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A Spectacle!

According to a despatch to the New York *Times* the Hon. WILLIAM J. BRYAN, Secretary of State of the United States of America, responded yesterday to an inquiry from the *Excelsior*, a Paris newspaper:

"It is true that my lectures are interspersed between various 'turns,' but these are necessary to hold audiences during morning, afternoon and evening sessions. I speak on educational subjects only. It is for this object that I give the lectures, *not for a lucrative end.*"

The italics here are ours, not Mr. BRYAN'S.

Four weeks ago in his own newspaper, the *Commoner*, the Secretary of State of the United States of America made another and an altogether different explanation of his appearance on the Chautauqua circuit. He said not one word then about an educational purpose. He signed his name, as in the despatch now setting forth the nonlucrative theory, to the statement that the purpose of his lecturing was pecuniary profit—to enable him to supplement an inadequate official income.

In order that there may be no doubt of this we quote several passages from Mr. BRYAN'S signed statement in the *Commoner* for August, 1913, entitled "Making a Living":

"When I announced that I found it necessary to supplement my official income and that I would turn to the lecture platform as the most natural as well as an entirely legitimate means of earning what additional income I needed, the question was at once asked, 'Why is Mr. BRYAN unable to live upon a salary of $12,000 a year?'

"It ought to have occurred to any one who was tempted to ask the question that the question is not whether a Cabinet officer could live on $12,000 a year IF HE HAD NOTHING TO CONSIDER EXCEPT THE EXPENSES ATTENDANT UPON LIVING IN WASHINGTON, but whether he could ADD THE EXPENSES OF OFFICIAL LIFE TO HIS OTHER EXPENSES AND MEET THEM ALL OUT OF HIS SALARY.

"My income for nearly twenty years has been derived almost wholly from lectures and writing—the larger part from lectures—and since both writing and lecturing are honorable professions there is no more reason why I should not augment my income from them than that other officials should refrain from adding to their official incomes the returns from business or investment."

The yellowish capitals in the foregoing extract from Mr. BRYAN'S admission of a lucrative or mercenary purpose are his, not ours.

Here then we are met by two conflicting and utterly irreconcilable statements signed by the Secretary of State of the United States of America concerning his purpose in making a show, under circus tent canvas, not only of his own more or less pulchritudinous person but also of the dignity of the exalted office which he holds by President WILSON'S appointment.

The signed statement to the foreign newspaper is that Mr. BRYAN lectures to educate the people, "not for a lucrative end."

The signed statement in his own newspaper here at home is that he does lecture for a lucrative end, in order to augment his income.

Which statement is true and which is false? "You pays your money and you takes your choice."

"You pays your money and you takes your choice," just as they pay their money and take their choice who enter the travelling tent in transit to-day between Crisfield, Maryland, and Phœnixville, Pennsylvania, on the great middle Eastern stellar attraction circuit through parts of Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, West Virginia and Virginia. Mr. BRYAN'S patrons pay their money at the canvas flap and take their choice between Signor ROSANI the juggler and the Alpine yodlers and the Secretary of State of the United States of America, staged to deliver "one of his famous lectures" on "The Signs of the Times" and on "The Making of a Man"—but not yet, alas! on the infinitely more entertaining and popular subject of "The Making of a Dollar."

An official statement from the manager of the Florentine Concert Band, the National Operatic Company, the mysterious magicians, the juggler who balances bottles on the end of his nose, the impersonators, the Swiss warblers, the Secretary of State of the United States of America and the other stellar attractions combining their "appeal" from behind the main flap of the circus tent disclosed yesterday the character of Mr. BRYAN'S contract. He "signed," as they say on the Rialto, for "50 per cent. of the gate receipts on the days he lectures. The first $250 taken in goes to him, the next $250 goes to the association. All above that amount is evenly divided between the two. If Mr. BRYAN should fail to draw the association would not lose any money. He is the only man on the platform who makes such a contract, the only man who dares to do it, because he is the only man who draws his own fee at the gate. He makes no charge for the people who come on season tickets."

Pardon those technical and professional details. They exhibit the superiority of the Secretary of State of the United States to the magicians and jugglers, or even to the Alpine yodlers, as a stellar attraction worth paying a dollar to see and hear.

