The Sun.

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Humanity Begins at Home, Mr. Wilson.

Mr. WILSON must some day recognize that in our relations with Mexico it takes two to make peace. Hitherto the United States, with a self-restraint admirable to contemplate, has endeavored single handed to keep out of a quarrel. But it cannot much longer endure the conditions that exist on the Mexican frontier; in fact, only a superhuman repression of national interest, temper and pride will prevent the raid of Friday night from bringing matters to a situation admitting of only one conclusion.

This raid originated in Mexican territory nominally pacified and theoretically under control of Mr. WILSON'S protégé, CARRANZA. It is glibly attributed to Villistas, but Mexican factional allegiances are rapidly ceasing to be of interest in these murderous incursions. It has revealed again the impotence of the Carranza "government" and disclosed the inadequacy of the United States border guard. These things have been known: we might say that they have been notorious; but when they are written down in the blood of Americans, not once but again and again, their significance cannot and will not be evaded or ignored.

In all its perplexing and seemingly purposeless intricacies, Mr. WILSON'S Mexican policy has received support from the major fraction of Americans because they recoiled from the embarrassments and thankless difficulties of intervention in the detestable politics of Mexico. But the conditions on the border are intolerable. They must be mended, and it is increasingly apparent that the course Mr. WILSON has hitherto followed has not improved them in the slightest degree.

The United States in the West Indies.

Because of the acute stage through which the American controversy with Germany has passed and the critical state of our relations with Mexico, the situations in Santo Domingo and Hayti have received less attention than they deserve. In each country there has been a revival of violence requiring vigorous action by Rear Admiral CAPERTON and the forces under his command. In Hayti certain Senators who attempted to meet in defiance of the agreement now in force were prevented by gendarmes, according to unofficial reports, under the protection of American officers, while marines were landed in Santo Domingo to guard the Americans and other foreigners in the capital. The disturbance here is said not to have affected the population in the interior, but manifestly it was of considerable importance to induce Admiral CAPERTON to take the course he did.

In Santo Domingo American prestige was seriously impaired by the activities of Secretary BRYAN'S "deserving Democrats." Had job hunters in this country been rigorously excluded from the public service we undertook to administer, our national credit and standing would have been higher than they are to-day. Hayti presents a different problem. The navy has not so far been interfered with by the politicians, and the troubles in the republic are of a piece with those that for generations have prevented the orderly development of a naturally rich and prosperous country.

The difficulties we have encountered in our efforts to assist in the rehabilitation of Santo Domingo and Hayti are not entirely of our own making, but in the case of Santo Domingo the intrusion of BRYAN'S hungry adherents notably increased them. The damage they did must be repaired, and the lesson to be learned in Santo Domingo should be heeded in our dealings with Hayti.

Another Blow to Free Speech.

In the campaign of 1910 the Democrats howled stentoriously about the despotism of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and pledged themselves to reestablish therein that freedom of debate and independence of action the abandoned Republicans had banished from its precincts. Every orator promised a new cave of the winds if Uncle JOE and his crew were put in the minority; and when that noble end was accomplished, the majority did tinker with the rules a little.

But the business of the majority, the obligation of the men on whom responsibility rests, is to put through their programme. The House has undergone a change in forms, but the spirit is unaffected. To-day "the annual supply bills and calendar business are so far behind that no prospect of an adjournment before late summer is seen unless the Rules Committee comes to the rescue of the legislative situation and limits debate on the more important measures pending." Therefore special rules will be reported and adopted, and before the session ends Mr. MANN and Mr. CANNON himself may be heard in denunciation of the eloquence choking behavior of the statesmen who occasionally follow Mr. KITCHIN.

The wails of the minority over the violence done to free speech have as much substance and bottom as the tearful protests of the outs against the extravagances of the ins.

Kitchener in the Swivel Chair.

It must come hard for K. of K. to praise the generalship of British commanders in the Bagdad campaign. Adverse elements, that is to say, heavy rains flooding the country about Kut-el-Amara, account for the failure of the expedition, the Secretary for War tells the House of Lords. Yet no one knows better than the victor of Omdurman that the Indian Government entered upon the Mesopotamian enterprise with an inadequate army and without due preparation. It was a rash and precipitate adventure, not a well organized campaign. Perhaps it would have succeeded if Sir JOHN NIXON had had only the Turks to deal with. The German factor seems to have been left entirely out of the calculation. The expedition was therefore predestined to failure.

It was always characteristic of KITCHENER that he left nothing to chance, or mighty little, when he commanded armies in the Sudan and South Africa. As an organizer of victory he was deliberate, methodical and thorough. He did not strike until he was ready, and then he struck irresistibly. Had KITCHENER been in India when the Mesopotamian expedition was preparing, he would have insisted upon a well equipped and sufficient body of troops; had he taken command himself, there would have been no battle of Ctesiphon until his machine was thoroughly primed to rout the Turks.

