The Sun.

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Will They Measure Up to the Need of the Day?

If any man has believed that the underground railway system of this town could be completed without accidents he was a fit subject for treatment in an asylum for the insane or a retreat for the feeble minded. All that sane men have dared to hope was that tragedies should not be catastrophes, and that when they occurred we might be spared official and public hysteria over their causes and their effects.

At present the record of this immense undertaking is singularly free from misadventures. The work has been prosecuted under unprecedented difficulties with a degree of safety that merits the highest praise. The interruption to business and pleasure resulting from the undermining of crowded thoroughfares has been astonishingly small. Literally tens of millions of individuals have pursued their callings unhampered by the prosecution of a project that under any direction except the most skilful and attentive would have brought ruin to large districts and discomfort to the whole population.

In the prosecution of this work two mischances have recently occurred, lamentable in their consequences, the contemplation of which threatens to erase from the minds of some the splendid history of which they are but incidents. They have been seized on by malignant politicians to further their own despicable ends. A deliberate effort is making to exaggerate their significance and to breed from them a panic fear. The officials charged with the serious task of protecting the population are besought to quarrel over precedence, rights and privileges; to adopt foolish and unnecessary measures, and generally to behave in a way that will alarm the public in a degree wholly without warrant in the facts.

We earnestly trust that the Mayor and his subordinates and the Public Service Commissioners and their employees will be able to resist the pressure that is exerted to embroil them in a squabble and to bring about the adoption of ridiculous precautions which would tend to terrify, rather than to protect, the population. To overcome the evil, ignorant and malicious influences that now strive to divert them from good sense to folly will require strength and forbearance. THE SUN hopes they possess these not too common qualities in the requisite measure.

Is Bulgaria Reconsidering?

Whatever may have been the intentions of the Government at Sofia the Bulgarian mobilization has so far resolved itself into the purpose originally stated, an armed neutrality.

If Bulgaria wished to discover what effect such a warlike movement would have she should no longer be in doubt. With a partially mobilized Rumanian army on the north, Serbia in readiness to repel an invasion on the west, Greece mobilizing her land and sea forces on the south, a strong naval force threatening the Ægean coast and a Russian fleet hovering along the Black Sea shore, Bulgaria discovered that she would be isolated in the Balkans. Relief from this isolation through an Austro-German drive from the north has not materialized, while an attempt to break through to the west would have brought on an attack from Greece, perhaps Rumania. Bulgaria had good reason to halt.

The credit for the rapidity of the counter action is due in no small degree to VENIZELOS, the Grecian Premier, who is no doubt the dominant figure in the Balkans. In expressing a willingness to accede to the Bulgarian demands for Macedonian territory and seeking expansion in the Ægean Islands and on the Asia Minor coast he has looked after the vast interest of his country, while in holding that the agreement with Serbia is something more than a scrap of paper he has shown to the world that there is at least one country in Europe that believes in the sacredness of treaty obligations.

Bulgaria has frankly announced her intention to gain possession of a part of Macedonia. VENIZELOS has as frankly expressed himself that while he may approve of this ambition he opposes the method of acquiring the coveted territory. The Government at Sofia, which is notorious for blunders in diplomacy, has apparently accepted his decision and is reconsidering. In fact, Bulgaria is hedging; she did not mean all that her action implied and she is again negotiating with the Allies.

From Panama to the Presidency?

The subjoined series of extracts from the daily news is incomplete, but so perfectly representative that its obvious suggestiveness is unimpaired:

"WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—There is a prospect that conditions in the Culebra cut will remain uncertain for a considerable period owing to serious slides in that part of the canal.

"PANAMA, March 6.—Another slide of earth from the top of the Culebra cut has closed the canal to all but lighter draught ships.

"PANAMA, April 8.—Another slide at Culebra cut has tied up the canal.

"WASHINGTON, May 10.—The slides continue in the canal.

"WASHINGTON, June 1.—Engineers are of the opinion that one great slide in the Culebra cut will in all probability be the last movement of the kind.

"PANAMA, July 13.—The most serious slide ever known on the Panama Canal, which has been under way for several weeks, partly moved into the Culebra cut this afternoon, closing the cut to large vessels.

"PANAMA, Aug. 7.—All traffic was stopped to-day by another slide in the Culebra cut.

"PANAMA, Sept. 5.—Kroonland and Finland blocked in Culebra cut. The canal authorities say that the channel will be cleared within two days.

"PANAMA, Sept. 19.—Worst slide yet blocks canal. The channel is completely closed to navigation."

