

The Sun

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1914.

Entered at the Post Office at New York as Second Class Matter.

Subscriptions by Mail, Postpaid.

Table with subscription rates: DAILY, Per Month, Per Year, SUNDAY, Per Month, Per Year, etc.

THE EVENING SUN, Per Month, Per Year, etc.

All checks, money orders, etc., to be made payable to The Sun.

Published daily, including Sunday, by the Sun Printing and Publishing Association at 170 Nassau Street, New York.

London office, 10, Abchurch Lane, E. C. 4. Paris office, 8, Rue de la Michodiere, off Rue du Centre, Paris.

If our friends who favor us with manuscripts and illustrations for publication wish to have their names retained they must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

Senator Burton's Victory.

When the river and harbor bill was reported to the Senate on June 18 Europe was not at war, there was no suggestion of extraordinary taxes in the United States, and a filibuster against the appropriations, indefensible though they were, seemed a hopeless undertaking.

Congress would expire on March 4, 1901, and all that was necessary was for the Senator from Montana to prolong the discussion. How well he played his part need not be recited.

This year Senator Burton, who led and managed the filibuster, had no impending adjournment of Congress to cheer him.

The European war came to the aid of the filibuster and emphasized the wastefulness and extravagance of the bill, but its authors held determinedly to their purpose.

The question will naturally be asked in England, what were the destroyers doing that they failed to protect the Aboukir, Cressy and Hogue?

But will the House, fresh from the passage of the new tax bill, with the elections only a month away, be in a mood to advertise its contempt for economy and its violation of its platform pledges after the surrender of the bill's defender in the Senate?

Senator Burton has won a splendid victory. Perhaps its full effects may be displayed in a new and proper system of river and harbor improvement.

A Zephyr in a Small Teapot. President Wilson ought to write a letter to Governor Glynn thanking him for supporting that paragraph of the Governor's Carnegie Hall speech in which Mr. Wilson was compared to Lincoln.

The differences between Lincoln and Wilson justify Governor Glynn's second and better thought to omit from his spoken address the passage which appeared in his prepared speech.

When Mr. Churchill says that "if they [the Germans] do not come out and fight in time of war they will dig out like rats out of a hole" he probably makes the judicious among naval strategists grieve.

It must be difficult to find a prouder man than Grant B. Peacock, the Princeton goffer who beat Champion Oulmet 2 up and 1 to play at Greenwich.

The progress of work on the city's dual system of subways was clearly explained yesterday by the chairman of the Public Service Commission, Judge McCull, among many other important statements, points out two broad facts of more than technical interest.

cluded Lincoln. If the Emancipator had not been a very great man the Roosevelt outfit would have succeeded in making him odious. As it is, the Progressives have detracted a great deal from the significance of comparisons in which his name figures.

Incidentally, this zephyr in a doll's size political teapot had its origin in an enterprise of the sort that has called forth from the President as sharp a rebuke as he has lately given to meddlers!

God's Marchers and God's House.

"Forward with God!" "Have faith in God!" "March with God!" So does Wilhelm II, who has a strong and evidently sincere faith in the God of Battles, the Lord God of Sabaoth, exhort his soldiers.

A cathedral is a house of God, domus Dei, a Dom or Donkirkhe. A most unfortunate want of precision in the medieval ecclesiastical architects provided the houses of God with towers.

These military structures, as they must be regarded in the light of contemporary German progress, are said to have been devised originally by those Mesopotamian manuequiers the Assyrians. If, warlike in their origin, they are peculiarly befitting to the military religiosity of the present, they are destined to perish wherever they happen to be in a country hostile to German culture and are within range of the marchers with God.

The French architects seem to have displayed a devilish malignity, an almost president Germanophobia. They planned that Rheims should have seven towers with spires. They actually had the impious to finish six at Laon.

God's House must fall wherever God's Marchers can get at it. The towers and spires invite their attack. Chapel and cloister, apse and transept, shrine, reliquary and treasury, statue and tomb, carving and picture and window, apostle and saint, the garnered worship of creative centuries; God's Marchers need to destroy them; and why not? God doesn't need them. His Marchers leave Him the crypt.