The Mesopotamian campaign would have suited KITCHENER'S genius, which is eminently practical, far seeing and cautious. He has no imagination. There is nothing Napoleonic about KITCHENER, but as a military boss he has made his fame. His officers would have worked twenty-four hours a day in an emergency, for his unrelenting eye would have been upon them, and the private soldier would have regarded an army commanded by KITCHENER as infallible when he gave the word to attack.

As a swivel chair man in London when Englishmen were fighting futilely in Gallipoli and were hemmed in at Kut-el-Amara to be relieved by reenforcements up to their necks in water, KITCHENER was an impotent and melancholy figure. He knows better than any other living man what a fiasco the Mesopotamian business was bound to be. To praise the actors in it may be all in the day's work, but it must try his soul.

Banking for the World.

Perhaps the Comptroller of the Currency may feel called on shortly to explain why he is demanding of the national banks that in their next report of condition to his office they make a return covering their loans to foreign countries whether in the form of investments in securities or credit extended on foreign obligations. Meanwhile there is an interesting sequence of recent events bearing on this matter.

About a month ago Representative TAGUE of Massachusetts introduced in Congress a resolution directing the Secretary of the Treasury to report to the House of Representatives precisely such information as the Comptroller of the Currency is now seeking. The resolution seemed, from certain collateral circumstances, to express the kind of hostility to foreign loans manifested in the opposition to the Anglo-French loan which was negotiated last autumn, an opposition based not on the real interests of the United States but on the conjectural interests of the belligerents in the European war.

A week or so ago national banks in this part of the country received an anonymous circular which included a copy of Representative TAGUE'S resolution and argued for a "firm stand" by national banks against foreign war borrowing. The circular was subtly worded to give an aspect of general application to all foreign loans, but in the guise of an appeal to keep our capital at home to meet home needs it was quite obviously a part of the propaganda of hyphenism.

Therefore it is highly unfortunate that Comptroller WILLIAMS has at this time gone out of his way to put the national banks on inquiry as to their foreign commitments. The Comptroller can be absolved, of course, of any intent or wish to fail in with the campaign of the alien propagandists against the activities of our finance, which, in the strict furtherance of the country's commercial interests, are denoted in a provision of capital and credit to foreign borrowers amounting in the last year and a half to very much more than a billion dollars.

However, the Comptroller's action offers an opportunity for discussion of a question on which the public needs enlightenment. The Tague resolution and the continuing antagonism which crops out every little while against the provision of American funds to foreign borrowers are at the best symptoms of that provincialism which the country must overcome in dealing with the present and future emergencies and requirements of international relations.

One of the most valuable safeguards which our finance can furnish for the protection of our business interests and the service of domestic needs is indicated by the bulwark of foreign loans abroad which is being erected during the European war. The foreign credits thus created give command over the resources of the borrowing countries and afford barriers against inroads on our banking reserves in the period of economic competition after the war.

Nor is this all which the extension of credit and the supply of capital to other countries accomplishes. Whatever the Comptroller's inquiry discloses, it will show that the national banks have been doing their part in promoting the country's foreign trade together with the domestic trade and industry which depend on external commerce. Our bankers have been making trade for the country by making loans abroad and facilitating private investment in foreign securities.

The March foreign trade figures just published reveal in concrete and impressive figures how well domestic needs are being met by the employment of domestic capital and credit in external commerce. No country in the world ever reported for one month exports of such a value as we made in March, when the total reached $410,000,000. Our so-called favorable trade balance for the year ending June 30 next may reach two billion dollars, and while the phenomenal movement of our goods and commodities abroad has been caused largely by the enforced expenditure of other nations in an occasion of bitter extremity, our export trade with its corollary of a tremendous stimulus to domestic industry would have attained nothing like its current dimensions had there been no intervention of our credit and capital to assist foreign buyers and domestic sellers.

In turn the maintenance of the advantageous footing which our trade has gained in other lands depends on our further progress in the expansion of foreign credits. Trade figures tell in one way the story of what we have done and may yet do. The same story is told in another way by such figures as PAUL M. WARBURG of the Federal Reserve Board employed in his recent address at Buenos Ayres when he said that "the United States now is and from now on will be one of the world's bankers."

What Real Preparedness Means.

A year was spent in organizing the experiment in communication now in progress between the Navy Department and the establishments and ships under its direction. In an emergency so much time might not be necessary, but the fact that the necessary coordination of instrumentalities cannot be accomplished in a moment is one that should not be disregarded. The best results require that the mechanical devices to be used should be understood by the men who are to use them. The limitations of the service demand study, and the possibility of increasing its scope is plain.