Into this record of slide blocked traffic and unblocked slide, of deprecation, explanation and general botheration, insert from the news reports of September 23 this scintillant passage:

"Mr. PERKINS was reminded of Chairman MURDOCK's having mentioned General GOETHALS as a possible Presidential candidate for the Progressives. 'Is General GOETHALS a Progressive?' he was asked. 'Well,' Mr. PERKINS fired back, 'he built the Panama Canal, didn't he?'"

We do not imagine the name of the next President of the United States will begin with "G" and end with "s," with six letters between. But if General GOETHALS, the "progressive" ditch digger, is to become a candidate, and be elected in 1916, it can be appropriately accomplished by nothing less than the sort of movement which is picturesquely called in political slang "a landslide."

General GOETHALS has a man's lifetime job on the Isthmus, and when the final conquest of Culebra is achieved, as the country expects it to be, the Presidency will be too small a thing to tempt the commander in chief of the triumphant shovel brigade and the navy of mud scoops.

The Offensive of the Allies in the West.

To call the operations in which the French and British are now engaged upon the western front a "drive" is to overlook a lesson the Allies learned after the battle of the Marne, with which the fighting now in progress is wrongly compared. That lesson was that the Germans, always reckoning retreat as a possibility, do not fail to prepare strong defensive positions in their rear. "The battle of the Marne, which lasted from the morning of September 6 to the evening of the 10th, had hardly ended," said Sir JOHN FRENCH in his report, "in the precipitate flight of the enemy, when we were brought face to face with a position of extraordinary strength, carefully entrenched and prepared for defence by an army and a staff which are adepts in such work."

The Allies pressed on to the Aisne. So far the movement might be called a "drive," for the Germans were unable to make a stand on that part of their line in the open, but they made the enemy pay dearly for the passage of the river. On the other side and on a curve running south and east the Germans occupied the long line of defences that had been prepared for them. A military expert has said that "it was perhaps as strong as any to be found between the Ural and the Bay of Biscay." In the south it began on the "Heights of the Meuse" north of Verdun and ran west across the Argonne and the Plain of Champagne to Rheims, thence northwest by the Forts de la Pompelle and through Nogent l'Abesse, Berru and Brimont, across the Aisne near its confluence with the Suippe to Craonne, and finally westward along the heights of the Aisne to the Forêt de l'Aigle, north of Compiègne.

The German right wing was later extended almost to Calais in an attempt to outflank the enemy and open a new road to Paris, but in the defensive position taken up after the battle of the Marne the Germans remained for almost a year, barring some recessions of no great distance before the sharp offensive of the enemy in force. Changes in the line were not of very great importance. The opposing armies were deadlocked. It is to be assumed that in the interval the Germans have anticipated a grand offensive by the Allies and have dug themselves in for miles back in an elaborate series of entrenchments, besides marking out as strong a defensive third line as the topography of the country behind them would permit of. The General Staff to which Sir JOHN FRENCH paid a well merited tribute has not been caught napping, it may be safely asserted. Therefore it would be premature for Paris and London to conclude that the successes the Allies have won in the last forty-eight hours portend a great disaster to the German arms.

That the present operations which the Allies are undertaking bear no resemblance to their forward movement that culminated in the battle of the Marne is obvious upon a little reflection. It was VON KLUCK's march along the British front to the southeast that gave General JOFFRE his opportunity and brought on that battle. It was a daring venture by the German commander, for he exposed himself to a turning movement. The now accepted explanation of it is that the transfer of a large body of troops to the eastern front compelled the Germans to shorten their line in the west for a new offensive at the weakest part of the enemy's line. Well served by his intelligence department, General JOFFRE lost no time in hurrying reenforcements to the front and striking at the German right wing diverted to the southeast.

The battle that ensued was in the open, neither army being tied to a fixed position. With the superiority in numbers which the Allies enjoyed their successful offensive could be termed a "drive," an inept expression, by the way, which the amateurs have coined. But it is altogether too much for Paris and London to expect that the Germans, who have made use of the interval of a year to elaborate their remarkable system of entrenchments, can now be expelled from them in short order and driven pellmell toward the Rhine, beaten, disorganized and demoralized.

Primary Day.

Several circumstances have combined this year to deprive of interest the primary contests which will be settled to-day. The Tammany-Republican fusion on the judiciary ticket has eliminated from the controversy the candidates for judgeships. There is no competition for an important nomination except that between District Attorney PERKINS and FRANK MOSS. The general conviction that the Republicans are too intelligent to prefer Moss to PERKINS has prevented any excitement over their race. Finally, the intricacies of the statute are sufficient to discourage all except the most determined partisans and the difficulties it puts in the voter's way have noticeably abated popular enthusiasm.

