The Sun

FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 1914.

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 Month	25
SUNDAY (to Canada), Per Month	40
SUNDAY, Per Year	2 50
DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Year	6 50
DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Month	75
FOREIGN RATES.	
DAILY, Per Month	1 25
SUNDAY, Per Month	65
DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Month	1 00
THE EVENING SUN, Per Month	25
THE EVENING SUN, Per Year	2 50
THE EVENING SUN (Foreign), Per Month	1 00

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

Published daily including Sunday, by the Sun Printing and Publishing Association at 170 Nassau street, in the Borough of Manhattan, New York. President and Treasurer, William C. Reick 170 Nassau street; Vice-President, Edward P. Mitchell, 170 Nassau street; Secretary, 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, 108 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.

The End of a Costly Dream.

In the Secretary of State's dollar a year *Commoner* for the present month of April we discover this exultant but untimely reference to the Administration's policy of building up the military strength of CARRANZA and VILLA by giving them guns and ammunition:

"Since the Constitutional army in Mexico has been winning battle after battle and steadily forging its way to the capital, less criticism is heard from those Americans who were sure that the Administration's Mexican policy was a mistake. The President's decision to raise the embargo on arms made it possible for VILLA to make his triumphant march southward."

This is the same Secretary BRYAN who was reported yesterday as moving hastily and secretly for the renewal of the embargo on arms intended for the Constitutionalist forces.

How does the editor of the *Commoner* feel to-day about that master stroke of policy by which the Secretary of State in the Wilson Administration armed for any contingency the soldiers of his great and good friend VENUSTIANO CARRANZA and his equally admired ally, FRANCISCO VILLA?

What is Mr. BRYAN's official estimate of the number of field pieces, rifles and rounds of ammunition which the raising of the now suddenly restored embargo put into the hands of VILLA's men to be employed, if CARRANZA so commands, in an attempt in cooperation with General HUERTA to drive American troops out of Mexican territory?

There is serious business before the country now, and there is no mistaking the depth and intensity of the public's interest in the adequacy of the statesmanship in the State Department, at the President's right hand.

A Military Campaign in Mexico.

Whether there would be a heavy draft upon the country's military resources in the case of armed intervention in Mexico is a question about which there has been much difference of opinion, even among military men. Estimates of the strength of the forces required for invasion have ranged from 50,000 to 500,000. The minimum would be much too low if occupation of Mexico for a long period with the duty of pacifying the country in every part were necessary; perhaps it might not be too low for a successful campaign against such combatants as could be opposed to scientifically equipped and well trained American soldiers.

English observers have cited the war in South Africa, where the British Government put 300,000 men in the field to overcome 40,000 Boers, but there is no analogy. There never were better campaigners in the open than the Boers, and as sharpshooters they have never had their equal collectively; fighting sturdily for independence, their strategy was often effective and it was always hard to solve. The Mexicans are wretched shots and incorrigible wasters of ammunition; of strategy they have none, and they seldom make a determined stand; most of their fighting is done at long range, and in defending an intrenched position they do not as a rule take any aim at all. HUERTA's campaign against OROZCO, which earned HUERTA the title of "Hero of Bachimba," was a military demonstration of marching battalions, with an army of camp followers tagging on behind, against small bodies of insurgents that fired sporadically and ran headlong.

In VILLA's campaign against Torreon and San Pedro there was a resemblance to vigorous campaigning, but for so many days of fighting the casualties were unimpressive. The Mexican peon is not a real fighting man according to our standards, and he is the furthest remove from a scientific soldier that can be imagined. In a pitched battle, or even in outpost skirmishing, as was proved by the war of 1847, he is no match for the American regular or volunteer. While one's enemy should never be despised, the palpable inferiority of the Mexicans as soldiers must be taken into account when estimating the requisite strength of American armies of invasion.

Pacification of the country after the chief cities were occupied would require a large number of men, unless the Mexicans could be convinced that occupation was not synonymous with conquest, and that after a "constitutional Government" was established the American forces would be withdrawn. But at the worst no such mobilization of troops as marked the British operations in South Africa would be necessary. As guerrillas the Mexicans would be troublesome in remote districts, but when the French invaded Mexico they had no great difficulty in clearing the country with their flying columns known as contra-guerrillas. American cavalry would be more effective.

A Brilliant Opera Season.

