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The Stone Doctrine.

The Hon. WILLIAM JOEL STONE of Missouri, widely and not unfavorably known as "Gum Shoe BILL," is a distinguished member of the Senate Committee on Finance. He is thus reported by the New York *Times*:

"The Democrats of the Finance Committee of the Senate feel that they ought to be consulted in the preparation of the tariff bill. Democrats are in control of both houses and the Presidency. These three are to make the law. The Senate thinks it is a coordinate and equal branch of the Government in this important work. We feel that we ought to be primarily consulted fully and freely in the preparation of the tariff bill, that any effort to exclude us is unfair to the Senate and will not be received except in a spirit of resentment.

"I think that if the Senate is shut out of consideration *in the original preparation of the bill*, then the Senate will take its own course.

"I think that what I have said here meets with the approval of the President in the matter, at least in its essential parts."

In the instrument known as the Constitution of the United States, which went into operation about one hundred and twenty-three years before the Baltimore platform of 1912, the seventh section of Article I. provides as follows:

"All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate may propose or concur with amendments as on other bills."

We are not ready to believe that President WOODROW WILSON shares the views of the Hon. WILLIAM JOEL STONE.

The Peace Prospect.

The Powers and the Balkan Allies have now established a basis for peace negotiations that should be mutually satisfactory. The Powers no longer insist upon the Turco-Bulgarian boundary line as defined in their terms of March 22, and concede both banks of the Maritza to Bulgaria. The Allies have proposed that their demand for an indemnity be accepted in principle and that the amount be fixed by a financial commission, and the Powers agree to a commission to consider the matter without committing themselves. The Allies submit that "they should know beforehand" the frontier of the future State of Albania, and no doubt they will be accommodated. On one point there is a real conflict of interests: the Powers desire to settle the future of the Ægean Islands, and the Allies still hold out for the cession of the islands by Turkey.

As the Allies cannot assert their claim to the Ægean Islands by naval force, they must submit to the pleasure of the Powers. The question of an indemnity cannot be settled in advance of peace. Albania's delimitation is the only obstacle in the path. Peace is not absolutely assured, but the combatants have had enough of war, which is a good sign. The cloud on the fair prospect is the fate of Scutari.

To Stagger Humanity.

We move rapidly in these days. The "something awful" that a few weeks ago was the most horrendous threat to which the militant imagination could aspire is now succeeded by "something that will stagger humanity." What will follow after humanity has been duly staggered one cannot even guess. Happily, however, humanity has an astonishing knack for resuming the perpendicular, so we may presume that even the buffets of militantism will not keep it permanently reeling.

The precise means that the lawless ladies of England propose to adopt for the discomfiture of the rest of their fellow creatures have not been definitely revealed, but a hint as to their nature is given in the statement, apparently semi-official, that their activities are no longer to be hampered by a regard for a trifle like human life. For the sake of sweet consistency it is just as well that Mrs. PANKHURST's followers should declare that murder is no longer to be barred in militant quarters as bad form. During their more recent escapades good luck rather than good management has saved them from committing the breach of manners involved by assassination. When people take to distributing bombs about the country without much discrimination they cannot be quite certain that in the subsequent explosion somebody may not get hurt, and when they burn widows' houses there is always the possibility that the widow or one of her ménage may be within. The admission of murder to the category of crimes which are permissible is the only example of logical reasoning that has emanated from militant headquarters for some time.

If the threat is carried into execution the perplexities of the Government as responsible for the maintenance of law and order will not be diminished, but if militancy becomes the author of murder it is likely to slay itself as well as its victim. The militant women of England form a very small and unpopular minority in the population. In many instances already the police have experienced the utmost difficulty in protecting them from the fury of the mob. It would take but very little more to make the mob see red. The assassination of some public man or, as is more likely to happen, the murder of some inoffensive outsider would be sufficient incentive to make the crowd take the law into its own hands; and it is not pleasant to contemplate what would follow if the police, as in some instance would almost certainly happen, lost control. The catastrophe that would ensue might stagger humanity; but humanity would recover. It is extremely doubtful whether militancy would.

Making the Most Beautiful City in the World.

