The Sun.

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Secretary Garrison and the Power of Congress.

It is truly satisfactory to have Secretary GARRISON's personal assurance that his attitude toward Congressional investigation of the conditions and needs of national defence is very different from what was inferred from published reports of his talk on the subject. In a letter to THE SUN he defines his position carefully and places himself on safe ground. He was understood as desiring to limit virtually to official departmental communications the information afforded to Congress or its committees. It appears that all he desired was to prevent army officers from volunteering to give their views and also to prevent such views from being mistaken for expressions of the policy of the War Department.

Mr. GARRISON's wish to keep departmental communications entirely distinct from personal opinions or theories is sound. The policies which the Administration advocates should be kept clear and apart from everything else in the minds of Congressmen and of the public. All proper precautions should be taken to this end. It is not altogether plain that this discrimination should necessarily bar officers from offering their views to Congress. An army officer discussing points in his profession is generally understood to be speaking for himself only; indeed, it is usually because of some difference from departmental ideas that he speaks at all, and he is apt to make the difference quite plain in a courteous way. But, perhaps, the point of officers volunteering to talk is not one of great practical importance. As Mr. GARRISON points out, Congress has unlimited power in summoning them, and if any one has ideas that he wishes to bestow on the country it is never hard to get himself subpœnaed.

The wrong impression regarding Secretary GARRISON's attitude has been in no small part due to President WILSON's reported ironical comment on Representative GARDNER's move for a general discussion of the defence question; namely, that it would be "good mental exercise." Mr. GARDNER is not the only newspaper reader who considered that this indicated indifference if not opposition to an investigation of the military needs of the country. Not unnaturally pronouncements of the Secretary which on the surface fell in with such an attitude were interpreted in that sense and as representing the hostile attitude of the Administration.

In his letter, which we publish in a neighboring column, Mr. GARRISON shows that his position is entirely correct. It has reference to department etiquette rather than to the policy of the Government. Mr. GARRISON has taken his duties seriously and has won high esteem since the beginning of the Administration for his sanity and moderation, and for the practical quality of his direction of army affairs. It would have been discouraging if this energetic gentleman and valuable public servant had slipped into any aberrations in regard to his relations with the Congress, and it is reassuring to find that such is not the case.

Japan's Responsibility With Regard to Kiao-chow.

Bearing upon the intentions of the Japanese Government with regard to the future of Kiao-chow, a voluntary statement recently made by Count OKUMA, the Japanese Premier, is illuminating and it is of the highest importance. In the end of August Count OKUMA sent "a message" to the people of the United States in the course of which he said:

"As Premier of Japan I have stated, and I now again state to the people of America and of the world, that Japan has no ulterior motive, no desire to secure more territory, no thought of depriving China or other peoples of anything which they may now possess. My Government and my people have given their word and their pledge, which will be as honorably kept as Japan always keeps promises."

Reading the ultimatum to Germany in the light of this "message" to the American people, it is difficult to believe that Japan meditates the occupation of Kiao-chow for a longer period than required to reconstruct the government in the interests of China and within a reasonable time to turn it over to her Government. The length of the occupation Japan would have the right to determine as the evictor of Germany at considerable cost in money and also of Japanese lives.

There can be no doubt that Professor JENKS reflected American opinion when he interpreted the ultimatum to Germany to mean that Japan would not attempt to seize Kiao-chow for herself. Professor JENKS did not deal with the question that Japan may eventually decide to take over the lease of China to Germany upon the assumption that faith would be kept if the intention were made clear that the territory was to be restored to China upon the expiration of the lease. Apparently he holds that this would be a hair splitting evasion of the moral obligation assumed by Japan, and in effect a violation of the solemn agreement to respect the integrity of China, to which Japan is a party. So frequently has Count OKUMA disclaimed for Japan any design upon the territory of China that it may be assumed that he would not take issue with Professor JENKS. But as public opinion in Japan may demand that by way of compensation for expenditure and losses incurred in the war the Government shall take over the unexpired lease of Germany, the United States must be prepared for an unwelcome interpretation of the words "eventual restoration" which were used in the ultimatum to Berlin.

The Foot and Mouth Scandal.