Recently President WILSON'S Secretary of State advertised that his presence in the Cabinet gave him an unrivalled opportunity to secure for his newspaper early and accurate inside information respecting both international and domestic questions of great public interest, and accordingly invited for the *Commoner* "a continuation of the support which has been so generously accorded it," at one dollar a year, or seventy-five cents in clubs of five or more. At that time it seemed to THE SUN that the man could do nothing to drag the dignity of the Administration and of the Federal Government further down toward the bottommost depths of degradation in the view of the country and of the world. We admit that we were at that time mistaken.

Mr. Underwood of Alabama.

We agree entirely with those friends of the Hon. OSCAR W. UNDERWOOD and of sane Democratic policy who believe that his translation to the Senate would be a great loss to the House of Representatives. For years neither party in the majority in the House has had an abler, more level headed leader.

It is one of the penalties of Mr. UNDERWOOD'S fine qualities that he cannot quit any field of public usefulness without inflicting a distinct loss in that particular quarter.

On the other hand, in our opinion, the Democratic party and the general interests of the country would gain quite as much and probably even more in the Senate than would be lost at the House end of the Capitol.

Never was there more apparent and more grievous need in the Senate of a Democratic statesman and leader of Mr. UNDERWOOD'S intellect and temperament and experience.

The whole country has an interest in the elevation of the Senate to something like its old distinction. What other Democrat in sight has the combination of qualities, the knowledge, experience, tact, the firmness that knows how to yield at a pinch without loss of dignity, the force of mind and the power and charm of character which are Mr. UNDERWOOD'S?

The Special Election in Maine.

As the Wilson Administration, to enhance its prestige, planned the capture of the Third Maine district and drafted Secretaries BRYAN and REDFIELD and Speaker CLARK to make assurance doubly sure, the election of the Hon. JOHN A. PETERS, the regular Republican candidate, will be regarded by the country, whether logically or not, as a Democratic reverse.

Mr. WILSON carried Maine last November by a plurality of 2,620, and the Third Congress district by 1,067; so that the promise of a Democratic victory in the special election in that district was more than fair; in fact, so confident of triumph were the President and his advisers that the result must be disconcerting. There must also be mortification in it, because an additional vote in the House was not needed and the tariff law was as good as enacted. The Administration sought an unnecessary fight and has been worsted.

Mr. BRYAN had an audience of 10,000 at Waterville last Friday, and he said ten ardent words for President WILSON to one complimentary word for Mr. PATTANGALL, the Democratic candidate. It is true that Mr. PATTANGALL could speak for himself, and in his campaign he constantly glorified the Administration, on the assumption that President WILSON was admired in Maine. Such, indeed, was the opinion of Representative GARDNER of Massachusetts, who after stumping the Third district for the Republicans admitted reluctantly that the President was popular there and said, "PATTANGALL will win handily." The brilliant Mayor of Waterville fell short of success by some 500 votes, although the President had made the special election a personal matter, as it were, and lent him all the influence at the command of the Administration, present and prospective. On their part the Republicans of both factions sent able speakers into the fray, and 36,146 votes were polled, as compared with 34,696 in the Presidential election and 33,743 in the contest for Congress last September.

Apparently the Wilson policies do not take in the Third Maine district. Obviously the Underwood tariff law will not be in favor there, for the sum of the Republican and Progressive votes is about 5,000 greater than the Democratic total. Mr. JOHN A. PETERS made his campaign almost wholly on the tariff, and Mr. EDWARD M. LAWRENCE, the Progressive candidate, wanted 150 per cent. protection on the sardines he cans at Lubec. Analyzing the vote on Monday, it may be assumed that about 7,000 Republican voters who supported Colonel ROOSEVELT in November cast their ballots for Mr. PETERS; and that there was Democratic defection from Mr. PATTANGALL, apparently enough to defeat him, for he received 14,553 votes, as compared with 16,512 polled last September by Representative S. W. GOULD, whom he defeated in the primaries recently. Mr. GOULD may have received some Republican votes, but Mr. PATTANGALL is too stout a partisan to expect such assistance.

The Third Maine will be well represented in Congress, for Mr. PETERS as Speaker of the House of Representatives at Augusta has already made his mark.

Coaticook and Echtcanadienthum.

In spite of the urbane apology made in behalf of the Dominion by Magistrate MULVENA to Mr. JEROME and the equally urbane remarks of that detected but unrepentant gambler, we think that Coaticook and other focuses of Canadian virtue, and what may be called echtcanadienthum, have had hard measure.

Coaticookism is perfectly intelligible and not without its excuses. Coaticook feels a thrill of proud satisfaction in believing a notorious paranoiac pervert to be a vindicator and martyr of domestic purity. Yellow newspapers, divers yellow clergymen, multitudes of fly gobblers in the United States so believed when his crime was fresher. Doubtless a goodly number of Americans so believe to-day.