The season at the Metropolitan Opera House now near its end has been one of the most brilliant in the history of that distinguished institution. Some of the finest performances which have ever graced its stage have been given, and several novelties of real worth have been disclosed to an admiring public. "L'Amore dei Tre Re" by MONTEMEZZI, "Der Rosenkavalier" by STRAUSS, the "Julien" of CHARPENTIER and "L'Amore Medico" by WOLF-FERRARI have all aroused wide public interest and approval.

Few opera houses can boast of the production of four successful novelties in a single season. No other opera house in the world can point with gratulation to a répertoire that is so varied, so extended and so opulent as ours. As for singers, it is generally conceded that the stage of the Metropolitan attracts the best in the world, both because it offers the largest pecuniary inducements and because the stamp of success upon it has authority.

In the past season there has been another item to be considered, and a very serious one at that. It has been a difficult and even dangerous business year. But by skilful management the Metropolitan Opera House has come through it triumphantly. It seems, therefore, that at this time something in the way of praise and gratitude to the capable general manager of the house, GIULIO GATTI-CASAZZA, ought to be expressed.

Coming, as he did, from the comparatively small musical activities of Milan, from an opera house whose répertoire comprised eight or ten works in a season, and finding himself confronted with the appalling demands of the Metropolitan, he speedily adapted himself to the novel conditions, and now has completely demonstrated his mastery of the situation. He has shown that he can direct the artistic labors of the theatre with fine judgment, while at the same time he can manage its business affairs with prudence and wisdom. Opera lovers will naturally hope that he will long continue to direct the house.

New York's Uneasy Lid.

Nobody who patronizes them has much sympathy for the eating house keepers of this town. They have gouged the public consistently and expertly for years. But the fuss and nuisance of police raids in dining and supper rooms have got to be worse than an imposition; they amount to a positive bore. Human beings who want to eat and drink at night would be profoundly grateful if there could be some settled policy which would insure for them the uninterrupted enjoyment of their food and its accompanying beverages.

Several weeks ago the Mayor's advisers agreed on a scheme under which the habits of restaurant frequenters were to be regulated scientifically and humanely. The plan elicited, at the time of its promulgation, unstinted applause from all who approved of it. It was to put an end to the uncertainties of those who sit up o' nights, protect the proprietors, and generally confer happiness on the population, resident and transient. Where is that plan now? Why are not its beneficent effects felt by those whom it was to save from too late hours, gout, indigestion and the ill consequences of too strenuous devotion to the dance?

A good many thousands of people wish it were in operation. The jiggling of the "lid" is very tiresome.

White Wolf.

Since the Taiping rebellion, which "Chinese" GORDON, carrying a cane into battle, put down with the "Ever Victorious" army, seldom successful until his example inspired it, there has been no such story of the sacking and loot of cities and the slaughter of innocent people as is now being told of the depredations of WHITE WOLF and his bandits in the Chinese provinces of Hupeh and Honan.

Telegrams of April 3 from Sian-fu in neighboring Shansi reported that WHITE WOLF was threatening Sian-fu, the ancient capital of China, a rich and populous place to-day. Word now comes that the Government troops marching from Tung-Kwan on the Shansi frontier fought a battle on April 16 with WHITE WOLF at a town near Sian-fu and routed his forces. Unfortunately it does not follow that the end of the notorious bandit has come. City after city he has despoiled, and their streets have been strewn with dead as he passed. He has not spared even the women and children.

WHITE WOLF's operations have extended over hundreds of miles of territory. Since the end of January he has ravaged in quick succession Liuanchow, Changyangkwan, Shangcheng, Kwangshan, Loshan, Kwangchow, Kushin, Tsaoyang, and other cities too numerous to mention. Usually he has contrived to avoid battle with Government troops sent in pursuit of him, but there have been some brisk skirmishes, always resulting in WHITE WOLF shaking himself free and going on with his campaign of rapine.

The capture and loot of Kwangchow is a specimen performance of this remarkable outlaw. Kwangchow is a two walled city of 100,000 people in southeastern Honan. WHITE WOLF's horde came down upon it a few hours after he was reported in the neighborhood. Some time previously he had sent a considerable number of his followers into the city, and when his main force opened fire on the defenders posted on the walls they found themselves taken in the rear. One thousand persons were killed by the bandits in a single day in Kwangchow, and "all the wealthy families were practically wiped out and their houses burned." And the spoliation of Kwangchow is said to be by no means the worst of WHITE WOLF's exploits.

The running amuck of this monster through three provinces has been compared with the atrocities of the Taiping rebellion in the middle of the last century, but the resemblance is not striking. The Taiping rebellion was led by a fanatic, HUNG-SIN-TSUAN, who established a court, gave himself up to religious raptures, and sent his Wangs afield to battle with the imperial troops and lay waste Honan, Hupeh and other provinces. For ten years they devastated the country, capturing so large a city as Nanking and carrying their savage warfare to the walls of Shanghai itself.