The whole system of Federal, State and local cattle inspection has been shown up as useless and ineffective by the spread of foot and mouth disease, now definitely established in the herds of fourteen widely separated States, and probably existing in others. The wide authority and almost despotic power confided to public officers to protect the population from diseased domestic cattle, the great sums of money cheerfully contributed by the taxpayers for salaries, fees and reimbursements, have been wasted.

A disease easily recognized, the spread of which is possible only through neglect of the simplest precautions, has been carried over a territory comprising a quarter of the United States, within which at least a third of its population lives; it menaces the cattle in every other State, and through them the health of every citizen of the country.

The present duty of the authorities is obvious, and they are approaching it with some show of intelligent determination. The future duty of the authorities will be to reorganize their inspection services so that such a pestilence cannot again spread from the place of its origin or introduction into the country, and to punish the unfaithful or incompetent men responsible for its contemporary prevalence.

How much the taxpayers pay for the service that has permitted this disease to run the course it has nobody knows. The sum is in the millions. It has been paid over by the taxpayers without complaint. But before this subject is disposed of the gentlemen who have been spending it without accomplishing anything are likely to hear some plain talk from those they have betrayed.

Peaceful Mr. Gompers.

At the Philadelphia convention of the American Federation of Labor Mr. WALTER GEORGE SMITH, representative of the Catholic Federation, seems to have stirred the bile of many delegates, notably those of the miners' unions, by censuring the violence to which the latter have resorted so often and so memorably. Counsels of law and order may properly be addressed to ordinary citizens, but they are an insult to the bellicose private warriors of Colorado. Several indignant patriots jumped up to rebuke the unworthily peaceful Mr. SMITH. The Hon. SAMUEL GOMPERS, as one speaking with authority, took the floor and uttered his—we hope it isn't the Federation's—official creed and confession:

"I believe in peace and order and I deplore violence. But I feel that it is my duty to say at this time that there comes a time in the affairs of labor when meekly to bow to oppressive demands upon it is to consent to the riveting upon the wrists of industry of the shackles to oppression."

Mr. GOMPERS deplores but approves. The laws and the courts, public opinion and the ballot, these slow processes may be good enough for unprivileged citizens. To "labor" there comes a time when the rifle and the bomb are legitimate arguments and proper tools.

The "oppression" which this firm friend of peace with violence complains of is refusal of the employers to submit to associations of the employees.

The Feud in Mexico.

The prospect of reconciling the Constitutionalist factions in Mexico seems almost hopeless. It is just as well for the Administration to be prepared for the complications of another civil war. Governor CARRANZA in a message to the junta in Washington reads his title of provisional President, until an election is held, in the plan of Guadalupe; and whatever his idiosyncrasies may be, he is courageous and stubborn. The plan of Guadalupe was adopted by the Constitutionalists who acknowledged CARRANZA as leader on March 26, 1913, in Coahuila. It contained the following declaration:

"In order to organize the army entrusted with the accomplishment of our purposes we hereby appoint as First Chief of the army, which shall be named Constitutionalist, Señor VENUSTIANO CARRANZA, Governor of Coahuila.

"When the Constitutionalist army occupies Mexico city, Señor VENUSTIANO CARRANZA, or whoever may succeed him in command of the army, will be appointed ad interim head of the executive power. The ad interim President of the republic shall call a general election as soon as peace is established, delivering the power to the man who shall be elected."

So long as the rebellion lasted, that is to say, until HUERTA's successor turned the Government over to the Constitutionalists, CARRANZA's right to call himself First Chief was not challenged. The precise terms of the Guadalupe plan were not followed; there was no appointment of "ad interim head of the executive power," but the platform indicated CARRANZA as provisional President and he assumed the office. He has never called a general election, and if the Constitution is respected he cannot be a candidate at the polls. At various times he has talked of resigning and becoming a candidate, but his latest official statement eliminates him unless he intends to place the Constitution aside and set up as dictator.