Coaticook, at least in the simpler elements of its population, represents the unconscious but unchanged original aversion to law, its processes and its officers. Partly that and partly sympathy with a fugitive, hunted man and underdog. How many of us, hearing the cry of "Stop thief!" don't hope that the rascal will escape, always provided, of course, he hasn't "swiped" our "turnip"? In the old sense any lawbreaker is "with the people." On the stage don't we applaud the rescue of a prisoner and delight in the discomfiture of constables? Only the triumphant ratiocinations of romantic detectives (the usual actual detective being an idiot) can induce a feeling of acquiescence or satisfaction in the punishment of the prisoner.

Then the saint of Matteawan is "rich" and "prominent," is suprapreterprominent, in fact. Shall Coaticook be different from the rest of us, and not venerate and worship?

It is commoner than lying to slobber over criminals, especially if their crime be glossed as "passional." Shall Coaticook be dispraised for being here a sister of Paris?

Finally, the bailiffs, so to speak, in the case are foreigners, strangers, "hostes." Echtcanadienthum chortles the old worldwide yell, "'Eave 'alf a brick at 'im, 'e don't belong in these parts." A "hill town" in New England, the fastnesses of the Appalachian mountaineers, the "hill billies," "wool hat boys" of the South, have this fierce indigenous local patriotism, this aversion to exogeny. It goes back to early society, to the clan, to the time when everybody belonged somewhere and got his skull cracked if he was caught off bounds.

So Coaticook is but like most of the world; and nothing particular is to be noted of her. We can't believe, for example, she is like Montreal, so far as the *Star* of that city may speak for it, full of flutterings and wearing an austere face of control because the American lawyers pursuing THAW have worn "old clothes" and pulled their caps over their faces. In Montreal it may be the custom of devilwagoning barristers to wear wigs and gowns on tour. Coaticook is less formal and stately.

How Europe Sees Us.

On his return from a long stay in Europe Mr. OWEN JOHNSON had several pertinent remarks to make about his countrymen. In a published interview his observations were apt and they rang true:

"Right here I must mention one thing that is the despair of Americans living abroad. It is the way American news is treated in Europe. People are being taught that we are a nation of Jack Johnsons and Harry Thaws. What they print over there about us is mostly freak stuff—marriages by moonlight and so on."

While the day has to some extent passed when foreigners believe that the bison is hunted between New York and Chicago and that the highest peak in the Andes is situated between Jersey City and Philadelphia, still it is unquestionably true, as Mr. JOHNSON points out, that foreign newspapers purposely give their readers a weird notion concerning us. To begin with, it is what their readers like to imagine. We are distinctly in their eyes a land of adventurers and upstarts. Lacking our peculiar humor and sense of proportion they accept every cock and bull story, every ray of moonshine, each piece of pious fraud, at its full face value.

Mr. JOHNSON says that his information is that this playing up of anything and everything that is to the discredit of Americans is due to the desire of European capital to prove to investors that this is the home of fakers and swindlers. We do not for a moment believe that any such deep and dark motive exists. That is almost as ridiculous as the things they believe about us. The fact that our Secretary of State is appearing daily under what circus men term technically "the big top" would scarcely lead a Berlin investor to conclude that Lackawanna bonds were undesirable.

The Bureau of Municipal Research reports that in the literary productions of New York school children it has found "some funny examples of bad spelling." Thus does the Thane of Skibo corrupt the youth of this town.

The marriage license clerk of Pittsburg who declares that the Pennsylvania eugenics law is a failure because it decreases the number of marriages, makes only the good more cautious and furnishes nothing of value for the records, overlooks the important virtue of this act and others like it. It bothers a lot of pretty decent folks a good deal, extends the field of the State's activities not a little and causes a great deal of annoyance. If these considerations do not justify its inclusion in the statute books, in the name of Contract BILL FLINN, what is Progress?

The boy who is addicted to dime novels, you may be sure, is addicted to no better kind of reading.—*Minneapolis Journal.*

By the mighty name of BEADLE and the bright flame that covers his novels, there is no better reading! What the blazes do you want to read? The speeches of MOSES EDWIN CLAPP, "MOSES the Gassy," as ARTEMUS had it?

