The Sun.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 10, 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
THE EVENING SUN, Per Month	25
THE EVENING SUN, Per Year	2 50

Postage to foreign countries added.

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

Readers of THE SUN leaving town for the summer months can have the morning and Sunday editions delivered to them in any part of this country or Europe on the terms stated above. Addresses changed as often as desired. Order through newsdealer or directly of Publication Office, telephone 2200 Beekman.

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, C. E. Luxton, 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.

Keeping Mexico Out of Politics.

President WILSON does well to take into his confidence the members of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, both Democrats and Republicans. The President is said to have received recently from responsible Republican leadership in the House assurances of support as long as the Mexican question is kept out of politics. This is as it should be. Nothing is so necessary in the present situation as that Mexico shall be kept out of politics and that there shall be intelligent concord between the Executive and the Federal legislature, and likewise between the majority and minority parties, in the attempt to perform in the best possible manner the most difficult of all the duties which the Administration faces.

Public opinion throughout the country with regard to the proper treatment of the Mexican question, while various and intense and more or less chaotic, is unpartisan in the political sense. Democrats as well as Republicans and Progressives as well as Conservatives differ widely in their views of what the situation requires. We print a few letters from among many received to show how far the popular sentiment, at this stage of events, is from unanimity in readiness to accept any particular line of policy which the Administration may propose when the President thinks the proper time has come for a definite public announcement. It is not going to be easy to win the united support of a nation of individuals who regard the Mexican question from so many different angles of theoretical judgment or bias or personal interest. Yet all that can be done toward bringing about an approximation to non-partisan unanimity it is plainly the duty of patriotism to do.

The Congress is not without power, under the Constitution, in the determination of the foreign policies of the United States Government. There are many things that the Executive cannot do without the sanction and aid of Congress. There are some things, not unimportant, which Congress may do with or without Executive approval. It is well to keep this fact in mind in order that both departments of the Government may cooperate in averting partisan strife over a national and international question.

The Problem Presented by Senator Johnston's Death.

The effect upon tariff legislation of the death of Senator JOSEPH FORNEY JOHNSTON of Alabama is giving the majority in Congress some concern, as it raises a doubt whether the Underwood bill can be passed in the Senate until a successor is elected. The Alabama Legislature is quadrennial, and cannot meet for the purpose of providing the machinery to elect Senators at the polls under the new constitutional amendment unless called in special session. Attorney-General McREYNOLDS has given Governor O'NEAL an opinion that it is within his power to summon the Legislature to meet, but the election law needed could not be enacted offhand even after the convening of the Legislature, which would take some time.

There was a promise that the roll would be called in the Senate upon the tariff measure before the end of August, but the Democratic leaders in Congress may have to abandon hope of it with their majority in the Senate reduced to one on account of the defection of the Louisiana members and the necessity of allowing for an election by the people of Alabama of a new Senator. Certainly the loss of Mr. JOHNSTON will make it more difficult to hold the wavering ranks in the Senate, and it is likely to be the policy of the Democrats to mark time until the slender majority on which they counted can be restored. It may be well along in September before the tariff bill is in the hands of the President.

The succession to Mr. JOHNSTON is also a matter for concern. After the legislative machinery has been provided a day must be set for a special election, and the situation at Washington requires a brief interval for an appeal to the people in behalf of candidates. Chairman UNDERWOOD's friends believe that he has earned the right to be considered. Representative HOBSON aspires to the seat, and Representative THOMAS J. HEFLIN has also been mentioned. In view of his long and distinguished service in the House Mr. UNDERWOOD may be regarded as the logical successor to Mr. JOHNSTON, and it cannot be denied that Mr. UNDERWOOD's transfer to the Senate at this time, if he can be spared from his responsible work in the House, would brighten the prospect of the enactment of the tariff bill without material amendment, for Mr. UNDERWOOD's personal influence might be a decisive factor. The Senate would also gain a useful member. But Captain HOBSON has many friends in Alabama, and Mr. HEFLIN is the type of vociferous radical that seems to be the vogue in the South nowadays. Either, or some candidate of similar calibre, might prevail against Mr. UNDERWOOD in such a contest.

It will be unfortunate if the people of Alabama have to fill the vacant seat in the Senate without having sufficient time to appraise the values of candidates and soberly elect a worthy successor to Mr. JOHNSTON.

Governor Sulzer and the Corrupt Practices Act.