Among the good works of the Taft Administration that which should not be counted the least is the securing of the execution of the McKim-Burnham restoration and expansion of the L'Enfant plan for the creation of a capital city. The fate of L'ENFANT's plan has been really astonishing. For two generations and a dozen administrations it has been "quietly inurned" and gathering dust. ANDREW JACKSON broke in upon it without remorse or knowledge, what time he smote the soil with his masterful umbrella, right in the line of L'ENFANT's main avenue between the "Congress House" and the "President's house," the question being of the placing of the Treasury, and said to the affrighted architect, who did not dare to gainsay him, "Put that cornerstone here." So much for one of the "grand avenues" of the original plan. As to the other, the real "Grand Avenue" from the "Congress House" to the Washington Monument, then expected to take the form of an equestrian statue, that was degraded out of all recognition until McKIM after a hundred years exhumed it and dusted it off and showed what it was meant for, which everybody in Washington had forgotten. Everybody in Washington had called it "the Reservation" without any notion why or for what it was "reserved." The Pennsylvania Railroad squatted upon it as upon a piece of waste land. RENWICK put upon it the Smithsonian as upon a handy and unenvied site. ANDREW JACKSON DOWLING planted it all over, according to the romantic and "naturalistic" notions of the landscape gardening of the period. Nobody until 1902 took the trouble seriously to inquire what it was originally "about." Even Boss SHEPHERD, about whom the conviction has been growing in Washington that he was not so black as he was painted, though in sooth his moral complexion was dusky, failed to see the point in the early '70s, and recurred to the original plan only for "street openings."

But the main wonder is not that the memory of what the original plan of Washington meant should have lapsed from the minds of men in three generations, but that when it had been exhumed and revised and brought down to date, and, in its extended form, had been shown in a really monumental exhibition of models and drawings, anybody should still have failed to see the point. The exhibition in question was so impressive and conclusive to those who did see the point that they thought the work of conversion finished when in fact it had only begun. That sturdy Bœotian Uncle JOE was "agin' it," and he was a force to be reckoned with. Worse than that, even, the foes of what may fairly be called the darling project of two Administrations were they of their own household. The Commissioner of Agriculture attempted to "butt in" on the reservation, even after he had been charged with knowledge of what it meant, with the new building for his department, and had to be extruded with some violence. To repel trespassers, and, in Secretary ROOT's phrase, to "put a pin in," as occasion offered, to make sure the execution of the plan, was for some years the care of its advocates. Their efforts, one after the other, were successful. The trespassing Secretary of Agriculture was successfully "stood off," and his building placed where conformity to the main design required it to be placed. So with the new National Museum. So with the Grant Monument. So with the new department buildings. When these things had been effected, the "grand avenue" of L'ENFANT was securely "pinned."

The most formidable of the obstacles to the completion of the extended plan was met and overcome toward the close of the last session of the last Congress, when what was described as a "cabal" of Washington real estate boomers and of advocates of good roads "in spite of everything" undertook to antagonize the Lincoln Monument of the McKim plan with a road from Washington to Gettysburg, a "Via Lincolniana," suitable for high speeding and bordered with road houses, as a more appropriate memorial to the liberator. With the defeat of this highly ridiculous project the victory of the plan for the embellishment of the capital which has commended itself to those persons who were most disinterested and most capable of forming an opinion may be taken to have been secured. The question henceforth is of execution and also of extension. Perhaps the most important work of extension, one of the works most strongly advocated by the late Engineer-Commissioner of the District, is the "Rock Creek Park," the connection to the northwest with the Potomac Park, which is an integral feature of McKIM's extension of L'ENFANT's plan. As it happens, this is a work of reclamation as well as of creation. The ravines out Georgetown way which it includes, which need little but decent "keeping" to become highly picturesque and attractive, have by neglect become mere dumping grounds and nuisances. Their reclamation is one of the most urgent needs of the District. By a spirited and public spirited "filibuster" humane Senators, led by Senators ROOT and LODGE, managed in the last hours of the last session to secure an appropriation for Rock Creek Park, actually as a "rider" on what is commonly and justly known as the "pork bill," and the provision of most public value and importance in that very questionable measure. Rock Creek Park will be a notable addition to the attractions of the capital and an excellent supplementation of the revised and enlarged project for the embellishment of Washington. It is not conceivable that that scheme will encounter further perils as serious as those it has thus far triumphantly surmounted. There is, fortunately, no local or sectional jealousy concerning the national capital. Americans of all sections should rejoice in the clear and bright prospect of possessing in Washington one of the most beautiful cities in the world.