The modern telephone and telegraph systems are peculiarly elastic and adaptable. Their operators live in an uninterrupted state of preparedness. The nature of their occupation holds them to a standard of efficiency exacted by few callings. The transformation of their establishment from a peace to a military basis would be simple in comparison with the task presented in other industries, but even in their case months of arduous and intelligent effort have been spent to bring about the gratifying results that have been obtained.

Besides disclosing the capacity of the wire and wireless enginery of the country to contribute to national defence, the demonstration that began on Saturday offers an object lesson not to be ignored in the meaning of true preparedness for a nation that may be called on to defend its borders against a foreign enemy.

Fingers on the Keys.

The typewriting machine not less than the piano has its virtuosi, and in both arts the excellence of performance is affected, almost regulated, by so elementary a faculty as the digital dexterity of the person at the keyboard. What PADEREWSKI does to the keys of his instrument Miss ROSE L. FRITZ does to those of the typewriter on which she makes records in speed and accuracy.

In fifteen minutes Miss FRITZ typed, without an error, 1,770 words. Large numbers mean less than small ones; 1,770 words in fifteen minutes is 118 words to the minute. The first five lines of THE SUN'S report of Miss FRITZ'S achievement contain twenty-five words, with 163 letters, an average of 6½ letters to the word. If the fraction be omitted in the calculation, an operation not in the champion's favor, the speed in letters is 708 to the minute. In every second of the fifteen minutes of the test the champion pressed a dozen keys—and pressed the right one every time. And when to this we add the manipulation of the space bar and the adjustment of the carriage with each successive line, it becomes apparent that to win speed championships on the writing machine there is need of almost unimaginably well coordinated and controlled action of the hand and the brain and the eye.

What method does Miss FRITZ employ? Of what school is she a graduate? Amateurs of the keyboard may not hope to learn her secret from manuals of instruction. As a tutor, how much of her own skill in technique could she impart to learners? She is a genius of the keyboard; and geniuses never neglect the grammar of their art. Like PADEREWSKI, she owes her art to native skill improved by hard study and faithful practice. On either instrument not a motion is wasted by the master, no "effect" is the child of chance.

The accuracy of machinery, the economy of skilled labor and the harmonies of art unite to make admirable the performance of Miss ROSE FRITZ. PLATO, we think, who speculated on the nature of music, would have found music in the clicking of her keys.

Uncle SAM begins a critical week fondly trusting in the good faith of various first chiefs who really don't like him.

There seems to be no way of making the effervescent Sing Sing inmates abandon their ebullition, their outbursts in the pursuit of happiness, the joy of living. Those who have something heroic in them may scorn the soft delights of moonlight motoring and enter for the shoe knife carnivals, beating up tourneys or cell block riots as their fancies dictate. Happy fellows! Neither too proud to fight nor too busy to motor.

Time is not an ally, but a doubtful neutral.—*Minister* LLOYD GEORGE.

With the neutrals getting more and more nervous, and filing protests!

A Vassar girl of the class of 1918 ran 100 yards in 12.4 seconds, making a new record for her college; but she can't go as fast as some 1916 Presidential candidates who are running backward.

From accounts of the Shelter Island deer drive humanitarians may gain appreciation of the merciful qualities of a rifle shot fired under certain conditions.

ENRICO CARUSO is on his way to Italy. He intends to offer his services as a soldier. They will probably be declined, as they were last year. Italy would be the last of all the nations to send a Caruso to the battlefield. Singing in concerts for the benefit of wounded soldiers and orphaned children, he can soothe the sufferings of thousands.

It will not be very long before the Secretary of the Navy can sit in his office in the Department and communicate verbally with ships all over the world.—JOSEPHUS DANIELS.

Has JOSEPHUS heretofore communicated with them in hieroglyphs?

A Newark man has closed up his business affairs to prepare himself and those who will heed his warning for the end of the world, which he foresees not later than 1927. We hope the gentleman's prophetic powers are at fault; this world, disjointed though mankind is, was never more interesting than it is to-day.

The National Association for Constitutional Government has been organized to preserve the form and processes of government our fathers left to us. Obviously, here are a number of old fogies, hopeless reactionaries and cumbering fossils. Has it not been firmly established that whatever is is wrong?

Kaiser wrote note.—*Newspaper headline.*

As an author his greatest lack is grace. But perhaps he saw too much of it in Washington's compositions. The best writers measure their ingredients as carefully as good cooks do it.

History sometimes repeats itself. Those Republican favorite sons seem to realize that if they don't hang together they will hang separately. But they may be able to derive some consolation from the fact that if the worst befalls them each will have tickets to the national convention to bestow on his supporters.