The sinking of three of the six British cruisers of the Cressy class by German submarines in the North Sea means that no ship of the first line of battle composed of dreadnoughts is secure from attack by the German raiders, who are showing more initiative and daring than the officers of the British flotillas.

Why "forget him," as "New Jersey" remarks, if one honestly believes his conviction an outrage? The crime has already been sufficiently avenged by the law.

Development of Political Freedom in Orange County. To the Editor of The Sun:—Sir: The following letter, taken from the Warwick Valley Dispatch of September 16, is so illuminating that I send it without comment.

To the Editor of The Dispatch:—Sir: A good fortnight before the fall primary day when we were expected to nominate our ticket, I saw by the papers that candidates were already carefully hand picked.

The Americanoids. To the Editor of The Sun:—Sir: Stop for one moment and allow a reader who has voted in ten Presidential elections and gladly gave his vote to William Howard Taft to tell you how he feels.

To the Editor of The Sun:—Sir: How shall Germany be made to pay for Louvain, Visé, Rheims and other outrages? I wish I were on the board of assessors to fix the amount of damages.

Progress. To the Editor of The Sun:—Sir: In adding the human race nature takes terrible and ruthless ways of accomplishing her object.

Primary Occupation of the New Jersey. To the Editor of The Sun:—Sir: Every time I go to Jersey they are holding an election, a primary or something of the sort, or are about to hold one as evidenced by banners and placards conspicuously displayed.

They [the German newspapers] allege that the French, disregarding the sacredness of the edifice so closely allied with France's history, deliberately mounted a cathedral, from which they fired on the German positions.—Berlin despatch.

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First Farmer—Think the railroads are doing enough.

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counter on the Germans with terrible effect in the North Sea. That, however, is more easily said than done.

While Sir Percy Scott's theory that the day of the battleship is over, to be succeeded by an era of attack by "ships that swim under the water and cannot be seen," will now be freely quoted to account for the fate that has befallen three British cruisers, which were expected to deal destructive blows and not to receive them, the experts will not look for many repetitions of such deadly submarine attack by the Germans; still less will they count upon the singleness of the British flotillas or apprehend any tendency to demoralization in the service.

Mr. Daniels Mistaken. Secretary DANIELS can turn a sod with any man, as he proved when he drove a pick into the ground to begin the construction of a shipyard at the Philadelphia Navy Yard on Monday.

Will you not try to spread this idea and thus help the sick and wounded in the European armies? A. Z. STOCKBRIDGE, Mass., September 22.

THE BECKER CASE AGAIN. To the Editor of The Sun:—Sir: The gentleman from New Jersey in his letter to The Sun wants "the law to settle the matter." I have no sympathy whatever with the second trial, with its "criminal" witnesses testifying to save their own necks, and the many other irregularities.

Opinion of an Impartial New England Observer. To the Editor of The Sun:—Sir: The gentleman from New Jersey in his letter to The Sun wants "the law to settle the matter." I have no sympathy whatever with the second trial, with its "criminal" witnesses testifying to save their own necks, and the many other irregularities.

Missionaries. It is a duty and a joy to record the delicacy, the tact, the courtesy, the wisdom and the success of Mr. HERMAN RIDDER's services as a German missionary in parts of the heathen and the hypocrites.

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less than 14,000 men here in New York, to say nothing of the indirect support furnished by the employees who produce the materials used in the subway. The second generalization is likewise a cause for congratulation. Had the attempt of certain opponents of the subway plan succeeded in postponing the completion of the agreements binding the city, the companies and the bankers had the contracts gone for twelve or eighteen months as was proposed in order to secure better financial terms, rapid transit would have been blocked for years to come.

Judge McCull, who is carrying out the plan for the city's benefit, with such energy and intelligence, pays a deserved tribute to the men who pushed through the contracts in the face of bitter criticism, namely, Mr. WILCOX, his predecessor as chairman of the Public Service Commission; Mr. MCANENY and Comptroller FRIENBERG.

A Reminder of the Coming of Red Sunday. To the Editor of The Sun:—Sir: It has been suggested and I believe agreed upon that the Editor of The Sun should send a letter to the village on "Peace Sunday," October 4, be devoted to the Red Cross.

