saved annually, and the public will get exactly what it wants.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 30—John Dough, the eminent dealer in pig's tail whistles, accounted the richest manipulator of the sow's ear silk purse market, appeared before the Buncombe investigating committee to-day.

Mr. Dough was accompanied by the persons who came with him, and it was noted that his personal friends and the members of his family seemed interested in his welfare.

The committee room was crowded with society ladies and other persons having nothing better to do, who listened attentively to the examination and seldom threw anything at Mr. Dough, the counsel or the members of the committee.

Mr. Dough sat in a chair, just as any ordinary witness would.

Mr. Dough wore shoes, stockings, trousers, a waistcoat, a coat, a scarf, a collar and his hair.

At no time in the examination did Mr. Dough curse the counsel for the committee, threaten to shoot the chairman or shout "Fire!" The spectators were greatly astonished.

Mr. Dough without quibbling said he was himself. This created a sensation in the audience. He said he lived at his home and worked at his place of business. Counsel for the committee smiled with satisfaction as these admissions were wrung from the master of the sow's ear monopoly. The examination continued:

"Now, Mr. Dough, why are you anxious to make money?"

"To keep out of the almshouse, sir."

Counsel exchanged quick glances with the chairman of the committee at this frank response.

"Ah! Yes, and why do you want to keep out of the almshouse?"

"I don't like the kind of tobacco they give to the inmates, sir."

The tense excitement among the committeemen was evidenced by soon stifled yawns at this characteristic answer.

"Mr. Dough, I want to treat you kindly."

"You may, sir."

At this remarkably candid interchange a stout man near the door took another bite of chewing gum.

"Do you not consider the acquisition of wealth, in the manner and by the means which you have adopted, with its consequent and inevitable effect on the price of pigs' feet, immoral, indecent, indefensible and vile?"

"No, sir."

At this moment, and before the sensation created by his answer had subsided, Mr. Dough sat still in his chair.

Of all the men, women and loafers present he was notably the most calm and most contained.

"You don't, don't you?"

"No, sir."

"Why don't you?"

"Because I don't, sir."

"You don't still?"

"No, sir."

"And now, Mr. Dough, are you not aware that you are a menace to civilization, a creature despicable to all honorable men, loathed by decent women, and that at your approach the struggling poor are torn between anxiety to protect their gold watches and a desire to get their touring cars out of the way of the street cars?"

"No, sir."

Mr. Dough at this moment seemed completely master of himself.

"Do pigs squeal when you poke them with your cane, Mr. Dough?"

"They do, sir."

"What, in your opinion, is the ulterior motive of the pigs in squealing under such circumstances, and what significance do you attach to their squeals?"

"Well, pigs is pigs, sir."

Counsel and Mr. Dough were fencing now. The audience moved forward in their chairs, except the stout gum chewing gentleman near the door, who had inadvertently sat on an extra wad of his gum and hence was rooted to the spot. Never before had such an interchange been witnessed by those who had never seen anything like it before.

"Do you continue to boast that you are a thief, a murderer, and that you play a mechanical piano beside an open window after 10 o'clock at night?"

"No, sir."

Mr. Dough showed no sign of exhaustion. His manner was easy and confident. He had borne well the gruelling to which he had been subjected.

"One question more, Mr. Dough. When you leave this examination room, where are you going?"

"Away from here, sir."

The answer came sharp and clear, like the snap of a whip. Obviously it was what counsel and committee had been seeking. In this dramatic climax the examination came to an end. Mr. Dough walked out of the room on his own feet, except when he stepped on those attached to other anatomies. Your correspondent judges that he weighs about 763 pounds.

"The investigation is adjourned for the day," announced the clerk to the committee, in a soft and mushy voice, rendered almost inaudible by the shuffling feet of the dispersing crowd.

The stout, gum chewing gentleman took his chair with him.

The great examination was over.

Wet Measures.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I cannot say with Artemus Ward, "I don't drink now, but when I did drink I never allowed business to interfere with it"; however, I avoid alcoholic stimulants because they upset my stomach. Whether a man drinks or not, drunkenness is a disgrace.