The Navy League has sued HENRY FORD for libel and Mr. FORD'S lawyers are forced to inform their client that preparedness for defence is absolutely imperative.

AN AMERICAN OPINION.

Domestic and Foreign Considerations Counsel Us to Patience.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In these days, when the press reeks with utterances that are of hyphenated origin on the one hand and political on the other, it is refreshing now and then to note others that trace their source to genuine and patriotic Americanism.

Hyphenetically, the President is being violently assailed in the matter of the shipment of munitions. That subject is not for discussion here. Of far more importance at this juncture is the submarine issue with Germany, about which his attitude is the subject of vituperative criticism by unthinking people on the one hand and by calculating politicians on the other.

Recent happenings have served to tax his forbearance almost to the breaking point, but is not this forbearance commendable, and should not patience be allowed to run the extreme limit before the adoption of final action?

It must be borne in mind that ours is not a homogeneous people, such as all those at war in Europe. This fact and the resultant consequences in the event of a complete rupture must not be lost sight of. But even were our people as one in blood and feeling, what is to be gained as against what would be surely lost should America go to war with Germany? Would we be able by force to reduce the submarine activities that are responsible for the present acute tension?

The contrary is self-evident, and while the President's stand should be absolutely maintained, there is no national dishonor in his refusing to be spurred on by the utterance of hostile politicians to precipitate a deplorable situation which may be avoided.

The diatribes of Colonel Roosevelt do not take root in the country's heart; with him, as regards the President, it is "be damned if you do, and be damned if you don't." Nothing is clearer than that his great forcefulness is being exercised from selfish motives, in which patriotism has no part.

I write as an American of the seventh generation, whose ancestors have been closely identified with the great movements of the country from the time of the Revolution, and as such I brand as not patriotic, but traitorous, those fulminations that, in the serving of personal and political interests, would involve us in war with Germany and with Mexico as well. CIVIS AMERICANUS SUM.

NEW YORK, May 6.

The Trouble.

Stella—Did she raise her boy to be a soldier?

Bella—She didn't raise him at all; she child-studied him.

THE NEW SUBMARINE WAR.

Speculation as to the Real Significance of Germany's Concession.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The "concession" in the German note may be open to an interpretation of much military importance.

It is generally known that a submarine cannot give warning to a vessel which she intends to attack without first coming to the surface. She is then extremely vulnerable, even to projectiles from small guns easily concealed between decks. She may be sunk by the first "resisting" shot. If a weapon cannot be effectively used except at the probable cost of its own destruction and of all handling it, then that weapon is hardly a weapon at all. Hence it is argued that a demand that submarines shall not sink merchantmen without warning is virtually a demand that submarine attacks on such vessels shall altogether stop.

Yet the German note expressly agrees that merchant vessels "shall not be sunk without warning * * * unless the ship attempt to escape or offer resistance." This presumably is to be regarded as in all good faith until the contrary shall appear. The obvious and vital question, then, is: How is such an agreement to be reconciled with the apparently prohibitory peril of the warning act?

Two answers suggest themselves: Either Germany has discovered a new mode of submarine attack, which permits warning to be given without substantial risk, or she has devised a new submersible which is not endangered by surface exposure.

She may attack with her present boats in couples, the warning craft alone appearing, the other remaining under water ready to deliver a torpedo against the warned vessel upon the slightest sign of offence. But this involves many difficulties—depending, for example, upon the blindness of submarines when submerged—with dangers of collision and ineffective intercommunication.

It seems, therefore, more likely that Germany has a new vessel, which by reason of its construction and operation warrants her giving the pledge now made. And indeed for some time past there have been rumors that such a ship is not far below the horizon. Conceive of a boat larger than any submarine, of small draft of water, without guns, armored only over a protective deck rising but little above the surface and showing nothing but a conning tower near the stern, with internal combustion engines capable of driving her at a very high speed, say beyond that of the forty-one knots of the Italian destroyer Audace—armed solely with modern torpedoes of the highest attainable range and gyroscopically controlled accuracy, a vessel which when under way at a speed even much below the maximum would be practically self-submerging. That ship originated in this country several years ago. It is very similar to the type talked about by Captain Sims of the navy recently before the Congressional committee.

If Germany has been building such craft as this there seems nothing to reconcile between her promise and possible conditions of submerged attack. The new ship would be fast enough to catch any merchant vessel, and submersible when desired. She would be also impregnable to gunfire and as safe in giving warning and as capable of taking people from sunken vessels on board as any cruiser.

Just what might happen to modern dreadnoughts if attacked on the high seas by this vessel is another story, about which, perhaps, we may know more after the German fleet comes out. FARR BENJAMIN.

NEW YORK, May 6.