But it is doubtful if cultivated Americans in general are aware how deeply they are indebted to a numerically insignificant minority of humane and cultivated members of one or the other house of Congress for all that has been done not only toward the execution of the original plan of the capital but equally toward the advancement, throughout the whole country, of the standard of what may be described as "Federal Art." Rhode Island is doubtless one of the States from which we have the right to expect the best public service in that particular respect. The modest and long service of Senator WETMORE to that cause, in his capacity of a member of the Senate Library Committee, really requires a recognition which it has not generally received.

The Legislative Activities of Representative Chandler.

An astute and observing legislator is the Hon. WALTER M. CHANDLER, the only Progressive Congressman elected from Greater New York on the face of the returns last fall. The seat of the member from the Nineteenth district of New York is being contested, but meanwhile he has been looking about in Washington, and has discovered that the House of Representatives has an unlimited supply of official stationery and that members may send public documents through the mails without charge.

Representative CHANDLER's idea of a public document is a letter to each of the 35,673 persons who voted in the Nineteenth district last November, in which he writes:

"HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
"WASHINGTON, March 29, 1913.

"MY DEAR SIR: I am writing to thank you and other voters of the Nineteenth Congressional district for the honor you have conferred upon me by electing me your Representative in Congress.

"I am now ready and anxious to serve you. I wish to represent the Nineteenth district in such a manner as to deserve your commendation at the end of my term of office. Whatever your political affiliations and regardless of whether you voted for me or not, I want you to consider me your Congressman and to command me whenever I can serve you in any way.

"I shall be glad to hear from you at any time that you may wish to express your approval or disapproval of legislative measures pending before Congress. Any suggestions made by you will be seriously considered by me.

"With kind regards and all good wishes, I am,

"Faithfully yours,
"WALTER M. CHANDLER."

If the member from the Nineteenth New York district retains his seat it appears that he expects to be busy, since his secretary, as THE SUN has already noted, has been offering his services as a lecturer at $100 a lecture. The Congressman agrees seriously to consider any suggestion, and perhaps there are voters in the Nineteenth district who feel that it would not be out of order for him to send a check for $713.46 to the Post Office Department for unpaid postage on his letters of thanks to his constituents.

The Pulchritudinous Pulchrifier of the Senate.

In response to many supplications, in sympathy with the gratifying and growing impulse of Western æsthetics and in memory of its long devotion to the best, the most beautiful and the most mellifluent of Colonels, THE SUN adorns itself and blesses the country with the true effigy of Colonel JAMES HAMILTON LEWIS, newly elected a Senator in Congress from Illinois for the long term:

Is there in the Senate, in any other Senate, in this country, in any other country, a comelier countenance than this? Yet poor black and white can but faintly hint the full glory of its radiance. The pure and perfect line and form are there, but the luminous, red wave of low chroma, the flashing streamers of Chicago, the Pink Aurora Borealis, delicate as the ear of VENUS, only color in hands of a master colorist who should be to TITIAN as LORADO TAFT to a cow on a butter stamp could even faintly depict these forests of fairyland, these curtains of ALADDIN's palace, these scintillant and supreme decoration, this beauty's bower.

The smile that melts ice at 100 paces, the eye that lights cigars within a radius of 23 feet, the hand gladder than young love, the voice as of flutes and soft recorders: a cornucopia of good gifts pours upon the Senate.

The crammed galleries are hushed; the eye supersedes the ear; young LUKE LEA's nose is out of joint; a frown distorts the stern and rockbound face of ATLEE POMERENE; TOM MARSHALL feels nervously for the diamond pin in his cravat. Colonel JIM HAM LEWIS dresses as beautiful as he looks; clothes revision is inevitable; we will lay a plugged penny against the complete speeches, writings and public documents of the Hon. JAMES EDGAR MARTINE—say 10,000 to 1—that before Senator LEWIS has shone upon the Senate three months every Father Conscript will be adorned as to his feet with spats, and as to his coat with a pink; and that the Hon. OLLIE JAMES of Kentucky and Bryanomania will cover the mighty ranges of his denudated peak with a wig of sienna.

Japan's Protest.

The contention that a law in California prohibiting the owning or leasing of land by aliens not eligible to citizenship would be invalid as against the Japanese because the treaty of 1911 grants the right to subjects of Japan to "own or hire" land, houses and other buildings for residential and commercial purposes, spikes the guns of the labor agitators who are once more trying to make political capital out of the "Yellow Peril" in California.