This unfortunate situation was foreseen by those who were not carried off their feet by twaddle about "rule by the people" and "restoring the government to the voters." It is not less regrettable, however, because it was predicted. The welfare of the State is dependent on intelligent participation in political affairs of all who are entitled to have a say. The indifference now manifested is symptomatic of a most unwholesome attitude among the electors.

T. St. John Gaffney Has Fulfilled the Promise of His Youth.

Against the official conduct of T. ST. JOHN GAFFNEY, American Consul-General at Munich, it is now alleged only that he has behaved in a perfectly natural and unaffected manner. It is charged that he has permitted his personal prejudice against one Power to attach him firmly to the interests of another, and that his bias has obtruded itself in the transaction of his official duties.

This was to have been expected. The record of GAFFNEY in domestic politics was a guaranty of his unfitness for any job requiring or deserving the exercise of judicial or diplomatic qualities. He was introduced into the public service to reward him for his partisan activities, and his continuance in the consular service since Mr. WILSON became President has been one of the piquant minor mysteries of the Administration.

The conduct of Consul-General GAFFNEY in the past year has been irritating to neutral Americans and offensive to the nationals of several countries with which the United States is at peace. There existed no sufficient reason for his original appointment, nor for the retention of his name on the State Department payroll; and since August 1, 1914, a number of incidents have occurred, that would justify his immediate and unceremonious dismissal from an office he is temperamentally incapable of administering satisfactorily.

Job for the Bureau of Municipal Research.

It is obviously the duty of the Bureau of Municipal Research to investigate the office of the City Chamberlain and devise for it a system of bookkeeping under which frauds of the kind that has just been disclosed in handling the city's money shall be impossible. Plainly, if a subordinate has opportunity to make out and cash checks drawn to non-existent persons, and his fraud can be kept up without discovery for four months, loose and unbusinesslike practices prevail in this important bureau. They should be corrected at once.

Had this theft occurred in any other division of the city government THE SUN would not call on the Bureau of Municipal Research to intervene.

The Chamberlain is HENRY BRUERE, who has frequently confessed that he is not worth the salary he is getting. In addition to this Mr. BRUERE finds it impossible to give serious attention to such trivialities as doing the work that is assigned to him, because of the stern necessity which compels him to tell everybody else in town, officials and private citizens, how to manage their affairs. His useful intellect cannot be wasted on the sordid task of protecting the city vaults when mothers beseech him for instruction in the art of rearing babies, dogs look to him for advice as to the wagging of their tails and chefs appeal to him for directions as to the boiling of water.

Montclair, springhead of all human and animal uplift, is to bell as well as tag such of its cats as obtain life certificates from the town's Bureau of Animal Observation. On November 2 a referendum will, it is confidently claimed, make the town no license, and already its gofers are practising on grape juice and suffering from horripilation.

You know we are not running a gentlemen's boarding house in Sing Sing. —*Warden* OSBORNE.

The reminder is quite superfluous. The public knows a country club when it sees one.

County Clerk SCHNEIDER has caught some of his underlings in the indefensible practice of accepting gratuities from applicants for naturalization who sought by bribery to expedite their change of allegiance. Mr. SCHNEIDER has dismissed the offenders, and apparently loss of their jobs is to be the extent of their punishment. But is there not a statute under which they can be prosecuted? Particularly at this time their conduct justifies the most severe penalty that can be imposed on them.

At the request of the Turkish Minister of Education German universities are to send fourteen professors to various posts in the empire. Considering events in Armenia it would seem that Turkey had sufficient Kultur of her own without importing any.

THE DISAPPEARING FLAG.

Withdrawal of Our Merchant Marine From the Transpacific Trade.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* It is an argument, says the *Journal* of Albany, N. Y., fit only for presentation to the marines, to whom, according to popular belief, one may tell anything that is discredited elsewhere, to say that because the ships of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, which plied between Pacific coast ports and ports of the Orient, have been sold for use elsewhere, the trade which they carried will not be transferred to Japanese vessels.

That argument originated in the fertile brain of Andrew Furuseth, president of the International Seamen's Union, who worked with Senator La Follette to produce the so-called seamen's law, which is proving to be a law fatal to the American merchant marine.

It is true, as Mr. Furuseth said, that these particular vessels will remain under the American flag, but though they have not been transferred to Japanese ownership, the traffic that they carried under the American flag will go to Japanese lines. That is the important fact.

The withdrawal of these ships from the transpacific lanes leaves only one steamer flying the American flag in service between American and Oriental ports. Only one American steamer, while our exports last fiscal year to the Far East were:

Japan	$41,514,792
China	16,492,475
Philippine Islands	24,755,329
Hongkong	8,150,315
Australia	43,620,676
New Zealand	8,365,975
British India	11,696,004
Straits Settlements	9,845,765
Russia in Asia	23,353,114
Total	$188,739,434

Mr. Furuseth is further reported to have said that "compared with the influence exerted by the Panama Canal and the wars in Mexico and Europe the seamen's act is a drop in the bucket."