In the Sulzer campaign text book, as we said yesterday, appeared this item of legislative achievement at Albany:

"11. Was the author and wrote on the statute books of the State of New York the law known as the Corrupt Practices act."

Nothing more specific has been uttered in Governor SULZER'S defence than the plea of his secretary that the law respecting statements of campaign finances does not require the exhibition by the candidate of contributions received by him; only of his own contributions and the expenditures.

Section 546 of the Corrupt Practices act, the paternity of which has been claimed by Mr. SULZER himself, reads as follows:

"Statement of campaign receipts and payments: The treasurer of every political committee which, or any officer, member or agent of which, in connection with any election receives, expends or disburses any money or its equivalent or incurs any liability to pay money or its equivalent shall, within twenty days after such election, file a statement setting forth all the *receipts*, expenditures, disbursements and liabilities of the committee, and of every other officer, member and other person in its behalf. *In each case it shall include the amount received, the name of the person or committee from whom received, the date of its receipt*, the amount of every expenditure or disbursement exceeding five dollars, the name of the person or committee to whom it was made and the date thereof; and unless such expenditure or disbursement shall have been made to another political committee it shall state clearly the purpose of such expenditure or disbursement. *The statement to be filed by a candidate* or other person not a treasurer *shall be in like form as that hereinbefore provided for*, but in statements filed by a candidate there shall *also* be included all contributions made by him."

It is only necessary to follow the italics that we have put into this section of Mr. SULZER'S Corrupt Practices act to perceive its direct application to his case and the futility of Mr. CHESTER C. PLATT'S pitiable attempt at technical misconstruction.

The Neglected Rich.

A recent interesting address by Sir WILLIAM OSLER demonstrates that he has not lived in the United States in vain. Coming here from Canada, he was for many years an active teacher and practitioner of medicine. In that profession he became famous.

The lay public remembers him chiefly for his statement that "people over sixty are unfit to live," which he uttered as a humorous remark. What Dr. OSLER did say seriously was that no great epoch making discovery has ever been achieved by a man over forty years of age. The absolute correctness of this statement is exemplified by the greatest discoverers and inventors: COLUMBUS; STEPHENSON, the locomotive; WATT, steam; MURDOCK, illuminating gas; MORSE, telegraph; ARKWRIGHT, spinning; HUMPHRY DAVY, oxygen; HARVEY, circulation of the blood; JENNER, vaccination; LISTER, antiseptics, and so on.

Dr. OSLER'S long residence in the United States developed that practical faculty which became of such immense import in the first real organized effort of a higher medical education in Johns Hopkins University. From Johns Hopkins he was translated to Oxford University, where he is endeavoring to implant the good seed. His most recent public utterance is a manifestation of that good common sense which has exceptionally characterized this man of learning.

In a recent address Professor OSLER told the British Hospital Association, with regard to the clinical laboratories and arrangements for pathological study in the English hospitals:

"You are hopelessly behind the times. You have got to reform, to rearrange your deas, because many of you are pigheaded, obstinate and hopelessly ignorant on this question.

"My advice is, 'Give it up.' It is antiquated and it is not going to continue. There is not a general hospital in the United States or Canada which does not take all the money it can get from all classes of patients.

"In England everything is done for the poor, who are rich in hospital care and treatment. You do nothing whatever for the poor rich, who are the most neglected people in the country.

"If JOHN HODGE has acute appendicitis he is taken into a beautiful hospital and operated on in a splendid operating room with all modern advantages.

"What happens to Lady CLARA VERE DE VERE? She is taken into a stuffy house transformed into a nursing home, and operated on in a back room transformed into an operating room. No wonder she hates doctors, nurses and the medical profession."

We await with bated breath the comments of the self-sufficient English doctor upon this bold attack on established custom.

That there is much truth in this view there is no doubt. And it is quite as applicable to the American doctor who wears himself out in the hospital service without compensation in the hope of earning a reputation that may later bring coveted results. If the laborer is worthy of his hire the hospital attendant should receive adequate compensation, and as was shown in THE SUN last May, selection of hospital visiting physicians should be by civil service promotion.

Senor de la Barra's Warning.