One of your correspondents opines that when a man gets on his feet in life he should not get drunk. This suggests that old question, "When is a man drunk?" I submit three opinions. The authorship of the first I know not, the second is said to be a Japanese proverb and the third I extracted from Croker's edition (disparaged by Macaulay and Carlyle) of Boswell's "Johnson":

"He is not drunk who from the floor
Can rise again and still drink more;
But drunk is he when down he lies
And cannot drink again nor rise."

"First you take a drink, then the drink takes a drink, and then the drink takes you."

"A man knows when he has too little, and a man knows when he has too much, but no man knows when he has enough." D. H. S.

LANCASTER, Pa., January 14.

The Fountain of Youth.

Ponce de Leon was trying to discover the fountain of perpetual youth.

"Search for a statesman's ideas on finance," we advised.

Song of the Postal Egg.

First Hen—Why didn't you cackle when you laid that egg?

Second Hen—What's the use? The postman will whistle when he delivers it.

MARY KONOVSKY'S WAGE.

A Hard Problem for Others Besides the Mill Owners.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Among the stories of striking mill operatives at Little Falls told to the Commissioners of Mediation and Arbitration for the State of New York, that of a girl whom I shall call Mary Konovsky was the most impressive in many ways. This young woman swore to the following statement, rendered into English by an interpreter:

"My name is Mary Konovsky. I am 22 years old. I can speak no English nor can I read or write in that language. I was born in Russian Poland. I have been in this country three years. I was employed as a spinner in the X mill. I earned $8 a week. I live in a room with two other girls as poor as myself. For this room we pay $3 a week. We get our own breakfast and have dinner at a restaurant. When working we took our lunch with us to the mill and ate it there. I send no money home because I have none. I struck because my pay was too low. I want a raise of 15 per cent. and will return to work if I get that."

This testimony of Mary Konovsky has been published and republished throughout the country. In consequence thousands of kind hearted people have grieved over the pitiable condition of this poor Polander and their hearts have ached for her and her fellow strikers. The more sensational publications have held up to the execration of mankind the heartless, sordid manufacturers who paid such poor wages.

With your permission and through your courtesy I would like to say a few words directly to these sympathetic people. Ladies and gentlemen, Mary Konovsky stands before the Commissioners. Have a look at her. She is a poor human creature born and bred in poverty and misery, uneducated, untrained, stolid, stupid but possessed of an immortal soul and eager for the betterment of her condition. She wants $6.90 a week and will be satisfied with that amount. Her former employer, a manufacturer who has a large factory, representing an investment exceeding a million dollars, who is the agent of the stockholders of his company, all of whom demand that he run this factory at a profit, says outspokenly:

"I will pay Mary Konovsky $6 a week, and this is more than she is worth. She has no industrial training of any kind. All she is fit for is to mind a spinning frame and when the delicate threads break tie the ends together. Her fingers are very clumsy at this and she makes a great deal of waste. I even have to get her a little machine to place on her fingers to tie these ends, for the machinery is much cleverer than she. American girls of her own age in my factory are making from $10 to $14 a week. I had rather pay Mary three times her wages if she were of proportionate value to me. Unwittingly she has made me appear before my fellow men a grinder down of the poor. She has injured my character and that of my mill. I will take her back if she wants to come, but really I don't want her. I want trained, educated girls if I can get them. There she stands. Her services are for sale at $6.90 a week."

You have heard the despised employer of labor, kind ladies and gentlemen. The services of Mary Konovsky are for sale. He bids $6 a week. What will you bid? You, mistress housewife, with tender eyes, will you pay more than $6 a week for Mary?

"No," you say. "She cannot speak English. She is a mere peasant; knows nothing of the mechanism of a modern kitchen. I don't want her."

You, Mr. Storekeeper, what will you give? You could not use her services? She would not be able to stand behind your counter and sell goods? She is unprepossessing and uncouth? She cannot speak English? And what is this you say:

"I cannot afford to pay $6 a week for girl clerks."