Would it not be well through your paper and its exchanges to endeavor to spread this idea through the churches and synagogues of the United States? It is well known that enormous amounts are raised for any good purpose by the aggregation of small sums, and many people who would hesitate to give openly the little they could afford will often gladly slip their mites into a contribution box.

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JAPAN. Her Friendship for the United States Assorted.

To the Editor of The Sun:—Sir: It was with real pleasure that I read the editorial article headed "Japan" in The Sun of Saturday last. Why, indeed, should the people of the United States seem perpetually to require of Japan declarations of her good intentions toward this country? We have always been her friend, and she has always been ours.

Nothing but the outcry of our own mischief makers can ever make it appear otherwise. When our Hobsons and their like have fraudulently misrepresented and calumniated Japan that equally light-headed publicists in Japan should throw doubt on our motives and policy.

I have just returned from a visit to Japan, where I did my best to observe the land and the people. Perhaps the most outstanding of my experiences was the desire on every hand to have Japan thought of well and kindly by the United States. It became almost pathetic.

It appeared to me as the spontaneous utterance of a deeply rooted habit of mind. From Count Okuma, the Prime Minister, down it was always the same declaration. Going through a village not very far from Tokio I entered a general store to make some small purchases.

English, a friend interpreted for me. A man in black with staring eyes who was squatting beside the proprietor suddenly said in Japanese: "Do I hear an American?"

"Then ask him to listen to my words on the honorable benefits America has brought to Japan," and starting straight ahead, for he was blind, he went on lyrically celebrating Americans and America in a homely way.

The Hobsons point to the Philippines and indicate how easily Japan could seize them, and thereupon they clamor for more warships. And so on and so on. Now, as Baron Kaneko, an accomplished man knowing America thoroughly, insists, Japan has no desire to own the Philippines.

Formosa, Japan's only land prize for the war in China, a bit of an elephant on her back, thickly populated by Chinese farmers, and otherwise made uncomfortable by large tribes of savage head hunters, the island's climate is too hot to attract a heavy Japanese immigration.

The Philippines are still further south and climatically still less attractive. But Japan's benevolent attitude has other grounds. She is not seeking war with the United States. Her present aim is the widening of her markets, and she wants all the money she can spare for that object.

Her main chance for new markets lies in China. To exploit them under the opportunity presented by the world war is her greatest wish. For this purpose Japan is turning to the United States in the hope of securing the assistance of private capital where she offers profitable investment, namely, in manufactures of her steel, iron and cotton goods.

As you have said, her friendship is worth having. Let us have it without reservation. Whatever grievance Japan has is the largely sentimental one of not being treated fully and frankly on the basis of "the most favored nation" as her treaty rights should insure.

She has not lost her head over it, however, and there is nothing at stake in the matter that cannot be adjusted honorably to both nations.

In the meantime, then, we should, as you say so tersely, relieve her of the necessity she feels to assert her friendliness to America, which is and will be the house of her friends.

Compare the Japanese with the peoples of the entire Orient and your view will be more than confirmed. JOSEPH I. C. CLARKE, MERRIEWOOD PARK, N. Y., September 20.

LOUVAIN AND RHEIMS. The Effect of the Latter Outrage on Friendly American Sentiment.

To the Editor of The Sun:—Sir: The United States is pro-German. The effect of the outrage of the Rheims Cathedral is the last straw.

The spirit that wantonly destroys such beauty must itself be destroyed. SCRIANTON, Pa., September 22.

An Indignant Contributor's Suggestion as to the Rebuilding. To the Editor of The Sun:—Sir: When this war ends in the complete triumph of the allies, and it cannot end in any other way, they should retain 100,000 of the German prisoners from them into chain gangs and make them rebuild Louvain and Rheims.

As many officers as possible should be included in the gangs. Those cathedrals would be more famous than ever in after time if the walls bore an authentic picture of the Kaiser mixing mortar and his six stalwart sons carrying loads. This would mark a distinct advance in civilization. R. J., New York, September 22.

TO FIGHT WAR TAX ON BEER AND TOBACCO. TARIFF IS DEFENDED IN WAR TAX REPORT.