It will be recalled that after Governor CARRANZA made his entry into the capital he was a party to an understanding with the military leaders, including General VILLA, that a conference should be held in the city of Mexico to appoint an acting President and organize a civil government. But nothing came of the compact, VILLA himself balking because he feared Governor CARRANZA would control the conference, thus obviously repudiating the plan of Guadalupe. The conference of Generals afterward held at Aguascalientes, which appointed EMILIO GUTIERREZ provisional President, was not recognized by Governor CARRANZA because it was a foregone conclusion that FRANCISCO VILLA, with his "bodyguard," would dominate the meeting. General GUTIERREZ has since claimed the office of acting President and appointed FRANCISCO VILLA commander of the armies of the republic. The appointment has had the inevitable effect of driving every military leader jealous of the prominence of VILLA over to the side of CARRANZA: PABLO GONZALES, OBREGON, BLANCO, HAY, and even VILLAREAL, who was the first selection of the Aguascalientes conference for provisional President. It is significant that members of the Madero family are also divided in their allegiance. Governor CARRANZA's announcement that "hostilities have opened between the forces of the Aguascalientes convention and its so-called Government and the present legal Government, of which I am the Chief Executive," is a challenge which General VILLA will be eager to accept.

In the event of another civil war in Mexico, which now seems unavoidable, the duty of the Washington Administration is clear: to let the Constitutionalists fight their quarrel out to the end and to continue the occupation of Vera Cruz, while making adequate preparations to intervene if conditions in Mexico become chaotic and perilous to American interests.

A Nutmeg Winterwisher.

The bland behavior of the best of Octobers and one of the most amiable of Novembers, so far, vexes the irritable race of weather warlocks. Not, of course, the Government regulators of storm and sunshine. They make a fair average of successful predictions, albeit a wicked generation is more apt to count their misses than their hits; but they don't pretend to long previsions and general views. To-day and to-morrow fence in their soothsayings. The unofficial seers must look months ahead, and as most of them habitually look for trouble, they are vexed and bored by months of sunniness and tranquillity. They yearn for great blows, blizzards, old fashioned, high piled snowstorms, diluvial rains, abysmal declines and falls of the mercury. Friday the thirteenth disappointed them; but they are still hopeful of elemental disaster. A soft fall, a hard winter. Do the weather wizards get a commission from the coal dealers?

In the golden prime of Beartown BEEBE, the Tiresias of the Berkshires and the prophet of Bear Mountain, people knew months ahead the programme of the seasons. LEVI BEEBE ordered weather as he ordered codfish. He foretold the "centennial" balminess of January 1, 1876. He predicted the 1888 blizzard; predicted it several times, if we remember. It is the essence of weather vaticinations to be movable. But Beartown BEEBE pokes no more a wet divining finger at the obedient winds. Growing deafness prevents old reliable ROBERT BAILY THOMAS from hearing the whispers of the elements. MERLIN the woodchuck is not due till February. Only Uncle HOP JOHNSON of East Haddam, Conn., still looks infallibly into the seeds of time; but the Moodus Noises are so boisterous that we can't always make out what that blameless Haddamite says. Meanwhile an anonymous Nutmeg Zadkiel who avers that he foresaw the blizzardette of March 1, 1914, wreaks himself upon the future thus:

"We are fast nearing the worst winter in a hundred years. It will begin early. Not only will Christmas be a white one, but Thanksgiving in New England will be a white one also. The snowfall of the coming winter will be the greatest in half a century. Good sleighing may be looked for from Thanksgiving Day up to the middle of March, with no bare ground in sight."

If this were the authentic oracle of the wondrous Haddamite, the wise would fly to the South. As it is plainly but the angry guess and growl of an ancient friend of hard cider and hard winters (with a sleigh to sell), straw hats should be kept where they can be got at. They may be needed by Christmas or New Year's.

The man and brother ought to behave himself civilly when he is allowed to present his grievances to the President of the United States in person; but the President of the United States would not have been subjected to any annoyance on Thursday if the visitors who abused his good nature had been deflected to the janitorial personage, whoever he may be, in whose province their business belonged.

The Kaiser has clipped off the upstanding ends of his mustache.—*News item.*

On the same principle, no doubt, that the officers have given up their swords and other insignia of rank. Every one has to make some sacrifice in war times.

The tide of business has turned. According to natural law it should rise steadily until it is at flood.

It is very doubtful whether the policy of "suffrage by force" will prove as winning a game as that of appeal and argument which the American leaders have thus far pursued. It looks rash to make a radical change when there is no particular proof of the breakdown of the old policy. The public has a very real horror of anything that smacks of militancy and it will not draw very fine distinctions. Above all the proposed "blacklist" tactics are a blunder. They are sure to be totally ineffective and they are certain to estrange all sympathy among lovers of fair play and respecters of individual freedom of opinion and action among public men.