WHITE WOLF is not so powerful a figure as the Heavenly King, and his career, which apparently the Government troops are about to end, has run only six months. WHITE WOLF is a bandit in the crude and battens upon wretched economic conditions in the defenceless interior provinces. Nevertheless, he has become a "headliner" in the world's news, and is putting the police power of YUAN SHIH-K'AI's Government to a severe test.

In the Philippines.

Representative MILLER of the Eighth Minnesota district recently travelled widely in the Philippines to find out for himself what is the desire and fitness for independence of the peoples in those islands. Mr. MILLER found that most of the educated classes, many business men, of course all politicians, were eager for independence. How is it with the common people, the great mass, say "over 80 per cent." (it must be a good deal more) of the population? Most of them never heard of independence; those that have don't know what it means. No more debts to pay, say some; no more taxes to pay, say others. A fine herd of wax noses for the office holding and office hunting class, the mob of everlasting shallow spouters, to pull about, at their pleasure. Incapable and dishonest Filipino officials there are enough already. The notion of a public trust is not yet developed in them. There is much crooked work at elections now, though only about 15 per cent. of the adult males vote. More than 70 per cent. of these are illiterate and have to have their votes marked for them. At the last election the percentage of literate voters to the whole population was 1.47. Small vote, big fraud. It is painful to know that the impenitent, forcible Moros are still fierce against Filipino rule. "If the Filipinos come to govern us," cried one chief to Mr. MILLER, "you can get on that island over there in the Celebes Sea, where you won't get hurt, and watch what a Moro does with a Filipino." Just about what a Sikh will do to a Babu when "self-government" is set up in India. Can't the Hon. ERVING WINSLOW or some other persuasive missionary be sent to convert these evil men?

In conclusion Mr. MILLER holds, like everybody else who lives outside the house of dreams, that "independent representative self-government in the Philippine Islands is an impossibility now."

How About the Ordinary Citizen?

So far as the public is concerned it is a matter of small consequence whether a riot is started by the incendiary utterances of an agitator or springs from the instinctive violence of a tough. Objection to the toleration of disorderly crowds in the highways is not concerned with the theories of corner spouters or the pleasures of loafers.

The dangerous quality of the Park Row noonday meetings is not that some crack brained person may shout an insult to the flag, for which some half drunk or merely mischief loving lounger may demand a penitential salute. It is that these gatherings have assumed a character of violence that attracts to them lovers of turmoil from all over the city, whose desire it is to see a row, no matter what its inception may be. Such an assemblage is always dangerous, whether it forms in New York or in any other city.

If it threatened only itself and those whose activities give its meeting place point nobody would object to it. But there are some hundreds of thousands of busy, respectable folk who use Park Row every day and whose comfort and safety are seriously disturbed by the riotous demonstrations which have come to be a part of each nooning. Have these ordinary citizens no rights that the city should regard?

A Fair Proposition.

Here is a modest inquiry which, in spite of the business of the time, is now answered promptly and to the best of our power:

"TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* We have had a debating club here for more than two years, but the interest of the public in our proceedings is subsiding, mainly, I think, because of the hackneyed stock subjects that we have had to discuss for want of better. It is so hard to find newer ones. Would it be too much trouble for you to suggest some fresh theme? ASAPH ATWOOD BREWSTER.

"BILLINGTON SEA, MASS., April 23."

No trouble at all. Here you are:

"*Resolved*, That WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN was more successful as Colonel of the Third Regiment of Nebraska Volunteers than as Secretary of State."

Or, in shorter form, if you prefer:

"*Resolved*, That WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN was greater as a soldier than as a diplomatist."

The beauty of this proposition is that it is in absolute logical equilibrium, or mighty near it. The argument is six to half a dozen. It is habit or prejudice and not logic that makes the affirmative look "jest a leetle" stronger.

The successful result of an attempt to prevent the further use of a hotel name already identified with an older institution is encouraging in this city, which has so many hotels that their names are scarcely to be remembered even by the perfect cockney. In more than one case the appropriation of a name already used might much better have been prevented by authority. One resort which was for years frequently under the notice of the police bore the name of a certain really high class hotel. There is the same carelessness in the case of apartment houses, when a little imagination and trouble would be sufficient to provide striking and appropriate names for all of them. Any action which tends to prevent confusion should be welcome to New York.