The declaration that in the event of intervention by the United States the people of Mexico would sink their differences, settle their quarrels for the time being, and present a common front to the invader may have no value in the columns of the Mexican newspaper or in the mouth of a politician or insurgent leader; but it is impressive when it comes from FRANCISCO DE LA BARRA, who is now in this city. The American people do not need to be introduced to Señor DE LA BARRA. They know him as an accomplished diplomatist, as a learned lawyer, as a conservative among Mexican public men, and particularly as provisional President after PORFIRIO DIAZ relinquished the Presidency and went into exile, to be succeeded by FRANCISCO MADERO, duly elected under the Constitution. On his way to Paris to assume the duties of Ambassador to France Señor DE LA BARRA asks the American people to accept his word for it that intervention is not to be entered upon lightly. To quote him:

"I am speaking as a man who entertains only the loftiest sentiments for the American people. Remember that. Yet I am certainly giving you the exact truth when I tell you that any form of intervention whatsoever could mean but one thing, and that is that, instead of improving conditions and affording security to Americans and American property, it would produce just the contrary effect. Intervention would mean that all political differences in Mexico would be forgotten, that all political parties would unite, that every man, no matter whether for or against the present Government, would come to the defence of the fatherland the very moment that intervention became a fact."

Coming from such a responsible source these are words to be pondered by thoughtful men. If intervention is considered necessary then we must be prepared to pay the price in treasure and lives and in the burden of a racial and government problem more complicated and perplexing than any the American people have yet assumed.

The High Finance of M. Deperdussin.

There is something startling and romantic about peculation when it assumes the dimensions given to it by M. ARMAND DEPERDUSSIN. Deploring the sin, it is hard to withhold a grudging admiration for the sinner. Americans are supposed to know something about high finance, but to extravagant daring France has forgotten more than this country ever knew.

The remarkable thing is the apparent ease with which a swindler manages to conduct his operations, provided they are on a sufficiently large scale. The pilfering clerk who robs the till courts almost certain detection, but a HUMBERT or a DEPERDUSSIN is able to enjoy a long immunity. Human nature must be a great deal more trusting than is commonly supposed. How else could Mme. HUMBERT dazzle society and obtain huge loans of money on the strength of an empty box; or how else could M. DEPERDUSSIN cajole hard headed bankers into advancing him $6,000,000 on the strength of fabulous yards of silk which he never bought and never sold? The success of the game is in its very audacity. When a man or a woman is seen cutting a figure in society, spending money lavishly, entertaining and being entertained by the "best people," the last thing that occurs to us is that the dazzling, perhaps envied figure is a distinguished member of the criminal profession.

The weakness in the case of these monster swindlers, and about the only protection that society has against them, is their likely lack of prevision for the future. The time had to come when Mme. HUMBERT'S famous box would be opened, and it was obvious that M. DEPERDUSSIN could not forever contnue his simple expedient of making a new and heavier loan to meet the one that had preceded it. Apparently M. DEPERDUSSIN, although his aeroplane business was flourishing enough and produced a revenue that would satisfy most men, had not one chance in a million of ever paying off the huge loans that he had contracted on the strength of forged orders for silk, but he appears to have gone on hoping vaguely, like Mr. MICAWBER, that something would turn up, and exhibiting in his financial operations the same quality of reckless daring that made him a successful aviator.

The moral of his meteoric career seems to be that the path of illegitimate wealth is an easy descent, but Avernus is yawning at the bottom.

I have always felt that Colonel ROOSEVELT manifested a somewhat too caustic animosity toward me.—*Representative* GARDNER.

If the Hon. AUGUSTUS PEABODY GARDNER has no other claim to peculiar distinction he will not be noticed by posterity except as a figure in a large group picture.

According to a despatch from Columbus the Supreme Court of Ohio has been asked to determine whether it is lawful for the reporter of that body to draw two salaries, one as court reporter at $4,000 a year and one as secretary of the Ohio Archæological Society at $1,000 a year. State Auditor DONAHEY does not believe in two salaries and intends to hold up the pay of public servants who try to secure them.

At this writing we do not know what Mr. DONAHEY's ambitions are in this life, but if he is a Democrat and the palpable unorthodoxy of his opinions happens to come to the notice of the great Commoner himself he may rue the day that he expressed his views on two salaries. Why, even the Judges of some of the courts get paid for lecturing at the Ohio State University. And now that the final seal of Chautauqua, our modern fount of Byzantine etiquette, has set its approval on two salaries or six salaries, as the urgent need may be, of what necessity is an affirmation by some obscure Supreme Court?

But let Mr. DONAHEY look to his neck. Instead of getting up test cases on double or triple salaries he had best read up on lese majesty.