A man who undertakes to discuss an important subject should know of what he is talking. The Panama Canal certainly does not stand in the way of expansion of our merchant marine. On the contrary, the facilities which it affords are conducive to expansion. The war in Mexico does not affect our shipping. And such effect as the European war has is only temporary.

On the other hand the La Follette-Furuseth seamen's law has an effect, a fatal effect, upon all American ocean shipping, particularly Pacific. One of the first acts of the Congress meeting next December should be its immediate unconditional repeal. If not repealed we may bid "good-by" to what is left of the American oceangoing merchant marine.

WALTER J. BALLARD.
LOS ANGELES, Cal., September 22.

IRELAND'S RULE.

Would the German Mastery Be More Irksome Than Britain's?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* All the Irish, both in Ireland and in this country, who favor the invasion of Ireland by the Germans should be made to live under German rule. They would then learn a great many things of which they seem to be densely ignorant now. The present rule of England would seem as mild as mother's milk compared with German military domination. The Irish are within reaching distance of their desires, and if, at a time when the whole structure of civilization seems to be trotting, they should unite wholeheartedly with England in the war their reward would be forthcoming in the event of ultimate victory. From Germany all they would get would be "a scrap of paper." G. F. K.

NEW YORK, September 24.

The Name America.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The name "America" was applied to this hemisphere in 1507, and it is therefore even more venerable than "Dr. Syntax" computes in THE SUN of this date. It is 408 years old, not merely 237. In his "Cosmographicae Introductio," printed and published at Saint Dié in 1507, Waldseemuller (Hylacomylus) ventured the opinion:

I do not see why it may not be permitted to call this fourth part after Americus, the discoverer, a man of sagacious mind, by the name of Amerigo, that is to say, the land of Americus, or America, since both Europe and Asia have a feminine form of name, from the names of women.

He acted on his own suggestion by putting America on a map he published the same year.

The story of the name is briefly told in "The Catholic Encyclopedia," under the titles "America," "Waldseemuller," where reference is made to the learned monograph on the subject by Dr. Charles G. Herbermann of the City College.

JOHN J. WYNNE.
NEW YORK, September 26.

Safety First.

Policeman—Can't you find your house?
Outlate—I'm trying to find houshe that ain't my own.

The Baby Submarine.

Little infant of the sea,
Foe of slumber you shall be.

Folks will miss their sweet repose
Waiting for your eye to close.

At your slightest stir or sound
Fear shall thrill the people round.

Lullabies you do not crave,
Vain the singing of the wave.

You will never go to sleep
In the cradle of the deep.

On a dreadnought great and ruth
You shall cut your little tooth.

MCLANDBURGH WILSON.

AUGUSTA DEFENDED.

A Town of Human Beings Like Others —What More Can Be Said?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* But for the slanderous statements about Augusta in particular, and Georgia and the South in general, made by Edwin W. Walker, an alleged Southerner, in THE SUN of September 10, the writer would not ask your indulgence again to say a few words in behalf of our city and State. It is very evident that Mr. Walker knew a maniacal murderer who shot his paramour while she was at work in the cotton mill and was hanged for the offence. He was hanged for a crime not nearly so hideous as committed by one Hans Schmidt of New York, who has never even got close enough to the electric chair to get singed. Many people here thought he was crazy, but the courts and a sanity commission decided he wasn't, and he went to the gallows for his crime. Can you make objection to our treatment of this "gunman"?

The grossest misstatements in Mr. Walker's article are in reference to our mill district, which is not ideal by any means, yet one which is better than many cotton mill districts and is constantly getting better. Cotton mill operatives are not classed as skilled labor and the wages are comparatively low. However, taking men, women and children above 14 years of age, in Augusta, the average mill wage is $1.10 per day. Husband, wife and sons and daughters in a single family often work and the income from their labors is a goodly sum.

The Board of Education spent $125,000 eight years ago in constructing in the heart of the mill district a magnificent school building, the largest grammar school in the South, and the attendance opening day this fall was 1,012. The ladies of the First Baptist Church have a large mission in the mill district where nursing babies and other little children are kept free of charge for the mothers who work in the mills. Free night schools are provided for boys and girls who have to work in the day. A movement is now on foot to establish a branch of the Young Men's Christian Association in the mill district, and a branch of the Young Women's Christian Association is sure to follow.