The Japanese Ambassador, Viscount CHINDA, has been in conference with Mr. BRYAN regarding this periodical menace to the friendly relations of two countries; and perhaps the new Secretary of State is a little flustered by the difficulty of making the proper assurances to the Ambassador without losing the good will of the Pacific coast politicians, who, irrespective of party, are addicted to pinpricking Japan. The California Legislature may pass the bill objected to and Governor JOHNSON may sign it, but the Supreme Court will have the last say. By this time Japan must understand that outbreaks of demagogy in Sacramento against her subjects are not to be taken tragically.

We are gratified to learn that the purveyors of bottled spring water who serve the municipal courts at the taxpayers' expense have found the business so profitable that their source of supply, once a "spring," has become "springs." Selling luxuries to public employees at public expense seems to be an easy way to make a fortune.

So far Mrs. PANKHURST has not been forcibly fed, and it is said that she will not be.—*Despatch from London.*

The Government is coming to its senses and showing a little spirit when it permits a lawless suffragette to decide whether she will eat food placed before her or not. There is really no political capital in forcible feeding.

A limited season of racing at the New York tracks under the auspices of Mr. AUGUST BELMONT, Mr. H. P. WHITNEY, Mr. H. K. KNAPP, Mr. JOHN SANFORD, Mr. R. T. WILSON and other reputable turfmen, who have subscribed to a fund to pay the expenses, is assured now, provided the Court of Appeals affirms the decision in the Shane case that oral betting is not against the law.

Governor SULZER has no fanatical objection to horse racing as a sport, and sees nothing immoral in oral wagers between patrons. A statute may make betting on any contest or on a mere matter of opinion unlawful, but betting is too common to be considered iniquitous in itself whatever the law is. In regard to the statutes which for some time have prevented racing in this State, it is for the highest court to determine what they forbid and what they do not forbid. If oral betting is not unlawful the race tracks may open their gates again without hindrance or just criticism.

THERE MAY BE OTHERS.

Case of a Man Who to Poor Handwriting Adds Absentmindedness.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Is any man alive that writes as poor a hand as I do? Often I can't read my own writing, and if I put down anything in abbreviated form I am likely to be lost completely. But it may be the same even when I write things out in full.

On a slip of paper that I carry in my pocket for current reference I wrote down the other day a word that, the next time I looked at it, read "fiendish." What in Sam Hill did "fiendish" mean? I gave it up and crossed it off.

When I went home my wife said to me: "When are you going to bring home the ferndish?"

I didn't say anything, I didn't "let on" that that was any surprise to me, but I had been entrusted with a ferndish to be repaired, and I was to bring the same home when it was done. And so, just said, "Why, certainly. I'll bring that home to-morrow night sure. I've been so busy lately, you know——" and so on. But really I must try to write more plainly. B. J. B.

BROOKLYN, April 4.

Woman's Debt of Gratitude to Man.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I assure "Bachelor" that a wife in any home wouldn't consider it an imposition to be asked to press her husband's trousers, but would deem it a favor to help her husband look well with trousers "creased sharp."

Maybe some years ago woman might have considered such work too menial for her; but these past few years man has so ingratiated himself with woman by designing for her beautiful and artistic raiment that his every desire is granted.

JAMES D. DEWELL, Jr.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., April 5.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* As a wife (once only), a daughter (once only), a sister of four brothers, with many friends in circumstances similar to my own, which are decidedly modest, my opinion as to this pressing question may, I think, be accepted as representing that of a majority of American citizens. Although in my younger days it was necessary for my mother and me to perform the labor of washing the family laundry, neither of us was ever asked to press trousers. The man of even the most moderate means would rather press them himself than to exact that service from his womenfolk.

While my husband requires considerable waiting on in simple matters, he presses his own trousers and frequently those of his bachelor friends who have stopped with us. He would never countenance my doing this work, any more than he would let me do the washing and cleaning, which he always insists on having done by a charwoman.

MOUNT HOPE, April 5. A. R. B.

Fussy Citizens Interrupt Historical Studies.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Please tell "One Who Knows About History" that fishin's too good from now on Saturdays for me to go to the University Club and study up Thurn and Taxis. More later when they stop bitin'. I wish he could come along. A STUDENT OF HISTORY.

NEW YORK, April 4.

The Back Yard Garden.

From the Louisville Courier Journal.

I go into my back yard now prepared to delve
and toil;
I use a bread knife as a plough and with it stir
the soil,
The tin cans I proceed to mash, the glass I spread
around;
The crockery and other trash I mingle with the
ground.