When the young lady in the story discovers that the package contains real candy, and not a bomb, is she pleased or disappointed?

Correction Commissioner DAVIS is preparing woe and war for herself. While she doesn't approve tobacco smoking, she believes "in common sense in dealing with the problems in our institutions"; she believes that it is more important that boys shouldn't lie than that they shouldn't smoke; and, finally, since the law permits inmates of reformatory institutions to smoke, how is she going to help it? This will not do. Above all, no common sense! Cigarettes are the root of all evil. That is, of all evil not caused by common sense. Where is Dr. PEASE in this sad hour?

The English war song beginning "We are coming, Uncle KITCHENER," recognizes with delicate tact that the Field Marshal is an inveterate bachelor, but somehow the substitution for the familiar word takes all the swing out of the rhythm.

The amount of ammunition on hand for field pieces is far short of that considered advisable, although appropriations for this purpose have been materially increased.—*From General* CROZIER's *report.*

With due respect for the President, we hope he will not consider that this warning of the Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance is merely a mental exercise.

There come reports that British and French marines are to be landed on the plains of Troy. Shades of the forces of AGAMEMNON! History has been repeating itself in Belgium and France, on the high seas, at Kiao-chow. The wars of LOUIS XIV., NAPOLEON and BISMARCK have been fought again; the Alabama and Bonhomme Richard have once more frighted the seas; another Port Arthur has fallen to Japan. And now are roused the heroes of HOMER from their graves of three thousand years!

Mr. TAFT's advice to lawyers to accept political office as a duty which they owe the country seems superfluous when the roll of the Sixty-third Congress is examined. In the Senate, which contains 96 members, there are 55 lawyers, and next in order are 20 "public officials," most of whom, no doubt, were originally lawyers. Of the 435 members of the House 247 are lawyers and 66 were "public officials" before they took their seats.

Field Marshal Lord ROBERTS of Kandahar is going to France. The official announcement making this fact public says the famous General is going into the war zone "to see the Indian troops."—*London despatch.*

We venture to say that the old hero is going to the front not "to see the Indian troops" but to show himself to the British army on the firing line. A sight of the most successful and the most popular of the empire's soldiers will be an inspiration to the man in the ranks.

It is reported in London that twenty-seven officers and nine civilians have been struck off the censor's staff. The more officers the better. A naval or an army man makes a poor censor because he is tied hand and foot by red tape and is not allowed to exercise his individual judgment.

We congratulate Judge HAND and the officers of his court who had to do with the admission to American citizenship of our correspondent "Never Fear," not on the courtesy and consideration they showed to our new fellow national, but on having received the unusual reward of public acknowledgment thereof. The process of naturalization not infrequently produces incidents irritating applicants and officers alike. Whenever this happens adverse criticism of the authorities is loud and all inclusive. The cases in which tempers are ruffled are widely exploited. The men who, thanks to their fitness for citizenship, go through the mill without friction naturally keep silent concerning their treatment, and it is a refreshing novelty to have one of these record his satisfaction with the reception accorded to him on his entrance to our political organization.

THANKS TO JUDGE HAND.

A New American Acknowledges Courtesies in His Transformation.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I beg to record the courtesy accorded to me during the process of my becoming an American citizen.

From the first day until yesterday I have met with nothing but kindness from every man who had to handle me.

The genial smile bestowed by his Honor Judge Hand upon many of those whom he examined before my name was called was very assuring.

From my experience I will always refute any insinuation of rough treatment to intending citizens. In case it should prevent any one who had the intention of "coming in" from doing so, as I myself procrastinated under this bugaboo, I would advise all who may have the honor of being received for the asking to

NEVER FEAR.

NEW YORK, November 12.

Tommy Atkins an Irishman.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I clip the following from the *Nationalist*, Clonmel county, Tipperary, Ireland, of recent date. It seems to prove that the British army not only got its present war song, "Tipperary," from Ireland but also the nickname for its soldiers:

His friends in Clonmel, his native town, will learn with pleasure that Lieutenant Thomas Atkins of the Rand Light Infantry, at present in charge of a company, has had his name put forward for promotion to Captain. At the outbreak of the German trouble in South Africa Lieutenant Atkins offered his services, which were accepted with that rank conferred, as he had served with distinction during the Boer war. He is a son of the late Sergeant-at-Mace Thomas Atkins.