The Republic of Mexico has been, is and always will be in the right.—*General* HUERTA.

Whatever else he may be, VICTORIANO HUERTA is a philosopher.

On to the Isthmus!—*Colonel* WATTERSON.

This Kentucky Colonel must be amazed at his moderation. When the war fever rises higher he will be calling for a campaign as far south as the Straits of Magellan.

According to Dr. WILLIAM BAYARD HALE, who carried the message to CARRANZA, "it would be a fool's act to barter the confidence of a hemisphere for all we could gain by annexing Mexico." Do we still enjoy the confidence of "a hemisphere," by which the doctor means Spanish speaking America?

The report from Berlin that Colonel ROOSEVELT "is burning with anxiety to get into the fray in Mexico," attributed to an "American official" who lately saw Mr. ROOSEVELT in Brazil, is superfluous. When the Colonel returns he will rejoice that he is not cooped up in the White House during a war. His claim to a command in the field will be promptly recognized.

It turns out that Cadet ROBERT E. LEE who was "plucked" at West Point is not a grandson of the Confederate General, but is the son of a plain business man of North Carolina. Although this revelation eliminates the sentiment from the case, there is no reason why the application of the youngster for a commission in the war with Mexico should not be honored if he has the right stuff in him.

FILIPINO FOLLIES.

Two Typical Fool Measures Squelched in Forbes's Time.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Evidence of Filipino weakness as managers of government affairs are not new to those familiar with the Philippine Islands. While their Assembly consisted, as it did up to the dismissal of Governor-General Forbes, of four men from the islands and five from the States, mistakes were averted. The five from the States were men of experience, who had a real enthusiasm for the welfare of the people, and under whose guidance those capable of advance were steadily growing. The five Americans included the Governor-General and the Vice-Governor. When questionable measures came up they could be vetoed or laid upon the table.

Among such measures so disposed of last year two may be taken as typical. One was a proposal to appropriate a surprisingly large sum of money to establish schools of music and art in the provinces. Anybody who knows those provinces will realize the utility of defeating that measure.

Another project that met the same timely fate was to prohibit Filipino children from attending school in the rainy season. A large proportion of those scholars live in one or two roomed nipa shacks, damp if not wet when it rains, and where the family huddles in inaction when the rain pours, week in, week out. The school rooms are large and airy, and there are periods for exercise and for play. It also seems that every Oriental owns an umbrella or a bamboo mackintosh, and the native dress is of the simplest. It is evident therefore that the five were right. REGRET.

NEW YORK, April 21.

Two Mexican Wars.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* For nearly seventy years the historians, orators, poets and pamphleteers of New England have called our last century's war with Mexico a national shame, a blot upon our history, a crime to make Americans blush. But at least it was not a one man's war.

President Wilson says the American flag was flying over the American boat. President Huerta says that it was not; and President Huerta has more than once indicated possession of the faculty for direct statement.

New England still produces historians, orators, pamphleteers and perhaps poets. It would be interesting to know, if our former war on Mexico was a crime, what these persons think the present war is.

ISAAC R. PENNYPACKER.

ARDMORE, PA., April 23.

Philadelphia Cam.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I notice the various pronunciations given by one of your correspondents to the letter "a," together with the examples, shining or horrid, as the case may be, wherewith he elaborates his argument.

I rejoice to see that he does not include among these examples the Philadelphia rendering of the letter "a" in the word "calm." For be it known, your average Philadelphian, aside from preserving into this twentieth century the "haow" and "yeou" of the nineteenth, performs that feat in a manner which he would refer to as "cam."

Shall a pronunciation which gives us, for one instance, such a melodious reading as "I cammed her fears, and she was cam" perish from the face of the United States? I trow not! Camly yours,

NEW YORK, April 23. C. S. P.

A Daniel in Newark.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* My esteemed fellow townsman, who wisely hides his ignorance under the initials "E. S. P.," has very little knowledge of the Brazilian and Argentine languages, otherwise he would have known better than to say that "maxixe" is pronounced "mashesh." It is nothing of the kind, as I, who have lived many years in South America, know very well. The only correct pronunciation is "maxikes," with accent on the first syllable, just like Mexico. Take it from one who knows.

PRINCETONIAN.

NEWARK, N. J., April 23.

Redfield on Purlieus.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Secretary of Commerce Redfield in a speech before the Columbus Chamber of Commerce the other day found occasion to express in part his no doubt just indignation at "that particular form of Journalism we call the purlieus of the press" in the following characteristic phraseology:

But says in the lurid laxity of unlicensed mentality it has no existence in fact.