Mr. Walker says that Georgia thinks too much of Mary Phagan dead and too little of her alive. We feel that though she is but a poor little mill girl she deserves the greatest protection that our Government and our civilization can throw around her.

As to mill girls being induced to enter the red light district by methods almost identical with those employed by New York white slavers, nothing is more absurd or more far away from the truth. That a portion of the habitués of the red light district are products of the mill district is true here as in every other place where there are mills. It is no worse here than elsewhere. Augusta handles the problem of fallen women by segregating them, instead of letting them scatter all over the city, and this is a problem which has baffled the most thoughtful minds of all ages.

I have lived in Augusta ten years and have never heard of a person being murdered for money, though I have been in the vicinity of Hick's Hall many times myself and have sent reporters to that section where Mr. Walker asserts men will steal, beat or kill for hire. There are no Rofranos in Augusta, no men of the type that have politicians who stand in their way "croaked." How many men did those witnesses tell the District Attorney Rofrano had murdered? Have the murderers of the big poultry dealer on the East Side ever been apprehended?

While statistics show, as Mr. Walker says, that in 1912 there were 274 murders in Greater New York and 67 in Atlanta, Ga., still he did not go far enough. He ought also to have said that the homicide rate among negroes, as compared with whites in the South, was 3½ to 1, while in New York all the homicides are among Caucasians.

A newspaper stated a few months ago that thirty people disappeared in Greater New York every day and were never heard from again. I do not know that this is true, and neither am I writing a quasi philippic, so to speak, about your city, the greatest of all the cities of the world. In Georgia we do not have ideal conditions existing in all things, else we would be ready for the millennium, and Mr. Walker could join those "six generations of Southern ancestors." We are all struggling along to make our communities as decent as possible and to leave a heritage of which our descendants will not be too much ashamed. THOMAS J. HAMILTON.

ATLANTA, Ga., September 25.

Athenian Slang.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The soundness of the contention that all language is by, of and for the people is not in the least obscured by your apparent inability to distinguish between the people and the rabble and see a difference between their dialects. Do they have any slang in ultra-classic Boston or in Olympian London? They did in Athens in the time of Plato and it never compromised the character of Greek.

Isn't the grievance really this, that the whole English world is diseased with the thing that Jefferson called "democracy" but which is really nothing but an aristocracy of vulgarity? When you say in effect "odi profanum vulgus et arceo," the reference is not to a normal and proper vulgus but the hell which hath enlarged itself and opened its mouth without measure muttering "mutt."

HOWARD M. CANOUNE.
NEW YORK, September 27.

Reads Blackstone at the Age of Six.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In a thumbnail biography of Theodore E. Burton, said to be the most likely candidate for the Republican Presidential nomination, an Ohio paper states that "at 6 he was reading Blackstone."

If Theodore successfully negotiated this pons asinorum at the age of 6, what country jay, duly apprised of and mystified by the fact, could fail to plump for such a prodigy of juvenile mentality?

Now at the age of 62, consider what must be the lofty heights of intellectual supremacy attained by this son of Ohio, granted that he really understood a line of Blackstone in his nursery days!

T. E. W.

LIMA, Ohio, September 27.

The German Band's Aversion to Photography.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The man in the street notes with interest an epidemic of "little German bands" throughout the city. The four or five members of these organizations appear to be peculiarly awkward with their machines of torture, notably more inexpert and cacophonous than formerly. There is one way, quick and certain, to induce these honest fellows to "move on" out of the troubled neighborhood: Just attempt or even pretend to take a snapshot of them. C. F. N.

NEW YORK, September 27.

Female Clowns.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Some years ago it was the fashion with circuses to have female clowns; but they did not take. It has always been a wonder to me what became of them, but now I know. They frequent St. Nicholas avenue from 125th to 155th streets and may be known by their chalked faces and peroxide wigs, which they still retain. It is a sad sight, hundreds of them, some of them mothers and one a grandmother, clinging to the makeup of a "has been" profession.

MAUD MELLER.

NEW YORK, September 27.

UNDERSEA JITNEYS.

A Submarine Torpedo "Pilot" Has Already Been Patented.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I have been amused by the recent publication of interviews with more or less prominent citizens on the subject of the "jitney" submarine. The disputed parentage question which has arisen between Henry Ford and Professor Herschel C. Parker may perhaps be laid at rest by any one interested enough to examine United States Patent No. 1111139, granted to Sloan Danenhower of Bridgeport, Conn., covering a submarine pilot boat for automobile torpedoes, and granted on September 22, 1914. The application for this patent was made in October, 1912, and the object of the invention was:

To minimize the errors and difficulties attendant upon the use of automobile torpedoes and to make them effective instruments of naval warfare by providing for navigating an automobile or locomotive torpedo to within a short distance of the target and then aiming and releasing it by means of a small, light, automobile pilot craft, preferably of the catamaran type, which shall be under the direction of a single operator who is provided with a good chance of escape.