Right thinking Boston people want to see that Boston gets her fair share of facilities furnished by the State, but they are not disposed to ask for anything more than a fair share.—*Boston Advertiser.*

It has been her civic unselfishness that has made Boston the glass of virtue in this age. To be self-sacrificing and admit it publicly is to be consciously upright. "Right thinking Boston people" never get their fair share of outside appreciation.

Texas is getting restless concerning President WILSON'S Mexican policy.—*St. Louis Globe-Democrat.*

Does this mean that you are near enough to hear rumblings in Waco HENRY'S volcano? If so, we advise the Mexicans to flee from the approaching flood of verbal lava. It will, like Bosco, eat them alive.

Senator LA FOLLETTE says that the manufacturers have generally neglected to answer the set of questions mailed by the Senate Finance Committee, and he therefore concludes that they are confident of not being hurt by the tariff.—*Chicago Inter Ocean.*

Whatever Senator LA FOLLETTE concludes is invariably correct. However, had he gone with the set of questions in person he might have seen a little sign on every manufacturer's desk. It says: "This is our busy day."

BRIDGE MUSIC.

Is a Hay Wagon or Automobile Playing the Planks?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* We all have our fancies. I know a young woman who loves to hear the sounds that come from a bridge over a little river near where we live.

This bridge has a plank flooring and many of the planks are loose, so that they rattle and rumble and jump when horses and vehicles pass over them, and though it is out of sight you can tell what is passing over it by the tune the bridge plays.

Slow, deliberate rumbling but a good deal of it means loaded hay wagon and pair of horses. Sharp, staccato, quick notes, and not many of them, rider galloping across the bridge. Complete sweep of all the planks on the bridge, in one sudden swoop, like sweeping the notes of a piano, only a good deal faster, automobile passing over at fifty or sixty miles an hour.

Everything that passes over the bridge plays a tune. Bridge music, this young woman calls it. SOUNDING BOARD.

PEEKSKILL, August 7.

The Taxicab Question.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* After two months of planning and hard work on the part of the chief of the License Bureau and his assistants, particularly those attached to the taxicab division, to get everything ready for the enforcement of the new public hack ordinance, the largest taxicab companies in the city and many of the city's largest hotels have obtained a temporary injunction against the city, preventing the License Bureau from enforcing the provisions of the new ordinance against the companies and hotels protected by the injunction, on the ground that the new rates are confiscatory.

The public and the city authorities were hopeful that the new ordinance would solve the difficult hack problem in New York, as all phases of the situation had been carefully studied by the Mayor's committee which drafted the new ordinance, and every point was covered in the ordinance; but the action of the taxicab companies and the hotels has tied the city authorities' hands for the time being and probably for good, if, eventually, the courts decide that the new ordinance is unconstitutional.

The taxicab companies declare that they cannot make money under the new rates unless they are permitted to do the work of the hotels without the competition of the public hacks. This assertion seems ridiculous in view of the fact that the taxi companies prior to the enforcement of the new ordinance were paying almost $500,000 to the hotels for the privilege of having exclusive standing rights outside the hotels. Under the new ordinance the taxi companies can assist in doing the work of the hotels without paying one cent, and it seems they ought to be able to make money under the new rates, especially when not saddled with the heavy rentals. D. A. W.

NEW YORK, August 9.

War Game News.

From THE SUN *of yesterday.*

War Game at End: Forts Are Victors—Black Fleet Fails to Run by Defences at Eastern End of Sound.

From the New York Herald.

Black Fleet Runs Gauntlet of New York Defences in Terrible Bombardment—Fortifications Are Declared Weak—Battleships and Destroyers Convoy Troops in Dash Past Forts.

From the New York Times.

New York Saved From Black Fleet—War Game Ends Ahead of Time With Destruction of Battleships by the Forts.

From the New York Press.

War Game Shows City Pregnable—Army and Navy Officers Agree Enemy Can Pass Defences—Black Fleet Slips by Forts.

From the New York Tribune.

Fleet's Attack Fails—Warships Sent to Theoretical Davy Jones's Locker—Result Comes Quickly.

From the New York Journal.

Invading Fleet Shows Sound's Defences Weak—Forts at Entrance Must Be Strengthened to Protect New York, Experts Say.

The Cynosure.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* It is edifying to read in THE SUN this morning that the appearance of the Secretary of State in the role of a lecturer at Stroudsburg, Pa., is expected to draw a larger crowd than any circus day in the last twenty-five years.

How satisfying it must be to be so popular. E. T. W.

NEW YORK, August 9.