Just what did he mean, I wonder?

BECKWITH JOHNSON.

NEW YORK, April 23.

The Nebraska Thunderbolt of War.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Oh, Lord! What a blessing war would prove if it should only cause our present Secretary of State to resign and shine again in Bellona's panoply!

"Shoulder arms, Miss Polly Dutton! Soldier breeches put on!"

NEW YORK, April 23. GERWILIKING.

THE WAR WITH MEXICO.

In the Opinion of a Mexican, Due Wholly to President Wilson.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* At last President Wilson has obtained his object, declaring an outrageous war against a sister republic. This is without doubt one of the most inhumane and one sided affairs in all modern history. When I say one sided I refer to it as being caused wholly and solely by the President of the United States.

What similar case have we in history as a precedent where a President arises before Congress and reads a message asking to take steps to overthrow a President of a de facto Government of a sister republic? In all probabilities a similar case cannot be cited. The President of the United States at the same time declares that the war is not to be against the Republic of Mexico, but against Huerta.

It is, no doubt, a pity that Wilson has not procured real advisers, because neither Lind nor any of the advisers Wilson has consulted has given him a true description of the Mexican situation. Why did he not consult the real American colony in the Mexican republic? Then the advice would have been genuine, advice gained by experience and by Americans residing in the Republic of Mexico with families and interests there.

A nation of over 15,000,000 inhabitants is invaded by the troops of another nation of probably over 90,000,000. Although the population of Mexico is small and weak, as she has had a revolution for nearly four years, she will not allow herself to be trodden on by the United States, and particularly since there has not been any just cause for this war, which has been brought about by Wilson with his Puritan ideas to dominate a nation and overthrow a President of a de facto Government that has been practically recognized by all the civilized Powers of the world.

What would the United States have done if Germany, France or any other nation had intervened in its internal affairs during the civil war?

What is Wilson's object? Some may say to procure peace in the Republic of Mexico; in fact I think this is the pretext he has taken to make peace. Then, if it is as he claims and for the welfare of a sister republic, why not do the thing in a proper, puritan and gentlemanly manner? That is, do it as it should be done, by the safest, quickest and most certain way. This could have been accomplished by acknowledging and officially recognizing the de facto Government of Mexico.

Now again Wilson proclaims he does not want war, but simply wishes to overthrow the de facto President. Does he mean to say, to suit his own personal interest, he is going to throw the United States into probably one of the largest wars in its history? Because, looking at the situation as it should be and as he puts it before Congress, it is a personal affair between Mr. Woodrow Wilson and General Huerta, not a question between the President of the United States and the President de facto of the Republic of Mexico. If it were not taken as digressing, I should say that it would have been preferable for Wilson to have had a duel with Huerta and thus settled his own personal affairs and interests, instead of sacrificing God knows how many thousands of lives and wasting hundreds of millions of dollars.

Suppose we take the situation in another light, that the American flag has been insulted. All real Americans know that that is not the case. A few sailors and a non-executive officer were put under arrest for disembarking at a certain wharf in Tampico, where disembarkment had been prohibited by the Mexican Federal troops, then in possession of the port. Directly it became known to the General in charge at Tampico, he gave orders for the Americans to be set at liberty instantly and gave ample apologies for the error made by a subordinate officer. It is human to make errors. At the moment it became known to the President of the republic he also gave apologies for the mistake that had been made by an officer, that he did not know, in all probability, the real importance of arresting troops of a foreign Power.

The American Admiral goes to the extreme limit of demanding a salute of twenty-one guns to the American flag for what he considers a terrible affront to the Stars and Stripes. I am of opinion that the American Admiral did not at the time he demanded the salute grasp as he should have done the real possible and probable consequences of such a ridiculous request; or he may have had private instructions to take the first opportunity to find a cause to bring about a casus belli. During the last attack at Tampico, three or four months ago, the same thing was tried, but they then did not succeed. They also wanted to disembark troops to protect the foreigners, or, in other words, provoke the Mexican Federal troops to oppose their disembarkment to bring about, as I have just stated, a casus belli. Who knows but the American had private orders in this respect?

When the American troops crossed the Mexican frontier some months ago, being at the time armed, why did not the Mexican Government then demand a salute of twenty-one guns to its flag? The affront was without a doubt greater than what the American Admiral claims the present one to be, because in that special case the American troops were armed. Had Mexico been a larger nation and stronger than the United States, and had she at the same time had a desire to make war for nothing or practically over nothing, then she would have had a right to enforce an uncalled for salute to her flag, as the American Admiral has done. But Mexicans have as a rule deeper ideas of real rights and justice.