The Hon. RICHMOND PEARSON HOBSON introduced a bill creating the *Official Journal*, which is to be a weekly publication, for free distribution. We have an official journal already and Mr. HOBSON is anathema for proposing to compete with the *Commoner*. Moreover, it is well known that the *Commoner* is published for educational purposes only and not for a lucrative end, so that the nominal charge of a dollar for subscription is in reality equivalent to free distribution.

The sword and shield of the people's rights, the initiative and referendum.—*Preliminary draft of the Massachusetts Progressive platform.*

And here the words of the old "Populist Hymn" written by the Hon. CYCLONE DAVIS of Texas in 1892, surge up over the limen of subliminal memory:

"Hail, Freedom's great addendum!
All things amiss, 'twill mend 'um;
The people's wrongs, 'twill end 'um;
The people's rights, defend 'um;
Each patriot's wish is for the initiative and referendum!"

As understood by the Hon. CHARLES SUMNER BIRD and the Hon. MATTHEW HALE, this cure all means that Colonel ROOSEVELT is the beginning of things political and that to him all things must be referred.

Thereupon Mr. MITCHEL felt that he was justified in reversing himself and accepting the Hearst indorsement.—*News of the day.*

HUMPTY DUMPTY has decided to get together and climb back on the wall. It comes hard, but even idealists have to stoop to conquer.

All the promoters of Mr. JEROME'S prosecution as a common gambler have accomplished is to provide the playwrights with material for a scene that should assure a comedy of Canadian life a long run.

As the Hon. JOHN A. PETERS, like JAMES G. BLAINE, was Speaker of the House of Representatives at Augusta before his election from the Third Maine district to the popular branch of Congress, a great deal will be expected of Mr. PETERS when he gets to Washington.

"Rouge is growing in popularity because women are losing the ability to blush," declared the Right Rev. J. S. JOHNSON, Bishop of Western Texas.—*Baltimore American.*

Some women use rouge; I think the number of women using rouge is getting larger; in my opinion the object of rouge is to simulate blushes; argal, since some women use rouge, women as a class can't blush.

A worthy bishop, no doubt, but as a logician he deserves a summary and sound breeching.

Rear Admiral HUGO OSTERHAUS, who retired from active service last June, announces on his return from a visit to his father, Brigadier-General PETER J. OSTERHAUS, U. S. A., retired, in Germany, that he will while away some of his leisure by raising canaries and doves on his farm. The Admiral always had a sense of humor, and in bespeaking an occupation for himself he doubtless had in mind the fact that at 62 he is still a vigorous man fit for any kind of hard work. There must be an age limit for Admirals and Generals, but it seems arbitrary in the case of a man whose father, still living, commanded the Fifteenth Corps in the Atlanta campaign. As the Admiral takes good care of his health he may reasonably look forward to about thirty years of breeding canaries and doves.

In a farewell game at Ekwanok Mr. TAFT went over the first nine holes of the course in 47. This is a respectable score but not epochal. Mr. TAFT, however, would never tolerate the shading down of his score for publication. That is why his golf, like the man, is always genuine. If he were a mere multimillionaire he would be making the full course in 72, and the truth would never overtake the invention.

Let the People Rule.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* A great majority of the people are in favor of letting the crazy murderer Thaw go free. Why not let the people rule? This is the Roosevelt theory. Why not try it out on Thaw? Why let the law rule?

Another prominent fact presents itself in this situation. Many worshippers of Sulzer are worshippers of Thaw. This fact furnishes rich material for the study of psychologists.

Colonel Roosevelt's letter to Governor Sulzer is a masterpiece. The Colonel, as usual, gets on both sides of the question. In effect he says:

Owing to the purposes and motives of the people back of the charges against the Governor the charges amount to nothing.

And then he adds:

But you should give a straightforward explanation of these charges.

If they amount to nothing, why explain? The Colonel has simply done another of his artistic skirt dancing feats. It is unfortunate, however, for the Colonel that intelligent people are beginning to discriminate between skirt dancing and statesmanship. CHARLES H. BETTS.

LYONS, September 9.

The Source of a Famous Phrase.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The inspiration of Lincoln's declaration, "a government of the people, by the people, for the people," was not born of anything Webster may have said, nor from what Chief Justice Marshall may have said in McCulloch vs. Maryland. It would appear that President James Monroe's fourth annual message, November 14, 1820, is the true source, for therein we find:

"A free, virtuous and enlightened people know well the great principles and causes on which their happiness depends, and even those who suffer most occasionally in their transitory concerns find great relief under their sufferings from the blessings which they otherwise enjoy and in the consoling and animating hope which they administer. From whence do these pressures come? Not from a government which is founded by, administered for, and supported by the people."