Leaders in Two Industries Unwilling to Raise \$35,000,000 of \$100,000,000. Responsibility for New Revenue Measure Laid Solely on the War.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22.—The fiscal committee majority of the House Committee on Ways and Means made its formal report on the war revenue bill today. That the war and not the shortening of the Democratic tariff laws was the sole reason for such legislation was indicated in the first paragraph of the report, which said:

"The necessity for this legislation grows out of the reduction of revenues derived from customs receipts, caused by the disturbed conditions resulting from the war in Europe."

The following table showing the estimated effect of the war on customs receipts appears in the report. Estimated Total Value of Imports, 1914, \$1,100,000,000. Estimated Total Value of Exports, 1914, \$1,100,000,000.

Table with columns: Country, Dutiable Imports, 1914, Estimated Total Value of Exports, 1914. Rows include Austria-Hungary, Belgium, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Russia, Serbia and Montenegro, United Kingdom, and Totals.

Estimate on a Year's Basis. The report adds that this estimate is made on the assumption that all imports from the European countries at war will cease during the next twelve months. The import values shown represent the dutiable articles imported during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1914. The estimated falling off in revenue is computed by applying the rates of the act of 1913 to the imports for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1914.

The final necessity for the enactment of an extraordinary revenue measure is summed up by the Democrats in the following conclusion: "Current requirements reached the conclusion that it is conservative to state that the loss of customs caused by the war conditions abroad for one year will be \$100,000,000. This amount, unless replaced by taxes from other sources, would cause a serious deficit in our Treasury balance."

"It is true that we have a general fund balance in the Treasury to \$119,000,000. About \$75,000,000 of this money is now deposited in the national banks of the country to assist in trade movement of crops and to meet the Treasury's daily needs. Of the remaining surplus there is a large amount in subsidiary coin and bullion, which is not available for use in meeting current obligations."

"The question therefore confronts us as to whether it is advisable to call in this surplus from the banks at this time or to levy additional taxes to take care of the loss of revenue caused by the war."

"Should this bill become a law, as proposed by the committee, we confidently believe that the revenue that will be derived during the first twelve months of the bill is in operation will amount to \$105,000,000, distributed as follows:

Table with columns: Item, Amount. Rows include Fermented liquors, Wines, Spirits, Special taxes, Stamp taxes, and Total.

"We are of the opinion that this additional revenue will provide sufficient funds to meet governmental expenditures until the closing of the revenue year by the disturbed conditions of Europe have ceased and the normal revenues derived at the custom house have resumed."

The minority report, in which the Republican members join, also made an estimate of the revenue that will be derived during the first twelve months of the bill. It is in operation will amount to \$105,000,000, distributed as follows:

The Republicans also fail to discuss any threat of disaster through the withdrawal of Federal funds from the banks. The Republican report says:

It would not seem that there is any occasion for panic or hasty action or headlong rush to enact legislation to heap heavier burdens upon the people. While not dissatisfied in this bill with the general fund balance of \$119,000,000 referred to in the majority report, it is large enough to meet the present demands the President argues against the withdrawal of this money from the banks for the purpose of taxation of the people. He believes that the withdrawal of these deposits would take money out of business and cause injury.

We fail to see how the gradual withdrawal of the money in the banks will have any more serious effects upon the banks and business generally than the withdrawal of a much larger sum from the people. The minority will receive a shrift at the hands of the Democratic majority in the House when the bill comes before that body as it will do today when the majority Leader will introduce the bill under which the bill will be debated. This rule provides for only four hours of general debate and no debate whatsoever under the five minute rule. The bill will be subject to amendment, and only one amendment to a motion to recommit, will be admissible.

The Republican members of the House are up in arms at this application of the rule. Mr. Underwood is convinced that the House will pass the bill by 2 P. M. Thursday at the latest.

THREE MAILS TO EUROPE TO-DAY. Liners Sailing Are the St. Paul, Germania and the Frederick VIII.

The American liner St. Paul, sailing to-day for Liverpool, will make a stop at the General Post Office at 4 P. M. for England, France, Saxony, Austria, Hungary, West Asia and the East Indies.

WANT OTHERS TO PAY. DISSENTING REPORT FILED.