The war that has been commenced by the United States is not a popular war with the American citizen. This I have found out during my intermixing with Americans here and in other parts of the United States. The real gist of the situation is that the nation is going to war to back up the personal wish of Wilson.

Of course every Mexican will fight against the intervention of a foreign Power in Mexican domestic affairs, whether he is a Constitutionalist, a Huertista or a Zapatista, or any other name you wish to give him.

History will do justice and then we shall know the real cause of the personal dislike that Wilson has for Huerta; then we shall know the unjustifiable cause of this war, brought about by the United States, or I should say the President of the United States, with such a grand display of brutal force against a weak and sister republic.

This letter is what I consider absolutely impartial, and if read by any level headed American he can but admit that the present war is against the general opinion of the American public.

NEW YORK, April 23. E. PASCO.

He Should Be "Former Secretary of State."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I agree with "D. M. W." Bryan should be forced out of the position he occupies in the Government. I believe he is largely responsible for the present situation, on account of President Wilson listening to his sweet line of flowery peace talk of the past months. If sharp action had been taken after first demands were made there would be no Mexican situation to-day. However, we will all back up the President. R. H. D.

NEW YORK, April 24.

Champ and the Czar.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* If Mr. Thurlow Weed Barnes had been present on Sunday night at the West End Presbyterian Church he would have heard Champ Clark say, speaking of the leavening of the world with our republicanism, "In ten years there will be a Duma in St. Petersburg that will stay." This is a very different statement, and reflects nothing on the Czar. JUST TRUTH.

NEW YORK, April 23.

Shakespeare on the American Stage.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* It would be interesting to have some statements from some who know or even some discussion as to who in America has done most for the plays of Shakespeare in the theatre. P. O. LONIUS.

BROOKLYN, April 23.

UNKNOWN GENIUSES.

A Professional Writer Decides Them and Lauds the Hated Editors.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Does Robert Emmet Ward, your North Carolina friend, know that everybody who sends a manuscript to a magazine editor thinks he is an "unknown genius" and itches to be "discovered"? Does he know that there are tens of thousands of those "geniuses" in this country and that truck loads of their wares are dumped daily into editorial sanctums? Does he know that writing is the sole art of which every man, woman and child, with seventeen exceptions, thinks he is a master?

Every adult at some time in his (particularly her) life has sent a story to a magazine, devoutly believing it would be published. Occasionally a rejection slip or two disillusions "unknown geniuses," but most of them keep their stuff making the rounds of magazine offices. And once the "unknown geniuses" get the fever they can't be curbed. It is for that reason that real geniuses like Mr. Ward and me have no chance to land. The other fellows (they blame it on us) swamp the readers in editorial offices and at the same time sap every drop of the milk of human kindness from their systems. How lucky for Job that one of his trials was not reading manuscripts for editors!

I was sure when I was 18 (and who, at that age, isn't sure of the same thing?) that I was a great poet and short story writer. I started in then to try to convince newspaper and magazine editors that I was right in entertaining that estimate of myself. That was seventeen years ago and since then I have sent out and had returned, excepting a few poems, a carload of manuscripts. And I haven't registered a kick with an editor. He doesn't ask me to send him my stuff and when I send it I feel the obligation is on my part, not his. If he doesn't like a story I send him, why should I argue with him? He knows his business better than I do. I would be just as much justified in arguing with him as a pedler would be in arguing with you for refusing to buy a trinket from him.

A few days ago I "pondered" over the masterpieces in my collection of "quaint and curious volumes of forgotten lore." I wept over stories I had intended to be humorous and chuckled over supposedly pathetic ones. Then I breathed a prayer of thanks to those long suffering editors who had returned the stories.

During my efforts to become "known" I have been encouraged frequently by editors. Perhaps I have received fifty personal notes from them, offering suggestions or telling why my stories did not suit them. Yet they were under no obligation to help me, and surely they would not have done so had they been as inconsiderate as Mr. Ward would have us believe they are. I fear some "unknown geniuses" are obsessed with the idea that magazine editors conduct a correspondence school in short story writing. They are simply busy men, working in a field where competition is keener than in any other profession or business.

I once asked a well known short story author how long it requires to master the art of writing.

"I've been in the game thirty years and I haven't mastered it yet," he answered.

How fortunate all "unknown geniuses" would be if they realized that writing is the most difficult art to master!