I scatter ashes on the top at least two inches
thick,
And over them proceed to drop odd lots of broken
brick.
I utilize the building lime which folks around
discard;
And soon I'll have a garden prime fixed up in my
back yard.

FRANCE AND GERMANY.

A Frenchman's Comment on "the Disturbing Element in Europe."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* "The French have always been the disturbing element in Europe" is the statement made in your columns by M. Primavese. To this the only answer can be the enumeration of a few facts:

March 31, 1905, the sensational declarations of Wilhelm II. in Tangier ten days after the promulgation of the French law reducing the three years military service to two.

April, 1905, the refusal of Germany to negotiate with M. Delcassé, followed by his resignation.

October, 1907, a most hateful German press campaign in favor of Mulai Hafid, at that time at war with the French.

November, 1908, new German provocations concerning the Casablanca deserters affair.

July-November, 1911, the Agadir affair, intended to humiliate France and aggravate Franco-German conflict.

And now again, in the Teutonic press headed by the Cologne *Gazette* could be found provocation after provocation, accusations and insults of all sorts; and this is not reassuring at the eve of one of the Kaiser's famous trips in Orient. And why that spring of francophobia paranoia, simply because France, which from 1911 to 1913 has done absolutely nothing in regard to the German military laws, which during that period had now given to that country a superiority of 335,000 men on the peace effective, and of 350,000 as reserves, spent for it 800,000,000 francs in excess of the French military budget? France is getting now justly alarmed and making great sacrifices, the principal one being the restoration of the three years service, which was abolished in March, 1905.

From 1883 to 1913 France and Germany had increased their military expenses in the following proportions: France, 70 per cent.; Germany 227 per cent. Are not those figures eloquent enough?

France does not want war, but as she wants to keep her place among the great nations she has to be ready for it, and certainly she is, believe it well. By following the example of her neighbor she can only prevent another wound in her tempting flesh and so permit her representatives abroad not to read in the eyes of their adversaries such an insulting thought as "morituri salutamus." HENRI DE LAFITOLE.

NEW YORK, April 4.

P. S. The death of Mr. J. P. Morgan is also a great loss for France, and particularly for the charming town of Aix-les-Bains, which in a fortnight has lost her two best friends and patrons, King George of Greece and Mr. Morgan.

It reminds me that last year Mr. Morgan, who was a great benefactor of that city, gave a new amount of money for the erection of another wing to the hospital. As he was much thanked for his generosity he made the remark: "Hurry up to build it. I am getting old and I want to see it erected before dying." Alas, he will not see it, but the poor will not forget him.

HENRI DE LAFITOLE.

NEW YORK, April 4.

The Goring of Oxen.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* A well known lawyer is actively advocating the incorporation of an association called the New York Stock Exchange; he also favors the passing of statutes with a view to "regulating" it.

What would this same lawyer think if a stock broker should appoint himself a committee of one and attempt to bring about the incorporation of the Bar Association on the ground of public policy, and incidentally father legislation designed to protect the public from the implied depredations of its members? ALBERT R. GALLATIN.

NEW YORK, April 5.

The Sea Cliff Firemen.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In your account of the fire which did $100,000 damage to H. P. Davison's property near Glen Cove you perhaps unconsciously deprecated the well meant salvage work of the neighboring fire departments. After stating that the house burned very rapidly and that "from the village of Glen Cove, three miles away, the men of the volunteer fire department toiled with their hose and engine. They found the Davison house red and roaring and almost gone," you add: "At 5.30 o'clock the firemen from Sea Cliff appeared—in time to view the ruins."

The Sea Cliff men were called on when the fire was seen to be beyond control. A heavy steamer and hose wagon were started immediately for a run of nearly five miles of steep hills, and arrived in creditable time, with their horses exhausted. The steamer pumped from a pond and threw from two to three heavy streams on the burning or threatened property, the Glen Cove men coupling their hose to it. The men remained on duty for hours, reaching home at midnight.

As this work and the nine or ten mile run entailed expense as well as fatigue I think the men should receive credit rather than ridicule, inasmuch as none of the many valuable residences throughout that section have any other adequate fire department to call upon than that of Sea Cliff, several miles away. A. R. WILLCOX.

BROOKLYN, April 4.

The Dream of a Speculator.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Anyway, I wish I could sell Sam Untermyer short at his valuation and buy him in at mine. UTAH COPPER.

NEW YORK, April 5.