We pass you up for a kind gentleman who, perhaps, gushed unthinkingly: "Come on all the rest of you, doctors, lawyers, clergymen, politicians, editors, what will you bid for the services of Mary Konovsky?"

She wants only $6.90 a week. For God's sake, gentlemen, don't let the cruel mill get her again. Take her into your homes, into your offices, into your studies, give her a chance in the world. You cry all together, "We don't want her. We have no use for her, but make that mill man pay her a living wage. She has our sympathies, but you can see plainly we cannot employ her."

And you over there by the door, leaning against each other in sweet accord, you two, Mr. Labor Agitator and Mr. Yellow Journalist, come up here and look at Mary. She wants a living wage. Will you give it to her?

"No," you snarl back at me, "we won't give it to her, but we will get it for her. We will bring mankind down to the level of Mary Konovsky where she will have an equal opportunity in a fair competition of hands and brains."

And now you, Mr. Commissioner, you are last of all, you who love to investigate your fellows, speak up like a man and make us a bid for Mary. Not a peep out of you? It really looks as if it were up to Mary to choose between the river and the mill.

Is there a true lesson in this letter? Are we not a nation of hypocrites, a race loving to pluck at the beam in our brother's eye, being blind ourselves? DIRECTOR.

NEW YORK, January 15.

The Newark Free Library.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* You have scarcely, in spite of your generous praise, done full justice to the spirit of willingness and interest which animates the staff of the Newark Public Library.

I worked more or less constantly at the library for two years, while preparing an annotated list of books for children, work which involved much detail.

Never once during the countless times in which I asked for assistance did I meet with anything but the most prompt, cheerful and truly interested service and attention.

Not only was my work made pleasant and easy but it was obvious that one and all, rich and poor, were treated alike and made welcome to the possessions of the library.

While the greatest credit and gratitude are due to Mr. Dana's staff of superior workers, of course the real reason of the library's notable success is due to its animating spirit, its head.

GERTRUDE WELD ARNOLD.

NUTLEY, N. J., January 15.

A Lover of Old Fashioned Music.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I can't help wondering how people could possibly care for the maudlin creations of Debussy and Richard Strauss when they could hear the old ballads.

I may be an old fogy, and I probably am, but I would rather hear "Kathleen Mavourneen" or the "Lost Chord" than the whole Metropolitan Opera Company struggling with Puccini's "The Girl of the Golden West."

What's the matter with present day music? Are we to hear no more straightforward expressions of sentiment, simply set forth, or must we continue to have the bifalutin' crazy creations of lyric writers who are ashamed to make the singer declare an honest sentiment?

Who has ever touched the heart like Balfe, Sullivan and Thomas? More power to the old fashioned ballad.

A LOVER OF REAL OLD HEART MUSIC.

NEW YORK, January 15.

"Route" and "Routing."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Two words in common use are "route" and "routing," this latter meaning "preparing and arranging routes." "Route" used to be pronounced as though spelled "rout," but latterly even the less educated pronounce it as though spelled "root." But do they say "rooting"? I have never heard the word so pronounced, though I know some very intelligent people who use it frequently. If they do not say "rooting," by what analogy do they say "routing"? W. J. L.

NEW YORK, January 15.

The Supergrammarian.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The much discussed question in THE SUN as to what is and what is not grammar was settled very quickly by the Emperor Sigismund at the Council of Constance. When one of the Cardinals ventured to correct the Emperor's Latin he replied: "Ego sum rex Romanus et super grammaticam."

ARINGTON H. CARMAN.

PATCHOGUE, January 15.

EASY TO GET TRADE WITH SOUTH AMERICA

But We Neglect Good Fields, Says Ex-Minister Chandler.

OUR WORST HANDICAPS

Opportunities That Will Come With the Opening of the Panama Canal.

Pointed remarks as to neglect of the South American trade and stupid bungling in some of our transactions with importers of the neighboring continent were addressed to the members of the American Manufacturers Export Association yesterday by Charles Lyon Chandler, ex-Minister to Peru, formerly a Consular agent in the Argentine and now in the State Department at Washington. He was speaking at a luncheon in the rooms of the Machinery Club, Hudson Terminal Building.