SAMUEL EDWARD HARRIS.

FAR ROCKAWAY, April 23.

TASTE.

Conversion of One Who Went to Laugh, but Smiled Not.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I went to that exhibition of "Educational Shortcomings" to smile. A smile failed to arrive; instead, I felt like crying, overcome by the flood of sweetest memories of boyhood days; the recollections of clean minded, tender hearted women; love of a beautiful mother who would have been reluctant even to appear before her husband in the apparel of some women in public to-day.

I heard a giggle from a young thing so seated as to reveal considerable hosiery and leaning so that a bareness of bosom might not be lost to view. She found her amusement in the cardboard motto "God Bless Our Home."

In desperation I spoke to one of the women apparently in charge, and by the way—she wore a "modern" garment which to my eyes was a cross between an apron of a Washington Market butcher and an outdoor shift of a Dutch peasant—asking her what it meant. She said something about showing the contrast between modern art, &c. I did not wait to hear it all, but hurried out down into God's beautiful sunlight, profoundly thankful that I had lived in the plush album, cardboard motto age.

It is the inspiration I derived from it that helps me nowadays over many a hard place. D. W. B.

NEW YORK, April 23.

For Frightened Peace to Pant.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Will not some good soul with plethoric purse, Andrew Carnegie, for instance, extend a rescuing hand to Secretary Bryan's "soiled dove" of peace, frightened almost unto death by the barking dogs of war?

CLAYTON H. BUELL.

CORTLAND, April 23.

Cannon for Mexico.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The enclosed extract is from *Harper's Magazine* of May, 1858. JOHN BEATTIE.

FALL RIVER, MASS., April 23.

The silver cannon with which Queen Christina of Sweden shot fleas is still on exhibition in the royal arsenal at Stockholm. There should be a commission forthwith sent to examine it and introduce its use into this country, for should any imbroglio with our South American neighbors occur it would be found highly serviceable. It has been positively affirmed that during the late war the Mexicans were too hasty in agreeing to peace. Had they held out a little while longer, some of our heroes declare, there would have been no army left—the fleas would have beaten them if the Mexicans could not; they would have devoured them, men, officers, Generals' plumes and all.

A Departure.

From the Emmett, Idaho, Examiner.

Art Dilford went to Thunder last Friday.

The Modernists.

What can the modernists provide
That's equal to a lambrequin
Fashioned by some fond hand with pride,
Whose every touch put love within
Each stitch, whose tracery is graced
With art no modernist may know?
Ah, up-to-dateness has effaced
The kindliness of long ago.

Superlatively smart to stare
With sneers upon some tilt placed
Upon a spindle legged chair,
Where rested many a gray old head
In weariness after the smart
Of work was done? O modernist,
So superfluous, your art
Has lost all sweetness, you have missed
The secret when you lose the heart.

The old plush covered album now
Is but a thing of fun to-day
A gallant's versified love vow
Is naught to you but gaycty
Unmoved you con the pages o'er
Filled with the faces of the dead.
Love and devotion are no more
To you than summer breezes sped.

Ah, modernist, if you could show
In your bewilderment and haste
Dishes like those made long ago,
Your art would be something of taste.
But your thick clumsiness of style
Contains no graces to outlast
The touch of time; 'twill never beguile
A passing glance when you have passed.

Even the dances that you dance
Have not the graces of the waltz
The songs you sing do not entrance
They're dull and vapid, shallow, false.
Smart modernist, your plays are poor,
And they who play them poorer yet
For who among them will endure
Like Nellson playing *Juliet?*

HORACE SEYMOUR KELLEY.

PUBLISHERS LAUNCH FAIR PRESS CONGRESS

Idea for World Event at San Francisco Quickly Developed Here.

COMMITTEE ARRANGED FOR

Association Will Bring Plan to Attention of Newspaper Men Everywhere.

A little suggestion offered at the convention of the American Newspaper Publishers Association at the Waldorf yesterday fired the imaginations of the 350 publishers present and was greeted with big applause. It was that the association take steps to bring about a world's press congress at the Panama-Pacific exposition in San Francisco next year.

The idea, starting in a mere ventured word or two, was seized upon and whipped into shape in a few minutes, so that before the convention had left the subject the association's president, Elbert H. Baker of the Cleveland *Plain Dealer*, had been instructed to appoint a committee of three to bring the matter to the attention of newspaper men everywhere.