Prominent men in the brewing and tobacco industries left no doubt yesterday that the Government's new internal revenue war tax would be energetically opposed. These two industries are expected to pay \$35,000,000 of the needed \$100,000,000.

The general argument offered by brewers and tobacco men was that their industries were already taxed to the limit, that further taxation would lessen production and that super-tax levies should be applied to "genuine luxuries" which pay no national tax whatever and not to these products which are consumed and paid for by the poor.

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"Beer is not a luxury. It is as much a staple of life in the United States as it is in Germany, where a law has been passed during the war. Why not tax whiskey?"

"The liquor dealer is amused to note that there is less talk of temperance when the Government is hard up for revenue and maligned in times of peace, but promptly appealed to when funds are needed. And, although our industry is already milked dry, we shall have to pay again."

Similar protests are heard on the revenue tobacco men. Their position is explained in this way in their organ, the Tobacco Leaf, by John Bain, Jr., an authority on tobacco:

"Tobacco should not be taxed because 50 per cent. of the tobacco used in this country is consumed by the poor and middle classes. Tobacco is already overtaxed. It has been so for over half a century. In customs and internal revenue tobacco pays \$103,000,000 into the United States Treasury every year. This sum is more than the entire tobacco industry makes in profit."

The tax upon most of the cigarettes sold is 25 per cent. of the price paid by the consumer. The cigar industry pays the taxes at a much greater rate. The profit made in the manufacture of cigars. All cigarettes containing Turkish tobacco pay in addition to the revenue tax an import duty of 45 cents per pound.

Thinks Tobacco Overtaxed. "The average nickel cigar pays an import duty of \$1.85 a pound on the wrapper portion. All imported cigars and cigarettes are taxed with the revenue tax a duty of \$4.50 a pound and 25 per cent. ad valorem."

"Never before has the tobacco business yielded so small a profit as it does at the present time. The industry has been taxed under the strain of a larger taxation. The reason why the industry is deficient in resources is the war and the exceptions it is contributing more money to the Government than any other line of merchandise. An increase of the internal revenue, furthermore, causes a decrease in production, which means a decrease in the receipts."

"The master minds of finance at Washington seem to regard the tobacco trade as a sort of governmental stamp. It is known that automobiles taxed at 50 cents per horse-power would produce over \$200,000,000, and that candy taxed as chewing tobacco is would produce a like amount. The truth is that revenue is a good deal more necessary than the war over which the revenue question has arisen."

MAY REPORT TRUST BILL TO DAY. Conference Committee Reaches an Informal Agreement.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22.—The conference committee of the Senate and House on the Clayton anti-trust bill made no progress today, but informally agreed among themselves that they would conclude their labors and report the bill to-morrow, if possible.

The differences of opinion over the patent monopoly amendment of Senator Walsh, which the conferees undertook to modify, and the obstacles the conferees encountered in striving to modify Senator Reed's amendment directing receiverships and enforced sale of the property and business of corporations which may be adjudged offenders of the law against monopolies are the disturbing issues.

BRITISH 'SPEECHES' DENIED. Embassy Issues Statement About Burns and Grey Fabrications.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22.—Further denial of statements attributed to Government leaders in England was issued by the British Embassy here to-day, as follows: "Certain reports of the press, which are supposed to have been delivered by British statesmen, such, for instance, as that attributed to Mr. Burns, which is a pure fabrication."

"Recently a statement had been made as to a speech of Sir Edward Grey, in which he is quoted as saying that 'there shall be no peace until Germany is cleared of the earth.' The territory divided between Russia and France and her commerce definitely delivered to England."

PAY FOR AUTOS SEIZED IN WAR. State Department Assured Americans Will Be Recompensed.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22.—The State Department is replying to many complaints from American tourists against the commandeering of their automobiles in the war zone that it has assurances from the belligerent nations that owners will be fully recompensed.

Solicitor General Johnson advised the claimants to make their representations to the proper authorities abroad. The State Department will keep hands off in such cases unless claimants fail to get restitution from the foreign Governments.

Rail Official Killed in Collision. Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Sept. 22.—Edwin G. Irwin, superintendent of transportation for the Wilkes-Barre Railway, was killed to-day when a passenger car and a work car came together in a head on collision. Two other persons were injured.