A Contemporary French Historian.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The following translation, but too literal, of a paragraph taken from the Washington correspondent's account of a recent inauguration (*l'Illustration*, March 15) commends itself to the lover of inaccuracy:

"The American suffragettes did not wish to let escape them such a beautiful occasion to set forth their belief in their one idea. They organized a monster parade, of more than 9,000 people, who at first marched themselves in good order; but later, on account of excessive police regulations, some scuffles produced themselves.

"Recourse was had to the intervention of troops of cavalry, summoned from Fort Myer, to break up the procession of suffragettes. The latter resisted. Some wounds and bruises were the result; and, scattered in small groups, the ladies and young ladies fanatically addicted to the ballot gathered again in a meeting where in vehement speeches the police, Congress, and the President himself were all in turn copiously abused." NOT AN ANTI.

NEW YORK, April 4.

The Army and Navy at the Polo Grounds.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Rumors are current that the annual football struggle between the Army and Navy academies may be staged at the Polo Grounds next fall instead of Franklin Field in Philadelphia. What a glorious event it would be if the game was played in New York, the proper place for it, the metropolis of the Union! The annual game besides being an important social occurrence is an event of great interest to all followers of football throughout the United States. Consequently a large number of spectators are attracted and it requires a field of great seating capacity to accommodate those who desire to attend. The Polo Grounds with a seating capacity of 40,000 can conveniently hold the great crowd. As the Army is evidently in favor of the change it only requires the consent of the Navy to play the game in New York.

NEW YORK, April 5. FIRST DOWN.

Mrs. Stetson's List of Books.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In publishing this morning the names of "five or six" of my favorite books you have omitted in your headline the great work "Science and Health, with Key to the Scriptures," by Mary Baker Eddy. This work I regard as invaluable to a spiritual interpretaton of the Bible. Will you kindly correct this omission? AUGUSTA E. STETSON.

NEW YORK, April 5.

THE SUGAR TAX.

Fair, Square, Equitable, a Great Revenue Producer.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* "The Nigger in the Sugar House," the inquisitorial income tax, needs a smoking out. To Americans who think, it is exquisitely ludicrous to read in a political platform that "the Federal Government under the Constitution has no right or power to impose or collect tariff duties except for the purpose of revenue," and then to see that same party wildly, madly endeavoring to throw away an enormous revenue by making sugar free.

Seventeen per cent. of the Government revenue from imports is derived from the duty on sugar. The total collections amount annually to about $56,000,000. The per capita consumption of sugar is 82 pounds. So that the per capita tax for sugar in the United States is 79 cents a year, figuring the duty at 1½ cents a pound. That is what free sugar means to us, provided the 1½ cents a pound duty is actually saved us, 79 cents a year.

Sugar is conceded the world over as the ideal revenue producer; it is both a necessary and a luxury. There is not a man, woman or child in this land that does not consume sugar in some shape or form, whether in necessaries, tea, coffee, drugs, medicines, canned foods, beer, tobacco; or in luxuries, cakes, desserts, pastries, confectionery, wines, liquors, cordials, cocktails, chewing gum, &c. Sugar is consumed in greater quantities by the well to do than the poor. A tax on sugar is therefore the fairest, squarest, most equitable and just tax that can be levied for revenue. Its effects are felt less by the poor, and its burden, if any, is borne by the wealthy consumer.

The $56,000,000 a year derived from a duty on sugar is needed by the Government and cannot be dispensed with. How is this enormous duty collected in so quiet and unmeddlesome a way that it has been the pride of an American to ask, "What farmer, what mechanic, what laborer ever sees a tax gatherer of the United States?" What is the tax proposed by which our solons of the Ways and Means Committee are to recoup the Government for its loss of revenue after putting sugar on the free list? An inquisitorial tax for one of an impersonal nature. A tax that penalizes thrift, puts ambition and industry under a ban; a tax that will lead to evasion, to lying and to meddlesome interference with the rights of the individual, and does not maintain, as Jefferson would have had, "that state of property, equal or unequal, which results to every man from his own industry or that of his fathers."

Will the Senate of the United States rise to the occasion and save $56,000,000 of sugar duty to the Government?

ROBERT E. KELLY.

JERSEY CITY, N. J., April 4.

FAMILY SURPRISES.

Not Old, He Finds It Wonderful to Be a Grandfather.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I don't know whether I am different from other people or not, but I have never yet got used to my children. They are now all well grown and some of them married; and we have all been, always, on the most intimately affectionate terms; and still I don't think that I have ever fully realized that I have a family of my own.