The Forces of Confusion.

Led to the wilderness,
Dolefu me and numberless,
Meek to the mandates of Fusion? Maybe
Victims of politics,
Swapped in the market place,
Must we abide by the ticket we see?
Wild is our wail and loud;
For in the "downy" crowd
Shove proved preeminent—shove, and not worth.
Why have they done this thing?
Where are we journeying?
Are all Utopian schemes doomed from their birth?

O'er the reformer green,
O'er politician keen,
O'er yellow screamers that herald the day.
Over the public's din,
Over the Tiger's grin
Fusional cherub, keep dinging away!
Then when election comes
Low we shall see new brooms;
Such will the welcome of Tammany be—
Emblem of headiness
Cannot you still transplace!
Must we be led to the desert by thee?

GEORGE B. MORNWOOD.

HONOR.

Consider the Sense and Uses of a Short but Noble Word.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* You could suggest to your readers no more interesting or profitable intellectual exercise at this time than a consideration, with the assistance of the lexicographers, of the significance and application of the word "honor." To citizens of the Empire State it should appeal with peculiar force of distasteful, perhaps, but ultimately tonic suggestion.

The noun has subjective and objective senses. The active, first person concept of honor comprises those qualities of character, as dignity, courage, fidelity, that rightfully attract esteem, respect. Passive, third person honor is the token of those sentiments, esteem and respect, educed by the manifestation of the component qualities of dignity, courage, fidelity: honor.

The dual signification of the word is commonly indicated by a literal expedient of linguistic convenience: honor distinct from honors. If a man has honor, his fellows honor him, give him honors, acts of consideration expressive of esteem and the reward of recognition.

In both connotations there is implication of the "nice sense of what is right, just and true."

The lexicographers make honor the masculine equivalent of feminine chastity: the symbol of purity. A man's integrity, trustworthiness, measure his fitness in the social scheme. Honor is the basis of intercourse that safeguards social relations. There is (a sort of) honor even "among thieves." The absence of honor is treachery to society.

The idea of honor has evolved in terms of a genuine aristocracy that does credit to foolish human nature. The pride of place is a legitimate part of it in one aspect of its dual constitution, as ungrudging recognition of merit is in the other. Faithworthiness is the prime requisition in the man to whom leadership, military or civic, is given; justifying the faith of those who follow and who trust.

The intricate lines of influence between him who is honored and those who pay honor are of unparalleled power in beneficence and of the most malign effectiveness in maleficence. Close as wedlock are the bonds in honor of an administrative ruler and his people. Violation of the trust is as marital adultery multiplied by the number of those to whom the ruler sustains intimate civic relations; every voter, every citizen, every denizen of the State.

These speculations are inspired by no lofty passion for moralizing. They are based on "business." False in one thing does not mean necessarily false in all, but it does mean always open to suspicion. Suspicion is the antithesis of confidence. Confidence is the basis of civic relations, without it the social structure is a wall of stones laid without mortar. It is unsafe.

Morality is convention. Convention is but a social safeguard. It is the instinct of the herd, self-preservation, the first law of nature. He who uses it hypocritically is the foe of society. He is to be discarded, cast out, not as the plotter of murder, the planner of arson, the personal sinner; but as a poisonous weed to be rooted up, without hate, but with colorless though unqualified determination.

No man enters the Gubernatorial chair save on the assumption of his possession of honor as the foundation for honors. T.

NEW YORK, August 9.

Creeping Up on Crossings.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Excellent as the street traffic arrangements have now come to be, there is in one respect still room for great improvement: teams halted at a crossing while traffic is passing in the other direction should be compelled to keep completely off the crossing, back where they belong.

At many of the more important crossings this is now done, but at a great many crossings it is not done; drivers creep up on these crossings a foot or two or more, often half way or more over the crossing, compelling the pedestrian to make his way around, whereas every outfit of whatever nature held up at a crossing ought to halt at a point that would leave the crossing wholly and completely clear. At such times people afoot are entitled to the free and safe use of the crossing in its entirety.

I suppose it is only natural that drivers should creep up on crossings as they do, to save time and space when they get the signal that the crossing is free to them, but it would be a fine thing for everybody, the drivers included, if they could all, everywhere, be kept back at crossings to where they belong, to the building line.

NEW YORK, August 9. PEDESTRIAN.