R. E. K.

JERSEY CITY, September 9.

A Difference of Opinion.

"He played from ear," the critics said.
It's possible, he might;
But it certainly appeared to me
He played from spite!

L. T. E.

WHOLE WHEAT BREAD.

A California Enemy of Bran on the High Cost of Living.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Does the man who favors whole wheat flour realize that he is paying from 10 per cent. to 100 per cent. more than necessary for his daily bread? The whole wheat or graham fad is a most expensive one.

Whole wheat flour, compared with white flour, is apt to be unwholesomely dirty, and graham flour, if we can believe some millers as to its source, is unspeakably so.

It takes 258 pounds of wheat to produce a barrel of white flour and but 196 pounds of wheat to produce a barrel of whole wheat flour, yet the latter costs from 10 per cent. to 100 per cent. more than the former. The faddism of the whole wheat bread crank is merely taken advantage of. That's all.

The whole wheat flour bread is not only 10 per cent. less digestible than white flour bread but it undoubtedly interferes with the proper digestion of other foods. The cry of "mineral deficiency" in white flour is met by the fact that in an everyday mixed diet of which white bread forms a part it contains more mineral salts than the system will assimilate—physiologically established fact, demonstarted over and over again and proved up by the experiments conducted by the United States Government. Professor Langworthy of the United States Department of Pure Foods makes the following comparison between white and whole wheat bread:

	White Bread.	*Whole Wheat Bread.*
Water	35.3	38.4
Protein	9.2	9.7
Carbohydrates	53.1	49.7
Fat	1.3	0.9
Ash	1.1	1.3
Energizers, per pound	1215	1140

Even if the prices of whole wheat and white bread were the same (and the price of the former should be much less than the latter), one must eat of the former eleven loaves to secure the nourishment of ten loaves of the latter.

Bran, the sought for constituent in whole wheat bread, is absolutely indigestible. Irritating the intestines and producing peristalsis is nothing more or less than a "shavings and sawdust castor oil." The use of a teaspoonful of bran, just ordinary cow feed bran, in a glass of water, taken now and then at breakfast, would be immeasurably better than the daily habit of consuming this shavings and sawdust castor oil in one's bread at double the price, more or less, of one's daily loaf.

In these days of increased cost of living whether one's bread costs 5 cents or 10 cents cuts a figure.

CHARLES CRISTADORO.

POINT LOMA, Cal., August 31.

OF STYLE.

Some Unconsidered Trifles From a Tar Heel Archaist.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Your Pennsylvania correspondent Mr. Gregory in THE SUN of September 1 reveals himself as unable to appreciate the Wilsonian poetacity of diction. Athwart the dun level of everyday English, we descry in Mr. Wilson's happier moments the glow worm glimmer of verbiage (as per sample herewith) such as Pye or Tupper may have employed.

The lyric phrases have seemed obsolete or even archaic, the titillated ear eftsoon becomes wonted to their use. Note, for example, as a contrast to Mr. Gregory's sternly utilitarian point of view, how an author in the current number of one of the great monthlies falls under the benign Wilsonese influence. A long exiled naval officer on the after bridge of his ship has visions, in the gloaming, of his absent wife and babe; sotto voce, he croons a lullaby:

And it's, O, you little baby girl,
Athwart your mother's lap.

There the cradle song breaks off, we wot not whether from high minded reticence on the author's part or the lack of an adequate and convincing rhyme. I incline to the latter contingency. Ergo, 'tis mine to offer, howbeit humbly, the ensuing conclusion for the stanza:

Though good and peaceful for the nonce
Eftsoon you'll get a slap!

But this sort of digression may lead one anywhither. Hence, to retrace our steps otherwhere. 'Twas not long since that I myself, not without reluctance, succumbed to the charm of the initial volume of the "History of the American People," and, oddsbodikins! I am still rooted to the spot. Can I shake off the spell that binds me? I trow not—gadzooks, and 'ifackens, and eke by'r lady, I trow not! Anyhow, not until the personally conducted excursion returns from Mexico.

ROBERT EMMET WARD.

HIGHLANDS, N. C., September 5.

MANHATTAN FARMING.

Profitable Gardening on Vacant Lots in This Town.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* A letter in THE SUN on "Living on the Soil" signed by "M. T. R." ridicules generally the idea of making a living on the farm and makes light of the remarks of Mr. Alexander Law relative to idle land. No doubt a great deal of idle land is unfit for farming on a large scale, but here in the confines of Greater New York there are thousands of building lots that would produce good vegetables for the family if worked by any one who desired to do so.