This committee will endeavor to reach an agreement with press organizations all over the world that all may unite to make this first Press Congress the biggest thing of the kind conceivable. Besides the publishers themselves, there are several associations of advertising men and business managers, circulation makers and the big newsgathering agencies, the Associated Press, THE SUN News Service, the International News Service and many syndicates all of which might unite in the congress.

From abroad it was thought that it would be possible to get representatives of all the great European newspapers, news agencies and correspondents from Germany important posts. Combined with the Press Congress would be the biggest and most complete newspaper exposition ever held. It is possible that the whole operation of a modern daily will be exhibited from the gathering of news to the finest and largest of presses going in full speed.

Graded Membership Probable.

The problem which occupied nearly the whole morning session of the convention was the old question of graded membership. The petitions of the smaller newspapers all over the country for a system of membership and dues that would permit them to belong to the association have been more numerous this year than ever before. At present the initiation fee of the association is $75, yearly dues are $75, and in addition each publisher member has to pay a sum of about $6 a year on each linotype or other typesetting machine his newspaper uses. The total cost of a membership has seemed prohibitive to most of the papers with 10,000 or 20,000 circulation, anxious as they are to share the benefits of membership.

In the discussion several plans for letting the little papers in were suggested. One was that the initiation fee be a unit for all papers of 20,000 circulation or less. Another suggestion was that the dues paid by a newspaper should be directly proportioned to the population of the town, city or district.

Proportioned to Circulation.

The scheme which seemed to meet with most approval, as apparently the most equitable for all, was that each member's dues be directly proportioned to his newspaper's circulation. Thus the publisher of a paper selling 100,000 copies would pay ten times as much in dues as the publisher of a paper with a circulation of only 10,000, or if the exact proportion were not maintained a partial proportion would be possible.

The matter was finally referred to the association's directors and they were told to outline a full, concrete plan of graded membership and present it to the convention to-day, its closing day.

In the afternoon these officers were chosen for the coming year: Herbert L. Bridgman of the Brooklyn *Standard Union*, president; Hopewell L. Rogers of the Chicago *Daily News*, vice-president; Edward Payson Call of the *Journal of Commerce*, New York, treasurer, and John Stewart Bryan of the Richmond *News Leader*, secretary. Mr. Bridgman advances from the vice-presidency. Mr. Bryan is reelected, and Mr. Call takes the place of William J. Pattison of the New York *Evening Post*. The retiring president is Elbert H. Baker of the Cleveland *Plain Dealer*.

Charles W. Knapp New Director.

Hilton U. Brown of the Indianapolis *News*, Frank P. Glass of the Montgomery *Advertiser* and Jason Rogers of the New York *Globe* continue as directors, and the following directors were reelected: J. F. MacKay of the Toronto *Globe*, Harry Chandler of the Los Angeles *Times* and Charles H. Taylor of the Boston *Globe*. Charles W. Knapp of the St. Louis *Republic* was the single new director chosen, making seven in all.

The publishers adopted a resolution complimenting California upon the rebuilding of San Francisco and calling upon all the newspapers of the United States and Canada to give as much publicity as possible to the Panama-Pacific exposition.

NEW CHAPEL IS CONSECRATED

Bishop Greer Accepts Mrs. G. L. Rives's Gift to Cathedral.

Bishop Greer consecrated St. Ambrose Chapel of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine yesterday. He was assisted by Dean Grosvenor, the Rev. Dr. Slattery of Grace Church, and Stanley C. Hughes of New York. The Rev. Dr. R. F. Jones officiated. The chapel was built at a cost of $[illegible] by Mrs. George L. Rives in memory of her parents and other immediate relatives, Augustus Whiting, Sarah Sayre, Jane Whiting, Amelia Whiting, Augustus Whiting, Jr., and Burden.

The Episcopal service was used. George L. Rives, legal documents vesting the cathedral and the chapel in them in the name of the Lord. 150 persons were present.

St. Ambrose Chapel is in the Italian Renaissance and is in memory of its appointment. It is of American workmanship. The dimensions are 28 by [illegible]

WILSON ACCEPTS AN OFFICE

President to Be Honorary Vice-President of Legal Aid Society.

At a meeting of the board of directors of the Legal Aid Society the following letter was read: "Mr. Wilson, who has been elected vice-president of the society, writes:

"I deem it an honor to accept the honorary vice-presidency of the Legal Aid Society. I have long followed the work of the society with the deepest interest, not only but with the admiration which is held by genuine lawyers.

According to the latest report of the society, which depends entirely on voluntary contributions to support the organization, it dealt with 10,129 cases in 1913 at an expense of $[illegible] for each case.