A Voyage in New York Bay.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Years ago I used to live on Staten Island and enjoyed my stay exceedingly, so the other Sunday I thought I would renew my acquaintance by visiting some friends who were taking their pleasure sadly by camping out. The return voyage to New York at night was amusing. Love's young dream was in full sway. There was no concealment about it. The little god was here, there and everywhere in charming simplicity. When we reached the New York landing, however, things took on a tragic attitude. Every one of course wanted to be the first to get off, and away went the camp stools all over the place. The consequence was that one went stumbling about over them, and some day there will be a serious accident. Owing to the awful crush it is impossible to stop, so one has to take a chance of stepping safely over some hundreds of these stools.

How to remedy this I can't think, but it is certainly dangerous, and the practice won't be stopped until an accident occurs. ROVER.

BAY RIDGE, August 9.

What Next?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The cartoon on ex-Governor Lind's mission to Mexico entitled "What Next?" reminds me of an incident in the career of Clint Snowden when managing editor of the Chicago *Times*, years ago.

He had been annoyed for some time by two inexperienced young Englishmen seeking an assignment on his reportorial staff. One night, when all his regular men were absent on duty word came that the State Insane Asylum, fifty miles away, was on fire; as only the Englishmen were available he hired a special engine and sent them post haste to the fire.

On their arrival they wired him: "We have arrived; what shall we do?" "Hunt the hottest place in the fire and jump in, damn you," was his reply. W. D. T.

PHILADELPHIA, August 9.

He Is Made a Life Member.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I desire to propose a candidate for admission to THE SUN'S "Cognomenograph." Edward Snowball of Cannon township was arrested near Grand Rapids one of the hottest August days, charged with firing a shotgun at his wife. In the first place what right has a snowball in August anyway? Even admitting the right of existence, why should a man living in Cannon township employ a modest and unassuming shotgun in arguing with his wife? HOWARD H. FITZGERALD.

MACATAWA PARK, Mich., August 6.

Till Frost.

Mrs. Knicker—Is she a grass widow?
Mrs. Bocker—No, a hay fever one.

The Unspoiled Picture.

Behold the moving picture shows,
The pantomimic plays;
Their fascination on me grows.
With joy I sit and gaze.

I like them—Oh! so much—because
When dead an actor falls
He can't revive amid applause
And take six curtain calls.

HARRY HAMILTON.

THE MEXICAN PROBLEM.

Some Correspondents Who Do Not Approve President Wilson's Policy.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Probably no other American understands conditions in Mexico so well as ex-Ambassador Wilson. President Taft, whose worst enemies have not denied him the gift of sound common sense, commended Mr. Wilson's course warmly. If there be anything at this juncture which Americans want to know and need to know it is the true state of affairs in Mexico. In view of this the Senate Foreign Relations Committee very naturally invited Mr. Wilson to appear before it and give information which it was impossible for the committee to acquire without his aid. Mr. Wilson made such a favorable impression upon the members of the committee that the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House invited him to appear before it. No sensible man desires a war with Mexico, but every intelligent man remembers that within the last seventy-five years we have invaded both Mexico and Cuba and that it is quite conceivable we shall do the same thing again. Everywhere in the United States men's ideas are in a state of confusion as regards the true condition of Mexican affairs.

A man who has said publicly as the President has done, "A first necessity is to open the doors and let in the light on all affairs which the people have a right to know about," would naturally be expected to welcome an opportunity for the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House to learn at first hand what it had a right to know. It committed them to nothing. Whatever schemes the Ambassador might advocate, the committee was not bound to accept them. The President intervened to prevent the appearance of Ambassador Wilson, and the Democrats proved as subservient to the President's orders as usual, called off the proposed meeting, and telegraphed Mr. Wilson, after it had been reported in the daily papers that he was invited to appear before the committee, that it was "neither desirable nor necessary" that he should come.

The people have elevated Woodrow Wilson to the highest office in their gift. Ninety millions of them are affected by his decisions. To-day he declares that not even the Foreign Relations Committee of the House of Representatives shall be allowed to hear a report it had called for, because he does not agree with the man whom his predecessor sent as Ambassador to Mexico and whose conduct in a perilous crisis was commended.

NEW YORK, August 8. FRANCIS.

The Embargo on Munitions of War Should Be Maintained.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* It is fairly evident, even from the meagre official information given out at Washington, that a serious situation has developed in Mexico, and our Government will have to deal with it. The Washington Administration may be put in a very embarrassing position by not acquainting Congress before it is too late with the actual condition of affairs in Mexico. It would seem that the responsibility for our attitude toward the Mexicans rests at present upon too few persons who are informed as to the facts.