The inventor described the torpedo pilot boat as sufficiently small to be carried safely upon the deck of a battleship or cruiser in considerable numbers and readily launched over the side, and also to have an automobile torpedo detachably connected with it, being suspended beneath it, so that the operator might navigate to within a short distance of the target and release the torpedo under its own power. The description of the proposed invention is exceedingly full and cannot fail to be of interest both to Henry Ford and Professor Parker.

The claims, some thirteen in number, seem to be sufficient to protect all the new ideas contained in the invention, and should the recent interest and excitement relative to boats of this class result in anything the Government might decide to avail itself of an experimental "jitney" along the lines covered by this patent.

The inventor, formerly a submarine officer in the United States navy, does not claim that this boat will make forty miles an hour, but equipped with twin screws and two 180 horse-power Sterling engines he anticipates a speed of twenty-five knots on the surface, twenty knots submerged, with a surface radius of approximately sixty miles and a submerged radius of approximately five miles.

The proposed craft is about forty-five feet in length, having five feet beam, and it can be operated by one but preferably by two persons. Its reserve buoyancy is approximately 150 pounds. Its expense would be comparatively small, its size and weight such as to permit several to be carried upon the deck of a battleship or cruiser and its efficiency dependent largely upon the daring brain of the operator.

Comparing this completed and patented invention of a naval expert with the newspaper ideas which recently have appeared in the public prints, it is a source of quiet entertainment to contemplate the new philosophy which advances the theory that "whatever may be imagined is possible."

FRANCIS E. HAMILTON.
NEW YORK, September 27.

LAWLESS NEW JERSEY.

Under the Vice and Immorality Act, Who Is Not a Criminal?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I quite agree with you that the average citizen has a rather hazy notion about the vice and immorality act. Let me instance a case.

A New York business man lives in this county in the summer. Men of his standing we consider a decidedly desirable acquisition to our community and we feel that they should not be put in the position of being law breakers because of a law that most people think in some of its respects obsolete. If the business man is an ordinarily human being few Sundays pass while he is here that he does not in some respects fracture the blue laws.

I notice he has an automobile. If he requires his chauffeur to drive him on Sunday he is forcing another to violate this law. If he allows his cook to serve cooked food on Sunday another offence has been committed. If he sails on the Shrewsbury, plays golf, tennis, solitaire or any other game on his own premises on Sunday he is a law breaker. If he comes up to Long Branch to attend a theatrical play or a circus on any day of the week he is encouraging others to violate this statute. If he plays the piano in his own home, sings about the house or starts a talking machine on Sunday his neighbor may haul him into court and subject him to a penalty. Should he desire to go to the city by train the railroad could not lawfully take him on Sunday had it previously run a train in that direction that day. Until the newspapers combined a comparatively few years ago and forced an amendment to this act the very boy who delivered his Sunday paper was liable to arrest.

Our business friend is of course not unique in this respect. I confess I am sometimes remiss myself and it is noticeable about here and elsewhere that we seem to be in the majority.

The gentlemen who are back of the effort to have the act repealed are men who have had some years experience with its operation. They know its difficulties of enforcement, its cumbersome methods of prosecution and its inadequate penalties. They do not feel that members of the Legislature of any party should hesitate to repeal an act that no one observes fully and probably no community in the State desires should be rigidly observed. Every State and every community finally gets the kind of laws it really wants, and legislators have but to be shown the wants of the people to grant them. If the newspapers of this State and of New York city and Philadelphia would only investigate this matter thoroughly and then frankly publish the result of their investigation there would soon be such a call for repeal or revision that no legislator or party leader would have the nerve to oppose it. T. V. ARROWSMITH,
Director of Public Safety.

LONG BRANCH, N. J., September 25.

"Guys" and "Skirts."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* You object editorially to modern nomenclature, citing as examples "guy" for a man, "skirt" for a woman, and so on. "Guy" is good old English, dating from Guy Fawkes. "Skirt" came in with skirt dancing and continued with the feminist movement, but whether nurtured by the suffragists or the antis I know not.

I fully indorse your request of the colleges, but why not ask the playwrights to write English and the authors of the "best sellers" also? Why not form a society of unhyphenated Americans to preserve American English in its purity and strength? L. B. FAIRFIELD.

BRISTOL, Conn., September 27.

Search for the Direct Primary Pioneer.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Not on THE SUN's doorstep nor on its "tintype" can a suspicion be laid in regard to the paternity of the primary law. Besides being no political Oliver Osborne THE SUN disapproves of whiskers.