DENIS A. MCCARTHY.

CAMBRIDGE, MASS., November 13.

The Three Hundred Hindus.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In THE SUN to-day there is a news item about 300 Hindus in India having been shot at. The article includes a part of a letter written by a Mr. Williams, a moving picture man, from Calcutta, in which Mr. Williams says that this affair of the shooting was not mentioned in the Indian papers. You also add: "This news apparently was suppressed." Now, I have before me a copy of the *Times of India* (mail edition) of October 3, in which a full account is given of this unfortunate affair. Further, the New York papers, including THE SUN, had a cable from the other side telling of the shooting. There has been no suppression.

PERSEPOLIS.

NEW YORK, November 11.

MR. GARRISON'S ATTITUDE.

In a Straightforward Way the Secretary Corrects Some Misapprehensions.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Your editorial headed "Secretary Garrison and Congress" in to-day's issue of THE SUN is a curious and illuminating example of how things, at least some things, should not be done. You begin by assuming I occupy an attitude which I do not, and end by condemning the attitude in which, by your unwarranted assumption, you have placed me. I do not conceive that you have any desire to be intentionally unfair, and hence I state the facts to you exactly as they occurred.

The interview referred to arose out of a question put to me by one of the newspaper men at their customary afternoon visit. The question was substantially as follows:

If Congressman Gardner requests you to permit army officers to volunteer their views to Congress or a committee thereof, will you do so?

To which I responded in substance as follows:

No, if Congress or a committee thereof apply to me for facts I will give them all the facts of which the Department has knowledge. I will appear myself and produce all the officers or officials who possess intimate knowledge of every detail. If Congress or a committee thereof ask for the views of the Department upon any subject I will express the views of the Department, and if the matter is one properly calling for expert knowledge and opinion I will submit such.

I said that the policies which the *Department* advocated should be solely voiced by the Secretary, the responsible head thereof, and by those whom he authorized to speak in behalf of the Department, and that I did not conceive it proper for subordinates to volunteer their views as to what the policies of the Department were. I said that it was unnecessary to add that Congress or a committee thereof possessed the fullest power to elicit the views of any person in or out of the army upon any subject. I did not even intimate the slightest possible objection or criticism of their doing so. What I did object to, and do most strenuously object to, is to have subordinates of this Department volunteer their opinions concerning the policies of this Department to Congress, either openly or covertly, as the Secretary is solely responsible in law and in fact for the policies of the Department. It needs no argument to demonstrate the propriety of this position and to demonstrate, further, that disorganization, confusion and chaos would result from any other course. You might as well permit any and every subordinate of a newspaper to print his own views upon the policy of that paper without regard to the policy as determined upon by its responsible head.

You say:

The Secretary is represented as holding the position that he is responsible for the military policy of the country. Is not this a serious error? Does not Congress control the policy and the Secretary administer it?

I agree that there was a serious error, but I did not commit it. The error was in so representing, or rather misrepresenting, my position.

Of course Congress is responsible for the military policy of the country. Of course I never even intimated anything to the contrary; in fact, I emphasized that very thing. As I stated above, I pointed out that Congress or its committees in determining this very question undoubtedly had all the power that was possible to enable it to summon before it everybody and anybody it chose in order to get all the facts, opinions and views it might desire to enable it properly to legislate on the subject matter. Let Congress determine what it wants and who it wants, and it has full power to bring before it all that it desires. But I consider it improper for subordinates of this Department to volunteer their views and manifestly improper to attempt to state the policies of this Department.

In omitting to refer to so much of your editorial as assumes to describe my state of mind and to impute motives for my actions, I do not wish to be understood as assenting to the correctness of your assumptions or imputations. I refrain merely because those matters, being purely personal to myself, are not important, whereas the other matters that I have referred to are vitally important, because they affect the Department in its proper attitude toward Congress and the country, and if left without correction misrepresent its attitude.

LINDLEY M. GARRISON,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, November 12.

THE REDS.