I have a plot 30 by 40 for the use of which this season I paid $5. Fertilizer and seed cost me $3 more. From it our table has been supplied all summer with everything in the line of vegetables except potatoes. I grew sweet peppers, peas, green, wax and lima beans; early and late tomatoes, Swiss chard, beets, corn, cabbage and lettuce. Besides, a bushel of onions and the same quantity of carrots have been raised for winter use, and the celery now growing will keep me supplied until early spring. I figure that the plot has produced $25 worth of vegetables, at market prices, and they have been fresh from the ground.

There is a lot of talk about reducing the cost of living. It seems to me that here is one of the best ways to do it: cultivate the vacant lots. W. C. C.

NEW YORK, September 9.

A Wicked Little Boy.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In THE SUN of September 8 under the caption "Antis Score on a Hiss" the assertion is made by officers of the National Association Opposed to Woman Suffrage that the name of President Wilson was hissed by suffragists at an anti-suffrage meeting held here on September 3.

I was present at this meeting. Miss Bronson, the speaker of the evening, mentioned the names of the Presidential candidates of the last campaign. She spoke first Mr. Roosevelt's name, which was applauded. She then gave President Wilson's name, which was received with even more enthusiasm except that a small boy sitting across the room from the little group of suffragists present hissed loudly. Miss Bronson looked in his direction and very properly rebuked such behavior.

It is difficult to see how an accusation against the suffragists present could be made in good faith. Even if Miss Bronson had not seen the young offender, why should a hiss at a meeting given under anti-suffrage auspices be attributed to suffragists? EMILY S. LEWIS.

President of the Equal Franchise Society of Philadelphia.

SPRING LAKE, N. J., September 9.

Education.

Father—Well, what did you learn in school to-day?

Johnny—Nawthin', but I guess the teacher learned sumpin'.

Alcatory.

Knicker—Didn't you buy a melon in Canada?

Bocker—No, I was afraid of being arrested as a common gambler.

TOBACCO TROUBLES.

A Trade View of the Trust's Policy Toward Retailers.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Those who know, including the soft voiced ruler of Boston, Honey Fitz, contend that the American Tobacco Company owns the Liggett stores, as well as the Riker-Jaynes stores of Boston, and has more than a business friendship with the United Cigar Stores Company.

Because the Mayor of Boston saw fit to bring together the heads of these corporations and suggest to them that price cutting must be abandoned the tobacco trust issued its amusing letter to the dealers of New England

In this letter the trust offers to aid independents by giving them signs and premiums. That lure has been invoked in the past and has worked wonders for the trust. The scheme has caused the public to want the brands of the trust.

As a matter of fact the tobacco trust (so called, if you prefer) sells the United stores its product at prices equal to those paid by jobbers!

Is this fair competition to the several thousand taxpayers and voters of New York?

Cannot the United well afford to give a two cent coupon with each ten cent package of cigarettes sold if they receive a lower price from the American Tobacco Company than does the independent dealer?

Equally, do you know that the organized New York independents, the New York Retail Tobacconists Association, are waging a war against the American Tobacco Company because that company will sell to only one jobber in the metropolitan section?

Do you know that this policy has resulted in the extermination of over 500 jobbers in Greater New York, Long Island, New Jersey, Connecticut and portions of Pennsylvania?

Every time the independent storekeeper puts a trust sign on his window it means the United will get the next sale on this article because of its premium bait.

The thousands of independent manufacturers are prevented from doing business in Greater New York because of the trust, because the trust will not permit jobbers to remain in business.

Mayor Fitzgerald of Boston is to be congratulated on his defence of the hundreds of dealers, voters, aye, and taxpayers, even if in small amounts; and the heads of the other big cities, particularly in the East, should follow his humane example. H. M. KONWISER.

NEW YORK, September 9.

SUICIDE.

Why It is More Frequent Among the Rich Than Among the Poor.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The records show that the suicide rate among the rich is higher than among the poor. How shall we account for this curious social phenomenon?

My answer is that it is the all powerful force of habit, which, ruling, as it does, the minds of all men, produces also the observed difference in the suicide rate between the rich and the poor.