To me the children still seem constantly strange and wonderful and delightful; I say delightful for lack of a better word to describe the joy I find in possessing them. But I have never yet got used to them.

And now I have a grandson. Isn't that wonderful? A grandson. Hm-m. Why, it makes me smile to think of it; and I can't realize it at all. I look at him and see him smile, and then I smile too. I'm a grandfather. Well, well. Just think of that, a grandfather; and I suppose I shall look like one, to my grandson, when he gets a year or two older.

I know that my grandfather looked old to me when I was a child, and I suppose I shall look old to my grandson. But I don't feel old myself at all; and that must account for my constant unfailing wonderment over my children, and now for my new wonderment over my grandson. I am myself still young. G. PERE.

ALBANY, April 4.

The Coming Income Tax.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I assume that no tax can be laid on income from Government bonds because the law exempts those bonds from taxation; nor on income from land, as the land itself is taxed, and double taxation is not only abhorrent but illegal. I assume also that as the perfect equality of all citizens before the law is the very essence of our political being, all incomes, big and little, will be taxed, and at one and the same rate.

Oh, yes, we are all bravely free and equal and we brag about it till it comes to income taxation. Then some of us squeal. And the size of the squeal is in inverse proportion to the size of the income. The little fellow who has been yelling loudest about being the equal of any big bug is now howling for exemption, clamoring to have a tax put on all incomes larger than his own, on a rising rate scale too. "Free and equal!" Pah! We are about as equal as yellow dogs and Bengal tigers. Nothing could mark caste more clearly in this country than the exemption of some persons from income tax. Tax every dollar of everybody's income or tax no part of anybody's! Otherwise the "free and equal" dream will go whiff! like a bubble. It's only a bubble, anyway; a flattering, foolish hallucination. There are, always have been, always will be some abject fools and some wise men of spirit; and, as Carlyle intimates, the former are somewhat in the majority, about 99 to 1.

Politicians know that the class they purpose exempting vastly outnumbers the class to be taxed. Hence the exemption. Politicians would exempt the rich and tax the poor if the rich were numerically the stronger, had more votes. Statesmen would exempt nobody in a land where all are free and equal. But we have no statesmen—that is, in public life. There are a few scattered around the country—in the cemeteries.

Be honest just once, politicians, and call it: A Bill to Rob the Rich to Catch the Votes of the Poor.

I will assume one thing more, just for luck: That the sensitive, high spirited gentlemen who make this law will insist that no part of their own incomes shall be exempt. But I will not give odds.

NO EXEMPTION.

DECATUR, Ill., April 3.

The Grim Humor of Militancy.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Your mention of the name of the late W. S. Gilbert in connection with the climax of the Pankhurst performances causes a feeling of sincere regret that Sir William and Sir Arthur could not have lived to revel in the absurdities of the suffrage "show" now being played right at their doors. Just imagine one of their inimitable patter songs describing the peevish suffragette hurling a book at the head of a magistrate who had "offended" her. And what a character they could fashion, with but few embellishments, out of the Hon. Home Secretary, whose "bravery" has already effaced the courage of the renowned *Koko*. Another delicious bit would be their picture of the "hunger strikers," set free upon their announcement that they intend to starve themselves "to death." JULIAN R. DILLARY.

BOSTON, April 4.

The Rich Young Year.

Spring comes again upon the fragrant hills,
Swift leaping spring, with flowers in his hair,
And all the bright and sweetly laden air
Is filled with breath of smiling daffodils;
Deep in the woods are heard the little rills
Repeating as they sing: "The world is fair."
From old, sad hearts now softly slips vain care;
Green vales are clothed in richness; so Life wills.

The silver moon is hung in deepening skies;
Young hearts seek beauty in each other's eyes;
And out of dancing Pan's rose colored mouth
Clear, rippling music, silvery calling, flies;
Soft, tuneful music, sounding elfin-wise—
"The rich, young year is flowering in the south."

GERTRUDE CAWEIN.

SULZER PLANS STRIDE AHEAD IN CHARITIES

Governor Tells New York City Committee He Stands for Improvement.

WANTS NO MONEY WASTE

He Believes That State Institutions Should Be Made Self-Sustaining.

ALBANY, April 5.—Gov. Sulzer told the special committee of the Conference of Associated Charities of New York city to-day that the administration did not intend to take any backward steps in handling the charities and correction institutions of the State, but instead would take a long stride in advance.