From what information can be gleaned from the daily press, it is the Wilson-Bryan idea that in the event of ex-Governor Lind's failure in the present mission to the southern republic we should raise the embargo on the transportation from this country of munitions of war to the rebels as well as to the Federals and allow both factions to fight it out.

All must hope that the Administration will not put this plan into execution. There is a serious possibility of our being compelled to exercise armed intervention in Mexican affairs, and in such an emergency all the contending factions would unite against us in a common cause. F. J. M.

NEW YORK, August 8.

The Recognition of Huerta Urged.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* This morning I received a letter from a friend of mine, a prominent American, who has resided in Mexico for over thirty years and was a personal friend of its late ruler, Porfirio Diaz. He writes: "It is difficult to say what may be the outcome between the United States and the Mexican Government. Naturally all of us who live here are desirous of its recognition by the United States, for we do not believe that there is any other man except Huerta who can handle this situation; his Government is fully as legitimate as that of any of his predecessors. He seems to have the situation well in hand." ALFRED MULLER.

NEW YORK, August 8.

Intervention Declared to Be the Only Solution.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Americans who are conversant with the true conditions in Mexico have been wondering how long it would be before the orgy of murder, arson and rape which under the euphemism of "civil war" has been raging in that country would have its nemesis in the form of summary action by outraged humanity. For a long time our Government officials and press alike have justified a policy of inaction on the ground that it was no affair of ours to interfere with the private quarrels of an independent power.

Only now are the people of this country beginning to awaken to a realization of something that Americans across the border have known from the start, namely, that these "private quarrels" are not part of a bona fide revolution backed by principles of statecraft, but are rather, with a single possible exception, local uprisings for plunder and rapine, led by unscrupulous and wholly irresponsible chiefs and kept going by a half breed population which prefers to prey rather than to work.

Our conservative press and Administration officials have reiterated the soothing opinion that stories of outrages in Mexico were "generally greatly exaggerated," but we are now at least coming to learn that quite the opposite is the fact; that Zapata, "the Tiger," has a playful way of crucifying victims against whom he holds a grudge; that Urbino, when he captured Durango, gave his soldiery free license to loot and rape for twenty-four hours unrestrained, that was their "pay," and furthermore that he actually offered the fact of having made this promise to his men as an excuse to our consul for not protecting foreigners.

Instances of atrocities committed upon foreigners, principally American, could be gathered without number. A typical case is that of an American station agent who was bound and made to witness the outraging of his wife and daughter and their subsequent murder by a band of "revolutionists." The man was then unspeakably mutilated and set free.

We of Anglo-Saxon temperament can with difficulty realize the orgy of hell which a few million Spanish-Indian half breeds have created to the south of us, but it is high time that deliberate self-deception was stopped and the ugly facts looked squarely in the face. If we are too busy at home in the pursuit of individual ends to fulfil our obligation to humanity, then by all means let us say so to the world and not prevent other Powers from doing what we shrink from undertaking ourselves.

But first of all let us have an end of this smug talk of "revolution" in describing the most hideous banditry of modern times. OBSERVER.

GREENWICH, Conn., August 8.

The "Missis" and the Misses.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* It seems to be the custom to call a married woman "missis." My $12 dictionary does not note any such colloquialism' but gives Mrs. as standing for mistress. Are we all wrong when we say "Missis Jones, mother of the Misses Jones?" CONSTANT READER.

DANBURY, Conn., August 8.

Nowadays.

"Has Mrs. Soandso any children?"

"Children, my dear? Why, how archaic! What are children?" L. T. H.

PLAN RAILWAY FROM PANAMA TO ALASKA

Negotiations Now in Progress Between Dominion of Canada and United States.

DIRECT LINE TO CANAL

Project of Great Importance in Development of Pacific Coast Commerce.

Special Correspondence to THE SUN.

VICTORIA, B. C., Aug. 1.—Negotiations which have been for some time in progress and which concern the Governments of British Columbia, the Dominion of Canada and the United States of America, and less directly the Imperial Government of Great Britain, have so far progressed during the last few months that public men feel justified in predicting that half a decade hence will witness the completion of direct all rail communication betwen the Isthmus of Panama and the Canal and the distant Territory of Alaska. This great north and south arterial highway on the Pacific coast will be the longest continuous railway on the American continent and is destined to become a factor of incalculable importance not only in the expansion of international Pacific coast commerce but also of continental defence.