You may have heard of the fortune teller who said to the visitor: "I see from the lines of your palm that there are before you two years of poverty and distress." "And after that," came the anxious inquiry, "what will be my lot?" "After the two years of poverty," she answered solemnly, "your misery will have ended. You'll be used to it." Having got used to his poverty the poor man is by no means so miserable as those imagine him to be who have never been poor themselves. Even as early as the time of the Talmud they had a proverb: "A poor man is as good as dead." But it's a matter of fact that he does not feel his condition so keenly, because he gets used to it. He is an optimist by experience and habit, and his patience and long suffering never desert him. He laughs at fate and dares it to do its worst, but he shrinks from taking fate in his own hand.

Different is the case with the rich man. His habits all tend to make him impatient of any interference with his will or plans. He is used to having his own way everywhere. Small wonder that he gets rattled and upset when suddenly a situation arises which reveals his weakness or threatens him with ruin and poverty. Having failed to learn the lesson of patient endurance amid suffering, he yields to the insane impulse of self-destruction.

A proof of the correctness of my explanation is the fact that in almost every instance of the suicide of a rich man or woman, the victim is one who was born with a silver spoon in his mouth. A man who by his own energy amasses a fortune is not the kind of man who will commit suicide. Such a man is used to hard knocks and can stand some batterings of fate. But the man who was born in wealthy surroundings and has never known what it means to work for a living is the one who is apt to fall a victim to despair. SOLOMON COHEN.

NEW YORK, September 8.

Twelve Books on Ireland.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I have received inquiries concerning the twelve good books on Ireland mentioned by the late Rev. Eugene O'Growney, a founder of the Gaelic League, and referred to in THE SUN. This is the passage recommending the books:

"Healy's 'Ireland's Ancient Schools and Scholars' is a mine of information on the fifth and twelfth centuries. Professor Zimmer's 'The Irish Element in Mediæval Culture' is a splendid book. Father Edmund Hogan's 'Distinguished Irishmen of the Seventeenth Century' is one of the most readable Irish books ever written. Miss Margaret Stokes's book on 'Early Christian Art in Ireland' is a beautiful volume. Father Meehan's 'Rise and Fall of the Irish Franciscan Monasteries' is another charming book. A shilling volume of great interest is H. P. Graves's 'One Hundred Irish Airs,' with words and melodies. O'Curry's 'Lectures on the Manuscript Materials of Irish History' is now out of print or I would quote it as perhaps the most fascinating work ever opened by an educated Irishman. Joyce's 'Irish Names of Places' is a perpetual source of information and is very readable. I add of course Dr. Douglas Hyde's 'Irish Literature.' By far the best book to give an ordinary reader an idea of what Irish literature is like is Standish O'Grady's 'Silva Gadelica,' the English translation. I would add, as a little book of great interest, Flannery's 'For the Tongue of the Gael,' and also Mr. Pearce's 'Three Lectures on Gaelic Subjects.'"

I recently recommended some of these books to the public library authorities, with what response I am not yet aware. O'Growney wrote in 1899 and since that year have appeared Mrs. Green's "Irish Nationality," "The Old Irish World," Joyce's "Social History of Ireland," Pallerton's "Myths and Legends of the Celt" and other striking works.

HERBERT O'HARA MOLINEUX.

NEW YORK, September 7.

In the New America.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The "American House," seen from a train in New England, is kept by Buklawicus & Mirzejewski.

NEW YORK, September 9. J. B. C.

In the Third Maine.

The Empire State may proudly boast
Of population;
Virginia brag of Presidents
She gives the nation.

Kentucky only can produce
The bluegrass colonel;
And Kansas is the source of good,
Reforms eternal.

Nebraska has the Peerless One
With capers antic,
And California links herself
With gold romantic.

But all these claims to fame must pale,
Their fate repenting,
Beside small Maine, which has first chance
To go hellbenting.

MCLANDBURGH WILSON.

NOW TRAINING GIRLS TO BE GOOD WIVES

Wadleigh High School Starts New Homecraft Course to Teach Thrift.

BECAUSE STUDENTS WED

Principal Rowe Says That as Most Girls Marry They Need Preparation.

Marriageable young men who are willing to wait four years for a wife are advised to keep their eyes on Wadleigh High School for Girls.

The homecraft course introduced there yesterday by the principal, Dr. Stuart H. Rowe, is calculated to turn out a girl qualified to spend her husband's income to the best advantage, keep an account book that will come out straight at the end of the month. But that is not all. The girl will be able to cook a dinner, converse intelligently on literature, ancient history or the newest development in woman suffrage, trim her own hats, appreciate music, furnish her home artistically and keep it free from germs and play her part in social service.