The Governor only opposes larger appropriations than any institution needs in a year. The committee was appointed to protest against discontinuing the State charitable projects and against the reductions recommended by the committee of inquiry on appropriations for charitable institutions.

Those who conferred with the Governor were Henry Morgenthau, Dr. John A. Kingsbury, Abram I. Elkus, Father McMahan and Mrs. John M. Glenn.

Mr. Morgenthau and Edward E. McCall, chairman of the New York city Public Service Commission, accompanied by Mrs. Sulzer, the Governor's wife, inspected to-day the State farm for women being equipped at Valatie, Columbia county. Two cottages already have been built. Mr. Morgenthau was astonished when he saw that the forty-two rooms in them were electrically lighted, had hardwood doors and that materials, customarily used in the construction of expensive homes had been utilized in building these cottages.

The committee agrees with the Governor that it would be best to discontinue work on the Valatie farm until some scheme for putting up cottages more suitable to housing abandoned women is outlined. The committee also agrees that the tramp farm colony in Dutchess county should be abandoned as recommended by the Sulzer committee of inquiry. In fact the committee is harmony with the Governor that all such work should be stopped until the State adopts some definite plan of procedure.

It is the Governor's idea that the architect who drew the plans for the Valatie Colony had no idea of what the houses were to be used for—that he went wild. Persons living in those houses would be better treated than 50 per cent. of the people in the State, he said.

It is estimated that on the basis the work was being done it would cost $3,000 for every person at the institution. The Governor believes that the prisons of the State should not only be made self-sustaining but that sufficient revenue should be obtained to pay the convicts a certain amount of money, which should be sent either to their families, or, if they have none, be put in bank for them until their release. The Governor believes that all institutions of the State should be on a self-sustaining basis, and he is working on some plan whereby this hope may be realized.

The State last year paid more than $750,000 for butter used in some of the State institutions alone. The Governor does not understand why many acres of the State land cannot be utilized for farm purposes by inmates of institutions.

Mr. Sulzer has learned that a large storehouse at Auburn is filled with prison made desks and chairs. He learned this when requisition was made for funds with which to construct another warehouse. He asked what the present one was being used for and was told it was filled with thousands of desks and chairs.

When he asked why the furniture was not sold he was informed that Frederick H. Mills, until lately sales agent for the State prisons, had ordered that it be stored. At the same time the State was purchasing similar furniture for the State departments.

If the Governor has his way the inmates of State institutions will be put to work outdoors as much as possible. Many of them have sent letters to him asking for outdoor work.

The Governor said Mr. Elkus would not accept an appointment as the head of the new State labor department.

INDIAN CHIEFS COMPLAIN.

Three Say Government Has Not Kept Its Promises.

CARLISLE, Pa., April 5.—The experience meeting was the most picturesque incident of the commencement exercises at the Carlisle School this week.

At the meeting were seven Blackfoot chiefs, two Blackfoot women, none of whom could speak a word of English; Representative Charles D. Carter, a Choctaw from Oklahoma; Charles Dixon of Syracuse, N. Y.; Michael Wolf, a student at Hampton Institute, Virginia; the Rev. Louis Bruce, an Onondaga missionary from New York; Robert Hamilton, a ranchman from Oklahoma; Frederick E. Parker of White Plains, N. Y.; Robert Yellowtail, a Crow ranchman; George W. Wallace, president of the Board of Indian Commissioners, and F. H. Abbott, acting Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

While Commissioner Abbott was sitting on the stage, three Blackfoot chiefs criticised the Government for not keeping its promises to the Indian.

Chief John White Calf said:

"We have many dealings with white people, but they no fulfill their promises. We've no faith in them any more. The only promise that has ever been realized is the promise of education and its result is manifest here. That is the only promise the Government ever fulfilled, and it is a mistake.

"You educate the Indian, you send him back, he try to use his education. Land agent he call him grafter. If he spend his money for his own good then he is a spendthrift. Now, what is he to do? We hope under the new administration of government things will turn out better for our race. The last administration has caused us to be in misery. But no, we now consider ourselves Democrats under the new administration. Am very much delighted to see Mr. Abbott here so that he can hear what I have to say."

Medicine Owl, another Blackfoot, declared that the only time he finds civilization to be a benefit is when he sits down to the white man's table.

Representative Carter, who is a Choctaw, asserted that he would fight for a different policy in handling the Indian problem. He urges a policy that will distinguish the full blooded, incompetent Indian from the educated, progressive Indian.