ON THE OLD BOWERY.

Another Version of a Lyrical Domestic Tragedy.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The letters you have been publishing during the past few weeks about the Bowery have stirred up memories long dormant; and afford the keenest of pleasure to a young old man who can recollect the time when hoopskirts were not the fashion, but the rage; and at the young people's dances at Germania Assembly rooms on the east side of the Bowery near Houston street it was comical to watch the manœuvres of the girls after a dance was finished trying to sit down without having their hoopskirts lift their clothing up around their shoulders.

This was shortly before the time of the song that your correspondent "T. P." mentioned, and as his recollection of it is rather vague, the following text will enlighten him as to how we made "by" and "wife" rhyme:

We never speak, as we pass by,
Although a tear bedims her eye.
I know she thinks of her past life
When we were loving man and wife.

In those days a good dancer was known as a spieler, and a good spieler was supposed to be able to "spiel on a three cent piece," which meant that he could keep swinging his partner on a spot not larger than the three cent silver piece which was in circulation at that time.

Let's hear from some of the old spielers who were members of the social clubs which abounded at that time, such as the famous Favorite Nines of Avenue B and Tenth street.

NEW YORK, May 6. OLD TIMER.

The Ethics of Other Days.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* "Vet's" naive ethics in his encomiastic Owney Geoghegan letter ripens the risibles.

We build up a conception of a hearty, honest boniface, expand to the fillip of a faith no longer practised in the earth, fill in a picture of a sort of incorruptible vulgar god. Then—we learn that Owney used horseshoes in his boxing gloves!

"Vet" belongs to the class Hibernis ipsis Hibernioces. WYTHE HELL.

SWARTHMORE, Pa., May 6.

Jinks Is Allus Guessin'.

Jinks doesn't like the outlook, nor what
he sees and hears;
He's optimistic naturally, but feels in-
growing fears.
"It's gettin' so," he says, and groans,
"thar ain't a cussed thing
That comes to us from foreign lands with-
out some kind o' sting.

"Why is it that the Kaiser, Carranza and
the rest
Can't answer up straightforward when we
put 'em to the test?
They allus seem a-dougin' when they'd
oughter toe the mark.
I read 'em and I ponder 'em, but still I'm
in the dark.

"Perhaps they think in German and in
Spanish, so to us
When we get their thoughts in English
their blessin' seems a cuss;
It may be the translations is the only
things to blame,
But they seem to fog the issues and their
answerin's is lame.

"I'm tryin' to give 'em every chance and
every inch o' rope;
I read 'em and reread 'em and fill my soul
with hope;
But thar's somethin' thar between their
lines I cannot understand.
They keep me allus guessin'—and I'm sore
to beat the band."

F. JONES.

CAPTURING GERMAN TRADE.

Dr. Oberfohren's Figures Seem to Show England's Failure in Cotton.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* For more than a century the mainstay of British industry and commerce has been the cotton trade. The manufacture and sale of cotton goods represents the greatest industry of Great Britain and has a decisive influence upon the economic situation of the whole country in general and of the populous district of Lancashire in particular. Boom or slump in the cotton trade is universally regarded as the best thermometer for England's industrial situation. The vicissitudes of this trade during the last fifteen months can therefore be considered as representative of England's industrial and commercial course during this period.

The cotton trade was the principal market in which the realization of the British war cry "Capture German trade" was confidently expected. It was Lancashire's hope that Germany's exports would be rapidly and completely supplanted by English goods. This hope has been sorely disappointed. Not only has it been impossible to conquer new markets for English products but the English exports in 1915 have been smaller than they have ever been during the last twenty years.

During the twelve months ended December 31, 1913, more than 7,000,000,000 yards of cotton goods were exported; in 1914 the English exports sank to 5,700,000,000 yards and in 1915 to 4,700,000,000 yards. That is a decrease of 2,300,000,000 yards, or 30 per cent., within two years, a most remarkable record for an industry which boasted of an unlimited supply of raw material and of the open markets of the world. Its psychologic effect is evident in a statement made in the *Economist* of January 22 that "the general demand in piece goods was very disappointing throughout the year" and "business as usual" is not evidenced by the statement that "manufacturers found it most difficult to secure profitable rates." In view of the fact that "Lancashire is dependent upon India to take off a large proportion of the looms, and when that market fails to give support healthy trade cannot be expected," it must be disheartening to the Lancashire man to witness the decrease in the Indian trade. Bengal took 378,000,000 yards less than in 1914; Bombay 245,000,000 yards less; Madras 63,000,000 yards less; Burma 22,000,000 yards less; Dutch East India 39,000,000 yards less.