The tintype, carte de visite or cabinet photograph of the real father would show an unsanitary endowment, revealing that of Jim Ham Lewis, the Pard or those Russians fighting desperate rear guard actions to save whole armies from the shears no less than the pincers of Von Hindenburg as instruments of epilation.

JAY P. DEE.

NEW YORK, September 25.

SAVE THE TWO-YEAR-OLDS.

An Answer to Captain Cassatt on the Evil of Early Racing.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I have read with interest the letter recently published in your columns from Captain E. B. Cassatt of Chesterbrook Farm on the early racing of two-year-olds and your editorial comments thereon, and while the amendment to the Jockey Club's rules prohibiting contests for thoroughbreds of tender age prior to April 1 may be satisfactory to that gentleman and to other men of wealth who race horses for pleasure, there is another side to the question which carries its own appeal.

There are many small breeders of thoroughbreds whose very existence depends upon the sale of their yearlings, and if the so-called winter tracks operating at New Orleans, Havana, Juarez and perhaps at Tia Juana, as a course at that point is spoken of, to be ready by January, should be compelled to exclude races for two-year-olds from their programmes it would limit the earning powers of many juvenile thoroughbreds, as these tracks afford an opportunity for colts and fillies of moderate class to earn purses and help pay the expenses incidental to a campaign which at best merely serves to afford employment to men and boys who possess no knowledge of any other trade than that pertaining to the racing of horses.

Every member of such racing stables must help to pay his way, and the cheap two-year-old incapable of winning anywhere else has to play his part the same as the other members of the organization. He cannot hold his own later in the season with the better bred and speedier representative of the rich man, which, nurtured and grown to the fullest of his powers, is found his superior as a rule. His earning capacity, except in isolated cases, where a colt or filly that cost a mere trifle should develop high class, as Old Rosebud or some other winter track stars did, would be confined to races run during January, February and March, and surely the man with his all represented by half a dozen mares is entitled to consideration.

Those who have seen this winter sport know that two-year-old racing is exceedingly popular in the communities where it is permitted, and the management of these off season properties are always striving to give their patrons what they want. For weeks before January 1 these juvenile racers are inspected and talked about, and when the first race is carded, usually on New Year's Day, the attendance is at high water mark. If Captain Cassatt's proposed amendment is adopted these winter resorts will have no two-year-old racing, unless owners are willing to be disqualified from racing their youngsters on the courses controlled by the organizations it is hoped to bring into line for the change. Some owners may figure that the returns during the winter will be sufficient to carry their two-year-olds from April 1 to the next January, when automatically, as I understand it, they will become eligible on all tracks for three-year-old events. For the interim they could start on any courses not racing under any recognized jurisdiction, and there are several of these in Maryland and Canada as well as tracks in the far West where the presence of these exiles for the time would be welcomed.

The turf in this section of the United States a quarter of a century or more since owed much of its standing to such men as Alexander J. Cassatt, the father of Captain Cassatt, and D. D. Withers of the Brookdale stud, who were the chief factors in the management of Monmouth Park. Two-year-old racing in this vicinity was at that time unknown before the May meeting of the American Jockey Club at Jerome Park, and one can fancy the temper Mr. Withers would have displayed had anybody hinted that two-year-olds would ever be raced in January.

But times change and people with them. The thoroughbred matures rapidly, and some of these youngsters are almost as fully grown when they are asked to race as they will ever be, and I realize to the fullest the force of the Captain's argument when he cites the need of the thoroughbred for the improvement of our army horse, but can't we have our early two-year-old racing and keep up the standard of our horseflesh too? RACEGOER.

NEW YORK, September 25.

CHAUMONT CISCOES.

Old Bill Horning Can't Get "The Sun's" Recipe for Cooking Perch.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* What mortal in these parts would expect to find a New York editor solemnly proclaiming the merits of the perch, the colorful little fellow scorned by amateurs but held high in the esteem of ripe veterans like Old Bill Horning, of ancient visage from seventy years more or less of cooking and fishing on the lakes? Bill tells the Chaumont Bay yachtsmen how to cook the dainty morsel, and from his berth as steward of the Crescent Yacht Club he has brought many a sceptic to a realization of true worth in fresh water fish.

Out in the waters of eastern Ontario, where Secretary Lansing keeps daily patrol, over eighteen miles from Henderson Harbor, out past Stony to the Galloup Islands, there is happy hunting ground for the fighting bass, but the lake perch, grown to great length and ripe flavor, beats all competitors in the pan. It was famous fishing ground long before the days of Ross Flower, in Watertown, twenty-eight miles away.

