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THE JUSTICE AND NECESSITY OF AN INCREASE IN FREIGHT RATES. The letter which follows seems to be written in good faith by a fellow citizen who is not slow in reaching his positive judgments.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—If the railroad companies were compelled to cut off the Pullman car graft, the express company graft, the private freight car graft, and other devices by which the public is misled, the one to ten share stockholder, of whom you are so solicitous, might get a reasonable return upon his money and no application for increase of rates would be necessary.

IN ME CHARLES A. COLSON'S testimony last week before the Interstate Commerce Commission he referred to the investigations by M. LEON-CLEMENT Colson as to freight rates in several of the European countries.

OUR next neighbor the World considers the prospects of the unfortunately severed majority party and comes to this conclusion: "One leader like Woodrow Wilson would be worth more to the Republican party at this time than a hundred schemes for reorganization."

IN ENGLAND since July 1, 1913, there has been an increase of four per cent. on almost all freight rates, as the result of a special act of Parliament.

IN DENMARK two years ago the Government established new tariffs effecting an average advance of nine per cent. over the old rates.

IN AUSTRIA during the three years past the Government by successive increases in charges has been attempting to produce about \$10,000,000 of extra revenue.

IN HUNGARY since March, 1912, fast freight rates have been advanced seven per cent. and all ordinary freight rates five per cent. The increase has been uniform and was adopted as a radical measure of necessity.

IN SWITZERLAND the Government railway administration has put into effect increases running from nine to twelve and a half per cent. on certain forms of season tickets that are much used in that country.

IN BELGIUM the state has imposed an additional charge of ten cents a ton on short haul shipments of all coal.

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tion in latitude by reason of closely fitting skirts. The dance has become the afternoon substitute for the club hitherto frequented by the men when sauntering up town from shop or office.

"It seems somewhat late," says the Journal of the American Medical Association in a recent editorial article, "to enter a mild protest against the fervor with which the newest so-called dances have been taken up by a public already saturated with various nerve and mind destroying amusements and caprices."

THE SUN does not propose to moralize upon the scenes enacted daily and nightly in respectable hotels, but it would raise a voice of warning to those gray haired men and women who, under the guise of seeking health and vigor or numbness for stiffened joints or relief from mental weariness, go to the merry throng, little heeding the sad contrast they evoke or the critical comment of the bystanders.

Gray hair is in many instances the index of hardening arteries. Stiff joints may be made more pliant by the giddy dance, but the result if achieved at a heart which under the physical and emotional excitement must labor with unvented energy against resisting arteries.

From the physician's outlook the result is not difficult to foretell, though the individual may be utterly unconscious of its approach. The reader may find interest in tracing some of the cases of apoplexy, heart failure, nervous prostration, among his acquaintances.

ON Relative Values. Our next neighbor the World considers the prospects of the unfortunately severed majority party and comes to this conclusion:

"One leader like Woodrow Wilson would be worth more to the Republican party at this time than a hundred schemes for reorganization."

THE question that is giving concern to a great many untalkative Democrats is whether one such leader as Woodrow Wilson, with the mastery assistance of one Mr. BAYAN, is not really going to be worth more to the Republican party than a hundred schemes for reorganization.

IN THE Brazilian Jungle. Colonel ROOSEVELT is now at Curitiba preparing for his hunting expedition in western Brazil, and doubtless he wishes it were not true that "Brazil," as BATES says, "is throughout poor in terrestrial mammals and the species are of small size."

THE pekokery juice it stains my cheek With a deeper than blood red hue. I loathe my burning feet in the creek Under the gambambo.

Now darker, serious, solemn than himself, JOSEPHUS is no longer under the gambambo, but over the Cariboo, majestically inserting his trident into the same.

THE White House Calling List. Greatly as all intelligent men must reverence the wisdom of Senator STIMMS of North Carolina, he seems to be a little behindhand in his information about the White House calling list.

THE Great Confiscator. The manifesto of General FRANCISCO ("Pancho") VILLA confiscating the properties in Chihuahua of the old nabob LUIS TERRAZAS, after whom the racketeer in Juarez is named, raises the question whether VILLA or VENUSTIANO CARRANZA is the head of the revolution in Mexico.

THE Modern Dance as a Rheumatism Cure. The town is dance mad, according to the observations of the man on the street. Young and old may be seen wending their way through the doors of hostilities, great and small, of the city on pleasure bent as never before in hedonistic history.

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rapato, the bush tick, is fearfully intimate with man, burrowing into him and making long visits. Scorpions are almost as thick as ticks.

THE Colonel is only a medium botanist, but the Brazil forests will make him a devotee—such richness and splendor in one acre, myrtles, mimosa, acacia, cedrella, gnyllia, bombacosa, apocynosa, swartias and thousands of other plants.

AT the opening of the Russian trade division of the National Association of Manufacturers Mr. ANCRIBALD J. WOLFE, chief of that division, said:

"And what do we find in nine cases out of ten when we want to get something American in Russia? You have to get it from Hamburg or Berlin."