Not only the yardage of the English cotton export but also its value decreased considerably. In 1913 the cotton exports represented the sum of £125,000,000; in 1914 it sank to £103,000,000, and in 1915 to £86,000,000. Accordingly the decrease was £39,000,000 within two years. A single industry that loses exports amounting yearly to approximately $200,000,000 can certainly not say that its business is as usual or that it is capturing new markets.

Nor do the export statistics of the current year show great evidence of recovery. There are a few items in which the sales have gone up during the first three months, such as bleached and printed piece goods. However, compared with the exports of 1914 the figures for the current year fall even in these branches far short from normal. Of bleached cotton goods, for example, 130,000,000 yards less have been sold in the first three months of 1916 than two years ago, while printed cotton goods show a decrease of more than 100,000,000 yards for the same period. The sales of all other kinds of cotton goods have remained on the low level of 1915 or have even gone lower. The decrease of the import of raw cotton into the United Kingdom follows a similar scale. In the first three months of 1916 only 7,000,000 cwt. of cotton was imported, compared to 9,700,000 cwt. in the same period in 1915. That means a decrease of 2,700,000 cwt., or nearly one-third. All this evidence admits of a conclusion as to the precarious situation of the English cotton industry, and the latest reports say that "manufacturers who have closed sheds and stopped looms are not disposed to start work again until there is definite evidence of a revival of demand." How inactive the market is at the present time is best brought home by a quotation from the London *Economist* of April 8, which sums the situation up in the following way:

We continue to experience an inactive market, and it is a long time since so many complaints were received from producers. The depression in weaving circles is largely due to the lack of demand for India, especially in regular staple cloths. Thousands of looms in Lancashire usually engaged in producing goods for our dependency are stopped for want of orders.

The reasons for the bad situation in the British cotton trade are manifold. Considerable importance must be attached to the scarcity of dyes. Although dyes of British manufacture have been heralded for nearly two years the Manchester *Guardian* had recently to admit that English made dyes and colors are not fast and cloth dyed with them cannot be washed. Of equal importance are the high freight rates. They cause rising prices which the customers are not able or willing to pay.

To this survey of the situation the argument might be opposed that "it was a very poor twelve months for manufacturers of cloth" but that the situation will improve as soon as the war ends and normal conditions prevail. That hope, however, is not at all certain of realization. On the Indian and Far Eastern market the "made in Japan" looms now as dangerous as the "made in Germany." Japan's textile industry is growing at an extraordinary rate. There are at present 2,800,000 spindles in operation, and the *Pioneer Mail* reported recently from Bombay that Japanese cloth has become a serious menace to Lancashire goods. An authoritative view of this question is given in the recent memorandum of the British Consul in Osaka dealing with the Japanese cotton industry:

It is reported that at the beginning of 1916 the mills were in the comfortable position of having sold their output for six months ahead, and there is a general impression that the position thus gained in the cotton piece goods market of China and India is one which will be held.

Not only Japanese goods are threatening the English cotton trade in Asia but also the output of Indian looms becomes more and more considerable. The Manchester *Guardian* reports that in the month of October, 1914, India produced 82,000,000 yards of textiles; in the same month of 1915 the output amounted to 143,000,000 yards, an increase of 75 per cent. More than 6,600,000 spindles and more than 104,000 looms were here at work during 1914-1915. Although at the present time the freight rates have the same effect as tariff walls the agitation in India for a protective tariff against Lancashire has not abated. Under date of March 4 the correspondent of the London *Times* reports from Bombay that the Government of India wishes to increase the import duties on Lancashire cotton goods from 3½ to 5 per cent.

Such an outlook is not very promising to England's oldest and most important industry. It seems as if Great Britain would definitely lose the lead in that branch as she has lost the lead in the production of coal and in the iron and steel industry. The handicaps under which the cotton industry labors are heavy and alarming to the mill operators. The development of the English cotton trade in the near future will be interesting to observe.

Dr. R. J. OBERFOHREN.

NEW YORK, May 6.

The Struggle for Verity.

From the Berkshire Courier.

An old colored man who was before Judge Sanford for drunkenness yesterday and had his sentence suspended, largely on account of his age, which must be nearly eighty years, in an effort to brace up his reputation for truth and veracity remarked to one of the court officers: "I always means and intends to tell de troof. I does, even if I has to lie a little to do it."

WHAT THE COUNTRY NEEDS.

Have the Democrats Proved Unequal to Their Task?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I am one of those who believe that the internal conditions of this country will not be properly adjusted for the wage earner and business man until the Republican party comes into power.

It is not the individual who will settle things in a satisfactory manner, it is work for a political party. Everybody understands that outside of munitions business never was in a worse condition in this country; evidence of this is the fact that the banks are stuffed with money because they cannot loan it at a legitimate rate of interest.