Dr. Rowe said yesterday that this course was suggested to him by the reflection that 65 per cent. of the girls now in school will marry sooner or later and that they are being fitted for any vocation rather than that.

"A thorough study of English and history will develop the mind just as effectively as Latin and the higher mathematics," he said, "and there are too many girls wasting the limited time they can give to getting an education in struggling with the latter subjects, without any native bent.

"For culture the homecraft course has a very thorough and very wide survey of English literature and of history, enough music and drawing to give appreciation of those arts, and elective courses in French and German.

"The strictly practical courses include domestic science, domestic art, biology, hygiene, applied physics, household chemistry, household arithmetic, physical training and the general management of a home. It ranges from millinery to the fundamentals of legal procedure, and while it won't prepare a girl for a business office or school teaching, it will fit her to earlier living as an up to date housekeeper."

CENTRAL AMERICAN UNION.

Campaign Waged in Washington by Guatemalan Interests.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9.—A propaganda for a Central American union has attracted considerable attention in official circles in Washington. The campaign is generally looked upon as in furtherance of the personal aspirations of Manuel Estrada Cabrera, for sixteen years President of Guatemala and admittedly the strongest ruler in Central America to-day. Ever since the fall of Zelaya in Nicaragua it has been known that Estrada Cabrera has dreamed of becoming the head of a union or federation of the five Central American republics.

A new turn was given to the situation to-day when it was disclosed that indorsements of the campaign for a union which is being waged by Guatemalan interests have been presented to Senator Bacon, chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, by three well known figures in Central American politics. These are Francisco Altschul, Angel Ugarte and Salvador Lejarza. The first two call themselves Hondurans, while the last named is said to be a Nicaraguan.

Altschul and Ugarte have for some years been members of the New Orleans colony of Latin American exiles and have bobbed up in Washington whenever there has any disturbance in Latin America. They have been usually found advocating to press interviews and otherwise the cause of the revolutionists.

It is said also that Policarpo Bonilla, who has been called the Castro of Honduras because of his attempts to regain the power he once held, and who has been living in New Orleans for the last few years, has joined the campaign for a Central American union. All of these men have previously been known as opponents of Estrada Cabrera, and there is much speculation as to the causes for their sudden change of attitude. All four have recently been at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York together.

At the State Department there is extensive biographical data regarding this group and the parts they have played in various revolutions and near revolutions in Central America.

Officials and others well informed on Central American politics consider the idea of a Central American union as simply nonsense. Latin Americans themselves have declared that nothing but force could bring about a union of the five Central republics. It is believed not only that such a union never could be accomplished, but that even if once achieved it would not endure. The United States Government, however, would undoubtedly welcome such a union, as it could then deal with one government instead of with five as at present.

ENVOY OFF FOR PUERTO PLATA.

State Department Has No News of Revolution in Dominican Republic.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9.—The State Department was without means of communication with the Dominican Republic to-day and is not informed as to the progress of the revolution going on in Puerto Plata province.

Minister Sullivan was to-day instructed to hasten his departure for his post and accordingly he left this afternoon for Santiago, Cuba, via Key West and Havana. At Santiago he will board a United States gunboat and proceed on her to Puerto Plata, which is at present the centre of the uprising. There he will endeavor to impress upon the rebels the fact that President Wilson has no sympathy for the attack being made upon the constituted Government of the Dominican Republic. He will be accompanied to Puerto Plata by Charles M. Hathaway, United States Consul at that place. Mr. Hathaway has been in the United States on leave.

It is probable that the gunboat Nashville, now at Puerto Cortez, Honduras, will be ordered to Dominican waters to join the cruiser Des Moines, which arrived at Puerto Plata to-day. It is expected that by to-morrow wireless communication with Puerto Plata will be established through the Des Moines and the Porto Rican revenue cutter Algonquin.

UNION CARD IN WHITE HOUSE

State Federation Leader Makes That Optimistic Prediction.

UTICA, N. Y., Sept. 9.—Daniel Harris of Brooklyn, president of the New York State Federation of Labor, addressing the delegates at the annual convention to-day made the prediction that a man with a union card would occupy the chair of the President of the United States within the next few years.

An address by W. O. Jones, chairman of the local committee of arrangements for the convention, in which he told how the I. W. W. organization had been wiped out in this city during the past few months as a result of the efforts of the Utica Trades Assembly, stirred the several hundred delegates to intense enthusiasm.