THE Diverberation of the Mastodon: A Study in Solemnity. In this culminating and superlunary hour of the Hon. JOSEPHUS DANIELS, may an old friend congratulate him?

THE President of the American Federation of Labor, supporting the bill to exempt trades unions from the operation of the anti-trust laws, morally furnishes fresh proof that what is sauce for the goose is not always sauce for the gander.

MAJOR-elect MICHEN, is reported as having trouble in finding the right man for Police Commissioner. Most people thought the real head of the department was elected last month.

AS we read of "the poisoned napkin" the words of the villain in an old burlesque come to the memory. "I penetrated into the dining room, my father was intoxicated and poisoned the tablecloth!"

MR. JOSEPH BRANBURY of South Orange at the age of ninety-three says, "I never worry over things and you will not, if you keep well you will be happy, and if you are happy you will live long."

CARE is said to have killed the cat, in spite of his nine lives—it was a tom of course, and so far Mr. BRANBURY is quite right. But his assurance that if you are happy you will live long is not completely true. Happiness and destiny often conflict.

THE recent action of the Navy Department in buying beef from Argentina has forced down the prices of American packers—Washington dispatch.

IT is true that the Navy Department is now making contracts at lower prices with the packers for future delivery, and it is also a fact, as Secretary DANIELS says, that "under the old high tariff law the saving could not have been effected"; but where does the consumer come in? There is no evidence that the price of beef in Argentina has afforded him relief.

THE Navy Department buys its beef in bulk and one purchase in Argentina includes the packers to come. It is impossible for consumers to organize on a large scale and deal with Argentina directly. They must accept the price made by the consolidated packers, who have their own storage warehouses in South America and employ a staff of buyers to get the lowest prices for cattle and dressed meat.

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ought not to be difficult for General HUERTA to negotiate a loan from them to meet pressing necessities, such as equipping and paying his armies in the field. All that is portable in Chihuahua ("Pancho") VILLA may lay his hands on, but the ghost of credit will now walk in the corridors of the National Palace as one result of his pronouncements against the Terrazas and Creels.

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Judge Peters, the Virginia Economist, settles the Money Question. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: Judge Peters of Cavetown, Md., has been making a close study of the financial situation and has written to Secretary Bryan asking him to say that he has received a favorable reply.

Judge Peters' special financial training in the negotiation of small loans. "The trouble with our financial system," said Judge Peters, "is not that there is not enough lawful money in circulation among the people. The bill now before Congress is all right so far as that goes, but it does not go far enough. These Wall Street devils will still be able to enslave the people to a certain extent if it becomes a law. The plan I have in mind is to issue a new kind of money, to be called 'Washington' and to be put into circulation by the Treasury Department and exchange them for lawful money as needed."

"Well, that being the case," Judge Peters continued, "the quicker the Wilson Administration accomplishes it, the better it will be for both it and the Democratic party. No halfway measures will do; we must have something radical, almost revolutionary in fact, to loosen the grip of the Money Power on the people. My plan is to let every white citizen, male or female, issue bonds on himself or herself up to \$500, as a starter. These bonds of course would not interest, but they would be ready for a raking and a shaking down. Pilatus is clothed in gooseflesh, and all the acres of Swiss cheese are sour."

THE New York passion for literature and dialectics has seldom expressed itself more emphatically than in the four stabs with which a youthful Manhattanite Dickensite reproved a youthful Manhattanite Mark Twainite.

THE Intellectual conqueror is named HAZARD, a delicious name which turns a fact into a mighty instructive allegory.

THE lack of money is responsible for 99 per cent. of the crimes that are committed. Remove the cause and you abolish the crime. We should not, therefore, think of the saving that the penal institutions have achieved. Why, man, it would amount to nothing if it were not for the fact that the bonds issued! Insanity would be reduced to practically nil; we know that insanity is mostly caused by want and worry. When everybody has plenty of money, there is no insanity. It is not that he can get it, but there will be no want and no occasion to worry; hence, very little insanity. I tell you, Major, the possibilities of the good government are unlimited."

THE motion was carried unanimously. HAGERSTOWN, Md., December 17.

IT owns the City Hall "The Sun" Credited to Los Angeles. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: On November 20 THE SUN contained a very interesting section under the title "Betterment of the Theme of Many Leading Cities."

Accompanying the article are several attractive illustrations, among them a picture of a tall new city hall, with the building it takes the place of shown by a dotted line. The illustration is a description of these two buildings, attention being called to the evident progress of a municipality in which the needs of the future are being met today as measured by the difference between the old and the new city hall.

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A Luxurious Gash Far Apart From Hard Times and Men Without Work. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: No one who visits Washington can escape observing the extraordinary atmosphere that envelops it.

THE venom of monetary stringency and hard times can be felt in its hardened heart. At the present time it is a financial oasis in a desert of restricted effort. Old Doc Bryan flirts with the dove of peace, Tommy Marshall merrily berates the cowardice of the mercenary dollar, Secretary Redfield advocates the expenditure of a large sum of money for the gathering of corporation statistics, and calls the operation "sacred." Mr. McAdoo, however, the altruistic functioning of the Treasury, though the unbiased observer calls it serious burping of a situation which called for delicate handling.