If the $5,000,000,000 war and munition business in the country has given us inflation and a prosperity so called it does not place us on a firm basis.

There never was greater need for the wisdom of the Republican party in Washington than at the present time. Democratic inefficiency has cropped out everywhere and it is high time that we place our personal feelings in the background and come forward in a political way for the country and its welfare.

Personal control in Washington has been a failure. The Democrats recruited in the solid South and crowded cities do not bring forward brains and judgment needed to run the country. The northern tier of States, old time Republican strongholds, have the necessary material, and I sincerely hope there will not be a split candidacy against the autocrat of the Democratic party.

From among Weeks, Root, Knox, Burton, Sherman, Fairbanks and Hughes we could get a safe and sensible candidate, but I do not believe the Republican party can make a nomination that Mr. Roosevelt will not indorse, because I think he is sincere in desiring the defeat of "the most inefficient President since Buchanan."

I might say in passing that I hardly think it is in order for a member of the Supreme Court to allow his name to be considered for the Presidency. I am of the opinion that a member of the Supreme Court should make it clear that he would not accept a nomination were it tendered him, although I might say that I have the greatest respect for Mr. Hughes and voted for him as a candidate for President when Mr. Taft was first considered for the office. I believed at that time that Mr. Hughes was the strongest possible candidate, and had he been nominated I am also of the opinion that this country would have been spared the great loss that has resulted through Democratic incapacity to conduct the political affairs of this country. BEACON HILL.

BOSTON, May 6.

THE VOTERS' YEAR.

Will an Independent Electorate Upset the Politicians' Plans?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Is it possible that the psychology of 1912 is again to hoodoo the situation this year? There seems to have recently developed a revival of confidence in those master minds which operated the steam roller four years ago. They seem to have imbibed the idea that the meek and chastened independent voters will eagerly accept any kind of a handout at Chicago next month. The unbiassed historian would probably say that there was considerable miscalculation shown four years ago. It would seem to be possible that a mistake in diagnosis might be made again this year.

It is easy to understand that those who thrive through manipulation of the voting machinery would naturally desire to nominate a candidate at Chicago who would be plastic material in their hands; but success in such an enterprise requires the cooperation of a large number of voters, equally plastic. The question naturally arises: Are there seven or eight million voters of such assured loyalty as to line up and vote in accordance with the furtherance of this programme? I doubt it.

There will be more voters this year who are ready to act independently than at probably any previous general election. They have acquired considerable wisdom in the past few years, and are not carrying such a colossal burden of loyalty to the machine politicians as to cause them any excessive degree of embarrassment. They will vote for whomever they choose, realizing there will be enough independent voters in evidence to save themselves from any noticeable stigma of irregularity.

These facts being considered, and they are facts, the manipulators will of course have the opportunity to decide whether the public interests shall be slaughtered for their own private interests and a candidate named who shall promulgate the fact that they still have their grip upon the machinery, or a candidate who can be elected.

Party organization is not only eminently proper, but desirable, provided that those who direct the deliberations and sit in the councils show proper consideration for the mass of the voters. Otherwise, party organization can become a menace, and just at this particular period of the world's history it becomes doubly so. Therefore let us hope that wisdom will prevail and the steam roller be kept in storage for use under more auspicious circumstances.

A. G. CRANDALL.

MONTPELIER, Vt., May 6.

CITING THE AUTHORITIES.

A Staggering Legal Argument for Restricting the Liquor Traffic.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The law of nations, the law of the American Union, the law of the exclusive judgment of the State in control of intoxicants by licensing or abolishing them, the law of the signs of the stars, stated in Deuteronomy xxxii., 8; Genesis i., 14; restated as the first proposition of Abraham Lincoln on March 4, 1861; restated by James Bryce in his "American Commonwealth," Vol. II., page 41-42, the law of home rule—this is the fundamental law that is shot to pieces by the authorization by the party in power of shipments of intoxicants into any State to any person who pleases to import them.

Who is a pussyfooter on that question?

Have the nation's leaders "anything of the heroic in them" enough to answer that?

Could not the nation "find its soul" to give a faint squeak or two?

The law of the operation of the human intellect; could not it be permitted to formulate judgment whether the legalized commerce in intoxicants is right or wrong?

Are the big intellectual guns of the party in power all jammed?

If the eye of the soul is not permitted to see and tell what it sees for long periods of time, is there not a danger of a total loss of the faculty and the organ?

The fish in the Mammoth Cave of Kentucky have lost their eyes. If men will not speak out for the preservation of home rule for the States of the Union their word will not be potent to restore home rule to Ireland, Belgium or Jerusalem. "Be just at home, then write your scroll of honor o'er the sea." In Leslie M. Shaw's "United Sovereignties of the Earth" would he have it constituted so that one sovereignty could ship cocaine, slaves or intoxicants to any person who pleased to import them into any other sovereignty against the judgment of the latter in the control of her domestic institutions?