Opinion of a Simple American on Their Place in the Sun.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* "Old Soldier's" question is one that many a good American thinks over and then usually comes to the conclusion that the Star Spangled Banner is far and away above insult from such a rabble as your "Old Veteran" writes of. Their empty froth-ings do nothing but make an extremely unusual noise.

For instance, consider the crowd of "reds" who were arrested the other day on Third avenue. They were making their usual noise, but as usual the police knew what to do, and the upsetting of governments stopped suddenly.

Human refuse of the "red" description is made up of beings of no earthly use, who take up the room and breathe the air of human beings who are infinitely better and above themselves, such as tramps, liars and crooks, for low as these may be, they are not so entirely worthless as the "reds."

Your "Old Veteran" has no cause for worry on the point he has written of. There are millions of solid, true Americans in this country who are going quietly about their business and who wholly and thoroughly love the flag and all that it stands for. They realize perfectly, however, that Old Glory comes down to the men of to-day meaning all that it does and with such a precious heritage through the efforts of your correspondent and his comrades in the years of the civil war. That is all done and the flag and its heritage and Americans are all one, and when the Star Spangled Banner needs defence those millions of quiet Americans are here ready to step into the shoes of your veteran and his fellows, and stand by the flag as they did.

But, remember, the Star Spangled Banner needs no defence against such rabble as your veteran wrote of, as the police can handle that bunch.

CONNECTICUT.

NEW YORK, November 13.

An Irishwoman's Comment.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In reply to "Inferior Being" I would say that if Germany had produced a Jeanne d'Arc she would never, never have thrown her over to the English to be burned alive.

AN IRISHWOMAN.

THE BRONX, November 13.

In Wilkesbarre.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Funny things in Wilkesbarre papers yesterday:

"LOST—A black dog with several white spots. Has horns. Lost since Wednesday. Kindly notify John Wolk, 114 Pine street, Rhone (Hanover), Pa."

"TELEPHONE your Want vice from 5 A. M. to 3 A. M."

L. E. A.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., November 13.

RESERVE BANK DISCOUNTS.

An Examination of Some Peculiar Ideas About the Varying Level of Rates.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Who is supplying all the peculiar information which has been emanating from Washington lately on certain contemporary matters of great financial interest? Judging from the views which the Treasury Department has ventilated in the last year or so, it might not be a bad guess that somebody close to Secretary McAdoo is the source of inspiration.

However that may be, advices from Washington have teemed with absurdities relative to the problems which Secretary McAdoo and Sir George Paish are supposed to have been discussing. One new scheme after another has been trotted out as the probable product of an agreement to be reached between these two distinguished diplomats for the benefit of the financial universe. It has not at any time been obvious that they could contrive an effective arrangement of any sort or that it was necessary for them to undertake anything, but apart from this phase of their intercourse the projects which have been mooted have been preposterous.

The point is worth making because the exhibition of financial silliness at Washington has just taken a new turn. It is impossible to believe that the Federal Reserve Board, which has shown so much sagacity in framing regulations for the conduct of the reserve banks, can in any way have sanctioned the idea now propounded as to the relative level of discount rates to be established in the different reserve districts. The chances are it is again the Treasury which is poisoning the wells of popular knowledge.

We are told that it is a foregone conclusion that the reserve bank discount rates will be generally lower for the Southern districts than for the East and the West. The explanation is vouchsafed for this that money is comparatively easy in New York, Boston and the West, while it is very tight in the cotton producing States. It is a reasonable presumption that reference to the West is meant to include only the Chicago district. Certainly the open money market in the Northwest and the far West is, as always, on a higher level than in the more Eastern centres.

This is not the first time in the last week or so that the same notion as to the variation of the discounts at the reserve banks has been set forth in Washington advices. The allusion to the distress which the cotton situation is causing the South is another indication that responsibility for a notion so ridiculous must be fixed on the Treasury Department.

There is no doubt that reserve bank discount rates may vary for different sections of the country. Uniformity was considered while banking and currency legislation was being deliberated in Congress last year and rejected as unattainable. We may expect accordingly to see a fairly extensive range of discount figures from one end of the land to the other. We have always seen the same thing in the range of interest rates in the open money market as distinguished from the official money market which the discount facilities of the reserve banks will afford.