Mr. Chandler insisted that the present great opportunities for exporters lay in the twenty sister republics to the south rather than in countries which we bombard, but which don't care for such things as American tooth powder.

"For instance," he said, "there is Buenos Ayres, with a population of 1,402,366, 1,000 elevators, 2,500 apartment houses and 5,000 automobiles. It offers more real chances for trade than the large cities east of Suez. In 1911 there were issued 1,287 building permits, which under the Argentine system means the erection of between 15,000 and 20,000 new buildings, some of them large apartment houses comparable with those of Riverside Drive. What an opportunity for furniture, bathroom fixtures and the like!

"Argentina has 7,000,000 people, and even now $7.32 a year is being spent for North American goods by every man, woman and child. Compare this with six cents per capita for American goods in China and $1.29 in Japan. We export too many non-competitive articles, too much raw material and not enough manufactures in which we should be competing with Europe. We have every possible disadvantage in American export trade. There are no American banks, but many foreign banks, in South America. We have almost no American ships. And, worst of all, there is a fearful dearth of properly trained, gentlemanly salesmen. Salesmen, not pedlers, are desired.

"Our mania for 'scientific business management' seems to stop at the ends of our steamship wharves. It is really a silly system, our so-called commercial education. It is singular how little Spanish and Portuguese are taught. We have now a trade of $160,000,000 a year with Portuguese speaking countries, yet where can you send your bright salesmen to learn Portuguese? How many so-called Spanish teachers speak the Spanish of Castile rather than the Spanish of Brooklyn Heights?"

Among instances of improperly managed transactions with the Argentine Republic Mr. Chandler mentioned the case of a man who ordered 500 drills from the United States. The clerk at this end misladd the order. His employers, after some delay, informed the buyer of the mistake, writing a letter on which the Argentine man had to make up the sufficient postage. Then the goods were promised for delivery in a few days. Months dragged by, until the Argentine buyer threatened to send future orders to Germany. The United States Consul in Buenos Ayres wrote a polite note to the drill manufacturers. In reply he was told to mind his own business.

"After nearly a year," said Mr. Chandler, "the drills were delivered and the buyer found that they weren't what he had ordered. His next order for $40,000, went to Germany."

Despite all this, the speaker said, our trade with South America is slowly increasing, although South America's exports are growing much faster. In 1911 the Latin republics bought $900,000,000 worth of goods from the world at large, of which one-seventh came from the United States. Our exportation of automobiles to South America increased sixfold last year despite sharp competition from Europe. Uruguay has tested our coal and is buying it, although for years Uncle Sam's coal merchants said there was no chance.

"We are spending $320,000,000 to build the Panama Canal," he concluded. "It will be the poorest sort of business when the canal is finished not to try to get a slice of the trade of Chile, Peru, Ecuador and the west coast of Colombia, where they are now buying from Europe. Thus far the United States consular service has done more than the manufacturers to develop South American trade."

TRADE WITH ARGENTINA GOOD

Despite the Lack of American Ships to Help It On.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—Trade interests of the United States with the Argentine Republic will continue to suffer until the American merchant marine is reestablished, in the opinion of John W. Garrett, American minister to Argentina, who called at the State Department to-day. Mr. Garrett is now on leave of absence and is spending most of the time in Baltimore, his home city.

"During the last year," said Minister Garrett, "I saw but three ships flying the American flag in the harbor of Buenos Ayres. Nevertheless, we are doing a splendid business with the Argentine Republic. They are selling us goods to the value of about $30,000,000 and I believe our sales to that country are about twice as much."

ROOT DOESN'T STOP CANAL NOW

His Bill Has Not Affected State Department's Activity.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—The fact that Senator Root next week will urge passage of his bill repealing the provision of the Panama Canal act which grants free passage to American ships engaged in coastwise trade will not alter the course of the Department of State in its exchange of notes with Great Britain relative to the protest against the canal tolls act made by that Government.

Secretary Knox and Chandler P. Anderson, counsellor of the Department of State, still are engaged in the preparation of the note which will be sent in reply to that of Sir Edward Grey.