JAMES YEARSLEY.

PHILADELPHIA, May 6.

Yale's Martial Spirit.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In THE SUN of May 4 is the statement that Yale has but fifty-one students "enrolled for the summer training camps." As a matter of fact, for one summer camp alone, Tobyhanna, over four hundred students, members of the Yale battery, are enrolled. Kindly publish this fact, for the erroneous figures you have given do an injustice to Yale. EDWARD BLISS REED.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., May 6.

MUST REDISTRICT THE CITY ON MAY 23

Attorney-General Tells Aldermen How to Lay Out Assembly Districts.

CONFUSION OVER WORK

ALBANY, May 7.—The New York city Board of Aldermen, upon which devolves the duty of designating the Assembly districts in New York city, must meet on May 23 to perform this work under the provisions of the apportionment act recently signed by Gov. Whitman. In the up-State counties allowed more than one Assemblyman this duty is imposed upon the Boards of Supervisors.

Requests for information as to the time and manner of establishing the Assembly districts in counties allotted more than one member of Assembly made to Attorney-General Woodbury during the past week indicate that the various boards find the work somewhat difficult and confusing.

The apportionment of the Senate districts present no difficulties in view of the context of the apportionment act which actually describes these districts. The same is true with counties allotted one member of the Assembly.

To clarify the situation the Attorney-General issued to-night an informal statement, explaining the constitutional and statutory rules governing the division of the counties that are allowed more than one Assemblyman into Assembly districts. No requests have been made as yet for formal opinions.

Will Give Legal Advice.

Attorney-General Woodbury will, however, render any legal advice the various boards of supervisors or the New York city Board of Aldermen desire for the purpose of simplifying their apportionment duties.

The Attorney-General's statement follows in part:

"The Constitution, Article III., Section 5, prescribes certain rules which the board of supervisors must follow in dividing the county into such districts. The districts within the county must be as nearly equal in the number of inhabitants as may be. The number of inhabitants is determined without reference to the number of alien inhabitants in the district.

"It is further required that the districts shall be of convenient and contiguous territory in as compact form as practicable.

"Another rule which must be met is that each district shall be wholly within one of the new Senate districts.

"Where a county contains more than one Senate district, the same number of Assembly districts must be put in each Senate district, unless the Assembly districts cannot be evenly divided. In the latter case it is permissible to put one more Assembly district in the Senate district having the largest number of inhabitants or one less Assembly district in the Senate district having the smallest number of inhabitants.

No Block Can Be Divided.

"The Constitution also requires that no town and no block in a city shall be divided in the formation of an Assembly district, nor shall such a district contain a greater excess in population over an adjoining district than the population of a town or block in such adjoining district. The requirement is that towns or blocks which from their location may be included in either of two districts shall be placed so as to make those districts most nearly equal in the number of inhabitants.

"Having divided the county into Assembly districts in accordance with such rules the board is required to make a certificate describing each Assembly district, specifying its number and stating the number of inhabitants within it according to the last enumeration. This certificate is required to be filed with the Secretary of State and the County Clerk of the county, and must therefore be made in duplicate.

"In the city of New York the Board of Aldermen takes the place of the board of supervisors in the performance of this function of dividing the territory within the city of New York into Assembly districts, and it is bound by the same rules as are prescribed for the boards of supervisors. A majority of the supervisors or of the New York city Aldermen is sufficient to sign a certificate in either case.

"While these boards have a reasonable discretion as to the laying out of Assembly districts within the above rules their action is subject to review by the Supreme Court."

MILK PERIL TO BABIES DENIED

Committee Aiding Infants Says Scurvy Is Not Increasing.

Charges that scurvy among babies is increasing and is due to the greater amount of pasteurized milk consumed were denied yesterday by the New York Milk Committee.

The committee has tried to obtain information from the Health Department, but statistics determining the infant mortality from any one disease were not available. As far as could be learned only six infants died in this city from scurvy in 1915. In 1905 there were nine deaths from this cause. In 1905 the number of infants that died in a thousand born was 47.6 for intestinal diseases and .08 from scurvy. In 1915 the rate for intestinal diseases was only 22.4 and .4 from scurvy. There has been also a decrease in the number of deaths from other diseases contracted through infected milk supply. The committee in a statement issued yesterday, said:

"While it has been repeatedly stated that the use of heated milk may predispose infants to scurvy, it is further true that each infant fed is a law unto itself. It should be remembered that the simple procedure of giving orange juice absolutely does away with the danger of this kind. The giving of orange juice has been the common practice for