In all probability the official discount rates will parallel pretty closely the line which would be made on a chart by the open money market rates. Temporarily the reserve bank discounts may rule even lower than the average interest rate in the different sections in order to accommodate the transition of banking from the old system to the new. Eventually official discounts will tend to rule above the open market rate, and it is certain that in a critical time like this the reserve banks will not court the dangers of undue credit expansion by cheapening the cost of credit below the terms which result from private negotiations.

Of one thing we may be sure. This is that in general the disparity between reserve bank discount rates will not be of the kind asserted in the Washington despatches. To say that discounting will be cheaper in the South than in the East is sheer nonsense. This is the same thing as saying that money is to be dearer in the lending centres than in the borrowing centres. If the South needs funds, as it clearly does, there is only one way to attract them and that is by the inducement of a higher rate of interest than is obtainable elsewhere.

Not for a moment can it be supposed that the Federal Reserve Board has encouraged the foolish proposition I am examining. It must be the Treasury Department, which has given so many other indications of its inept conceptions of the nature of business, especially of the banking business.

To make a lower discount rate in the South, where money is wanted, than in the North and East, from which the money must come, would involve an effort to force money to move in a direction counter to its natural tendency. Water does not flow up hill, although it can be pumped up hill. Some kind of pumping process would have to be instituted to reverse the currents of money in accordance with any scheme for giving the South the benefit of a lower discount rate than the Boston or New York reserve district, for example, but if resort is had to any pumping device the consequences to the country's system would be disastrous.

As a matter of fact, it is something which simply cannot be done, and the Federal Reserve Board has too much sense to try it, no matter what somebody in the Treasury Department may think about it.

BROAD STREET.

NEW YORK, November 13.

BERNHARDI.

Was There Any German Objection to His Doctrine Before the War?

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* One of your correspondents, Mr. Charles Vezin, in a letter dated November 11 says that the speech of Mr. Speaker Clark delivered in Congress advocating the annexation of Canada was about as representative of the sentiment of the United States on that question as Bernhardi's book "The Next War" is representative of German sentiment.

Following Mr. Clark's speech the press of this country was full of discussion of the subject, and there was loud and frequent protestation against the Clark doctrine.

Will Mr. Vezin inform your readers where there can be found in the German press or in any German publication prior to the outbreak of the war any protestation against Bernhardi's doctrine? It has frequently been said by Germans of late that Bernhardi was a joke and a back number, but what one would like to see is the German newspaper or publication which actually said so.

CHESTER A. REED.

BOSTON, November 13.

Physical and Moral Courage.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The world makes an idol of physical courage. From time immemorial it has been represented under various heroic forms, such as a man strangling a python or slaying a lion or trampling on his fellow man. Before these the world stands awestruck with admiration.

Moral courage on the other hand seems to be held in but little esteem. A man rejecting a bribe or struggling cheerfully with adversity or doing his duty in the face of ridicule or neglect; such spectacles as these leave the world in general cold or indifferent.

Is it any wonder we have wars?

NEW YORK, November 13. STRINUS.

Life of a Turkey.

Thin,
Embonpoint,
Fat,
Stuffed.

The Little Dare Devil.

Farewell, thou little Emden! Dare devil,
fare thee well!
Thy gallant soul goes forth, we trust, to the
harrying of hell!
The wide seas and the fleeing ships shall
know thy name no more,
Nor the thunder of thy guns be heard on
any island shore.
For the Deep Abyss hath need for one who
battleth so well!
Then fare thee well, thou Emden, go forth
and harry hell!

M. E. BUHLER.

PASSPORT RULES ARE MADE STRICTER

State Department Announces a Revision to Protect Neutrality Policy.

LAX SYSTEM ADMITTED

WASHINGTON, Nov. 13.—Complaints by belligerent Governments that enemy citizens were using American passports in furtherance of their designs against their Government have resulted in a revision of the rules for obtaining United States passports, the effect of which is to make them much more rigorous than heretofore.

The order putting into force this new regulation was signed by President Wilson to-day. The new regulations thus approved were drafted by the Department of State. The British Government found some notable examples of the abuse of the system under which American passports were issued. Heretofore, there has been required little more than the applicant's own statement that he was an American citizen to obtain an American passport, with the result, it is charged, that the Germans have succeeded in getting into England for purposes of espionage in the guise of American citizens.