THE learned framers of the currency bill have introduced the interesting principle of parallax in determining the amount of reserves to be held against deposits and before any active policy of chasing the ghost of the money trust, President Wilson remarks in his annual message that the only cloud on our horizon is the Mexican situation; he does not refer to the serious condition of railroad credit and the worldwide scarcity of capital. On the contrary, supreme in his position of exalted isolation, he advocates the forming of a political commission whose duty it will be still further to "regulate" and heckle business, and incidentally stabilize the new doctrine of freedom from the government.

THE explanation of the isolation herein-mentioned lies in the fact that the Washington circus is run at the expense of the whole country; money is being taken from the pockets of the people and still wicked enough to remain solvent pay the salaries of the performers. So long as these underground streams continue to flow and nourish the activity pastured on this luxurious oasis, so long will the politicians continue to thrive at the expense of the whole country. But let us hope that Washington, before it is too late, will realize that the underground streams sometimes dry up, and without warning sandstorms blow in from the surrounding desert.

ALBERT H. GALLATIN, New York, December 18.

THE Record Price Brought by Joe Tinker of Cincinnati. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: A few days ago President Herrmann of the Cincinnati baseball club agreed to sell Joseph Tinker, a member of the Brooklyn club, to the Brooklyn baseball club for \$25,000, said to be the largest sum ever paid for an individual player in the history of the game. As the Brooklyn club requires Tinker to play for the club, it makes the team a possible contender for the championship in 1914. President Ebbeh with the consent of the directors signed the agreement which presumably made Tinker a member of the Pittsburgh club and another man was witness to the transaction and they placed their signatures to the agreement.

THE decision in this case shows what money can do in our ecclesiastical courts only what it can do in ordinary courts of law. It can do it for a counsel and an attorney's expense. The courts of Rome are organized only to see that justice is done. "No sentimental considerations can influence the judge," said the court yesterday. "The first court of appeals, it said, said that Anna Gould had in her mind the possibility of divorce as a condition precedent to marriage, and that the marriage was null and void from the beginning."

"I have heard some critics say, 'The decision in this case shows what money can do in our ecclesiastical courts only what it can do in ordinary courts of law. It can do it for a counsel and an attorney's expense. The courts of Rome are organized only to see that justice is done.'"

JUDGES Must Be Unanimous. "But when the Court comes before the courts of the Church they can only best testimony and interpret and apply the law. The highest court to which appeal has now been taken consists of nine judges, and it is not possible to be unanimous one way or the other, if an not acquainted with any tribunal that tries a case to do exact justice."

FOR THE PRISONERS' FAMILIES. A Timely Reminder for Lovers of a Practical Christmas. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: It is a Christmas time when the modern mind that a work to be useful must be practical.

THE Christmas effort undertaken by the Volunteers of America, which each year you have permitted us to ask your readers to aid, is practical. It is practical because it is helpful given to poor families whose need we have investigated and who, if not aided by us, may not be helped at all.

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POPE MAY STRIKE ANEW AT DIVORCE. Father McMahon Hints That Mixed Marriages Will Be Made Harder.

TEST BEFORE CEREMONY. Catholics Not to Wed Protestants Who Do Not Believe in Union Unending.

A strong intimation that the Roman Catholic Church is soon to lay down a new rule which will restrict greatly the number of marriages of its members to Protestants came yesterday from the Rev. Joseph H. McMahon, pastor of the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes in this city. Dr. McMahon's public utterances are usually authorized by Cardinal Farley.

HE was reviewing the Gould-Castellani marriage annulment case yesterday afternoon in the Catholic Library Association lecture course at Delmonico's. He defended the authorities at Rome against criticism of their conduct of the case and said:

"Rome already has sent to all Bishops a questionnaire as to mixed marriages. I have no doubt that before long some marriages will be made very difficult, so the parties to the proposed contract will have to say whether or not they believe in the dissolubility of marriage."

IN other words, according to the information given by McMahon yesterday, "decided" words by his audience, Protestants are to be asked whether or not they believe in divorce under any circumstances, and if they do there can be no union with Catholics.

COUNT Won First Decision. Many witnesses for Count Boni de Castellani in the annulment suit which he pressed before the Rota tribunal at Rome after his wife, Anna Gould, had obtained a civil divorce in France testified that she had sought a divorce in Rome before the first court of appeals, but that she would seek a divorce in case the marriage turned out unhappily. Count Boni won the first decision, but lost the second, which was pronounced in favor of the annulment of the marriage. Now the Duchess de Talleyrand-Perigord is now before the Rota.

"The second court of appeals," explained Dr. McMahon yesterday, "decided against the first court of appeals. It said that Anna Gould had in her mind the possibility of divorce as a condition precedent to marriage, and that the marriage was null and void from the beginning."

"I have heard some critics say, 'The decision in this case shows what money can do in our ecclesiastical courts only what it can do in ordinary courts of law. It can do it for a counsel and an attorney's expense. The courts of Rome are organized only to see that justice is done.'"

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