The Panama-British Columbia-Alaska through line has for some time past occupied a prominent place in the policy of provincial developments now being carried into full effect by the Prime Minister of British Columbia, Sir Richard McBride, and may indeed be looked upon as the climacteric feature of that policy. It is to Sir Richard's credit also that his Government has taken the initial steps toward transforming this extra important transportation project into an actuality, since the Pacific Great Eastern Railway, now being rapidly constructed from Vancouver City northerly and easterly to Fort George, the hub of the Cariboo district, must necessarily constitute an important section of the new transcontinental and international trunk line.

Sir Richard Enthusiastic.

In addressing the Progress Club at Vancouver a few days ago Sir Richard intimated that he regarded the bringing into existence of a railway connecting Alaska with the United States and the great Canal via British Columbia as the principal ambition of his career as a public man. Following up this statement, Sir Richard in an interview since accorded your correspondent dwelt again with special enthusiasm upon the plans which are taking form for the creation of this railway and gave much interesting information concerning them.

"I have been working for some time on this railway project," said Sir Richard, "and it is only within the past two years, since the Provincial Government undertook to build the Pacific Great Eastern Railway, that such a north and south line through British Columbia has made the entire scheme altogether feasible. As the situation stands at present the Pacific Great Eastern will extend from Vancouver northerly for 700 miles, and our proposal is to secure the further extension of this line through the Yukon to the Alaskan boundary, there making contact with the United States Federal railway system, toward the construction of which no less than $40,000,000 already has been appropriated.

"I would point out that until Alaska gets direct rail connection with the south it will and must continue an isolated zone and unable to secure the best advantages for its legitimate development. Needless to say, while the expenditure of the moneys lately provided by the American Congress will greatly assist local development in Alaska through railway media, without connection to the south such development can only continue within a very circumscribed zone.

"To build from the Peace River in Alaska will call for an investment of from forty to sixty millions. My plan is to have the Ottawa and Washington Governments guarantee company bonds sufficient to carry out the work and enter into an agreement with the Pacific Great Eastern Railway Company for the construction and operation of the line.

"The road can be projected through a country of splendid potentialities, a country thoroughly adapted for successful mineral, timbering and agricultural development, apart altogether from its great scenic, tourist attracting and sport values, and altogether this line can be built and in operation within four years from to-day. As next year marks the completion of the centenary of peace, it would, in my opinion, be a decidedly worthy achievement for both interested countries to consider this project as fully equal in commercial and historic value and significance with the opening of the Panama Canal.

"Apart from the highly important commercial values of such a north and south international Pacific coast railway, the strategic utility of such a line would be unquestionable.

"The relations between Canada and the United States of America at the present time are thoroughly harmonious and singularly cordial. War in the future appears an impossibility. Perhaps never before have we come to such perfect understanding of one another's work and ambitions. And hence a way should easily be prepared for the completion of a treaty between the two countries which would allow Americans generous privileges through British Columbia, in relation to which the transportation of troops in time of necessity should be an easy item to adjust.

Rich Areas Undeveloped.

"Because of their distance from the settled centres of civilization to the south the potentially rich areas of northern British Columbia and Alaska have heretofore been greatly handicapped in their development. Indeed, only recently have the surpassing riches of these territories secured general recognition and to-day holds great expansion in store for these sections of the neighbor countries.

"It is impossible to bring about the complete and desirable development of these isolated northern areas without railways, and a project of so great international advantage and importance should be easy of consummation if a treaty be devised providing for the building of the road and its operation with full protection of American interests. When it is considered that the province of British Columbia alone proposes to answer for the building of the first seven hundred miles of section this should be sufficient warrant for the larger authorities undertaking the completion of the plan.

"The Pacific Great Eastern Railway is now building from the city of Vancouver, where to-day two American systems are operating and giving full and satisfactory contact with all the transcontinental lines to the south. Upward of four thousand men are actively engaged on the construction of this road. The president of the company, J. W. Stewart, is well known throughout railway circles on both sides of the line. The contractor for the work, P. Welch, has undertaken and carried to successful completion several notably large railway projects, his firm having, indeed, the greatest mileage to its credit of any in America.

"The vice-president of the company and its general counsel, D'Arcy Tate, K. C., was for years associated with the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway as its general solicitor. He has had long experience with western development and is now concentrating all his time and talents, of admittedly very high order, to the consummation of this project."