Other similar cases have been also reported. The new regulations require absolute proof of identity and citizenship, and applications must be witnessed and presented before a clerk of a Federal or State court to whom either the applicant or his witnesses must be personally known. The new regulations require that the names of the countries to be visited shall be set forth, and in case of countries which are at war the nature of the business of the applicant must be specified.

The Official Announcement.

The following announcement was made at the State Department to-day:

"Under the former rules it was not difficult to obtain passports fraudulently. It was only necessary for a person claiming citizenship through birth in the United States to make a sworn application of that fact before a notary public or other official authorized to administer oaths and to have it supported by an unsworn declaration of a witness. It was not required in the rules that either the applicant or his witness should be known to the notary.

"The Department has reason to believe that notaries and other persons taking passport applications have been in many cases very careless and have failed to make sufficient inquiry as to the identity and citizenship of applicants for passports. Under the new rules an applicant for a passport must make a sworn application before a clerk of a Federal or State court within the jurisdiction of which he is resident and the seal of the court must be affixed.

"It is also required that his witness, who must be an American citizen, make a sworn statement in support of the application before the same officials. The applicant or his witness must be known to the clerk of the court before whom the application is made or must be able to satisfy such officer as to his identity and the genuineness of the application.

"Another requirement of the new passport rules is that an applicant for a passport is required to state the names of the foreign countries which he expects to visit and if any such country is at war he must state the object of his visit thereto.

"The latter statement should be brief and general in form, as, for example, 'Commercial business,' or 'To bring wife and children to this country.' A statement in accordance with this declaration will be written upon the face of the passport.

Effect of the Requirement.

"It is believed this requirement will not only prevent persons from going to belligerent countries for objects which are contrary to the principles of neutrality but will also be of assistance to those who find it necessary to visit belligerent countries for legitimate purposes.

"The legal passport fee which is sent to the Department of State with the application is $1 only. In the past many notaries, steamship agents, tourist agents and other persons who have made it a business to take passport applications have required exorbitant fees for their slight services in the matter, sometimes as much as $5 for a single application.

"It is believed that clerks of courts who take passport applications will require moderate and reasonable fees for their services so that the abuse mentioned will be stopped."

MERCHANT ON EMPLOYMENT.

Mr. Rothschild Addresses High School of Commerce Students.

Simon F. Rothschild of the firm of Abraham & Straus, Brooklyn, addressed the students of the High School of Commerce yesterday on "What the Merchants of New York Wish to Find in Young Men Seeking Employment From Them." The invitation was extended to Mr. Rothschild by the Chamber of Commerce, acting in conjunction with the Board of Education. The lecture is one in a series to be given by prominent business men and bankers of New York to the students of the commercial high schools.

In his address Mr. Rothschild said:

"The basic needs of the young man of to-day can be classified as honesty, ambition, perseverance, health and the three Rs.

"'Of course,' you will say, 'every one knows that a man is required to be honest in business. That is self-evident.' But what I wish to speak of is innate honesty. The whole world has learned that dishonesty and tricky methods are the very height of business folly and lead to disaster. But the merchants desire their young men to have that honesty that used to be called by the good old fashioned name of 'conscience.'

"We want the honesty that makes a man realize that when he is paid a certain amount per week this money means that from the opening hour to the closing hour he should be engaged in the work he has contracted to do.

"The young man who takes fifteen or twenty minutes from his work while he discusses the affairs of the nation and debates the late election may make a politician in the poorer sense of the word but he will not be a success in business; he is wasting his employer's time."

NEW FIRE ALARM SITE FAULTY.

$80,000 Building in Park Found Too Damp for Apparatus.

The new fire alarm telegraph station which was erected in Central Park at a cost of $80,000 has been found to be inadequate and may have to be abandoned. Its abandonment will necessitate the selection of a new site in or out of the park and the construction of a new building.

This station was to be a part of the new fire alarm system for which $1,600,000 was appropriated. It was strongly urged that the station be in an isolated building instead of in the East Sixty-seventh street headquarters, so that a fire or explosion in a neighboring building could not put the system out of business. A site on the sunken road that crosses Central Park at Eighty-sixth street was obtained by the Fire Commissioner three years ago and the building constructed. It was about finished two months ago when the discovery was made that dampness affected the delicate electrical apparatus because the building was set too deeply into the ground so as not to spoil the park.