The French voyageurs tarried often at the Galloups, where Mr. Lansing has resorted for years. Three hundred years ago, in October, 1615, the first white man, Champlain, stopped over night on this island while accompanying a band of Huron Indians bent on a war expedition against the Iroquois villages of central New York. That was five years before the first white man fell upon the boulders of Massachusetts Bay. Perhaps some reason for the early failure of the Huron invasion may be traced to the anxiety of these heathens for the fleshpots of the lake. Champlain tells us that they spent many weeks after their retreat in fishing and hunting on the north shore of Ontario.

Just a word about that solemn offer to Mr. Lansing alone. If you will send your recipe to Old Bill Horning, Crescent Yacht Club, Chaumont, N. Y., you may receive in return a bit of information well worth the swap. Ever hear of "Chaumont Ciscoes"? Be sure to enclose a return stamped envelope.

RICHARD COUGHLIN.

WATERTOWN, September 27.

Stefansson.

A lucky man Stefansson is!
The world had thought that he was friz,
But he was not. It now appears
That he has been for several years
Exploring round the Arctic regions,
And means to stay there with his legions.

First off you'd think his lot, perhaps,
Unenviable was. It chaps
The hands and face up there, you know,
And one can't see a movie show.
But pause and let your reason range
Before you say you'd not exchange.

Just think! Stefansson never heard
Of "watchful waiting," that rare bird;
"A scrap of paper" to his mind
Is just a scrap with naught behind.
If Dr. Dumba you should mention
It would not gain the least attention.

War and its rumors freeze up there.
His mind is on the polar bear.
And Arctic circles, poles and seals,
And whether all the milk congeals
His only plotting's on a map.
Stefansson is a lucky chap.

MAURICE MORRIS.

CHILDREN AT WORK IN INDUSTRIAL SHOW

Public School Display of Vocational Classes a Feature at Garden.

GERMANY'S PLAN PRAISED

The main floor of Madison Square Garden resembled yesterday a gigantic workshop when more than a thousand pupils from the public schools shop and vocational classes inaugurated a practical demonstration of the things they are taught as one of the features of the American Industrial Education Exposition and Conference, which is to continue this week.

Lathes, motors and machines of various kinds were in operation and the pupils conducted their work as if in class rooms. Little girls were busy making winter bonnets and dresses and the boys were on hand to show the visitors the production of carpentry and woodwork, plumbing, sheet metal and copper work, pottery, electric wiring, printing, boats, canoes, sails, wooden toys and bookbinding.

Under the personal supervision of Dr. C. Ward Crampton, who is at the head of this system, the pupils yesterday from Schools 64, Manhattan; 85, Queens, and the Manhattan Trade School for Girls demonstrated their work. To-day demonstrations will be by pupils from the School for the Blind, School for the Crippled and School for the Deaf.

That the industrial continuation school is winning victories for Germany in peace and in war and that this kind of training must be provided for extensively in America if the nation is to withstand the shock of international competition is the opinion of Dr. Albert A. Snowden, industrial expert of the National Association of Manufacturers, who presided at the employers' meeting held at the exposition last night. He delivered a brief address on "The Manufacturing Industry and Industrial Education."

"If I were asked to name the one kind of training that has been of most service to Germany in this crisis of her history," said Dr. Snowden, "I should not place at the head the military drill, though that is an important and far reaching factor, but instead the universal industrial training which has made of every person engaged in industry in Germany a skilled and efficient craftsman. If obliged to narrow the choice down to the one form of industrial school that has meant the most to Germany it would be the industrial continuation school.

"And what the industrial continuation school has done for Germany's industries the commercial continuation school has accomplished for her commerce. The German victories in war and in international trade competition are victories of the industrial continuation schools."

MAYOR IS FOR GARY PLAN.

Writes to Churchill Requesting Him for Thorough Test.

Mayor Mitchel said yesterday in a letter to President Churchill of the Board of Education, "I suggest that your board give immediate consideration to the feasibility of reorganizing at least the elementary schools according to the Gary plan during the year 1916."

The Mayor wrote that he was pleased by the success of the vocational experiment carried on by William Wirt of Gary, Ind., in selected schools here. He added:

"I am interested in the Gary plan not merely because it assures economies in the use of school buildings and equipment, but because it seems clearly to improve the schools and the education of the children. Has not the time come for general application of the plan to all the city's schools?

"In view of the present financial burdens of the city it is fortunate that we have available a method of utilizing the existing school facilities which will enable us to keep down expenses for new buildings and equipment, while actually improving the quality of education."

Members of the Board of Estimate and the Board of Education will act together to form a definite plan before the 1916 tax budget is adopted.

BROOM SUNDAY NON-POLITICAL

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