

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

Subscriptions by Mail, Postpaid. DAILY, Per Month, \$3.00. DAILY, Per Year, \$35.00.

THE EVENING SUN, Per Month, \$1.00. THE EVENING SUN, Per Year, \$12.00.

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

Readers of THE SUN leaving town for the summer months can have the daily and Sunday evening editions delivered to them in any part of the country.

Published daily, including Sunday, by the Sun Printing and Publishing Association at 150 Nassau street, in the Borough of Manhattan, New York.

London office, 40-43 Fleet street. Paris office, 10 rue de Valenciennes.

Is Frightfulness Pleased Out? Frightfulness carried its campaign to the door of the White House.

At no time have the railroads through the representatives of their owners declined to submit to the decision of an impartial tribunal.

Dealings With Public Utility Strikes. The Public Service Commission of this district has made to the Governor a report on the recent street car strike in this city.

It is pointed out that New York city, as owner of its subways and financially interested in their operation, has a special concern in transit affairs.

Mr. Pinchot declares that "if this legislation which Secretary LANE is trying to get passed is enacted the oil land reserves set aside for the use of the navy will be destroyed."

Mr. Pinchot replies to this charge by saying that "the only matter in dispute between the navy and the oil operators relates to naval reserve No. 2 in California, consisting of 30,000 acres, 20,000 acres of which, two-thirds, are patented lands or lands clear listed for patent."

Public opinion, exerted to demand uninterrupted transit at all costs, compelled the settlement of the recent street car strike, and its impartial coercion is still felt as the men and the companies proceed to the peaceful adjustment of their differences.

The Kaiser's Question. The German Emperor is reported to have said to an "eminent neutral": "Why do you neutrals always talk about German militarism and never about Russian despotism, French craving for revenge and English treachery?"

There was more talk about German militarism before the war began than there has been since. It was talk not unmixed with admiration, or envy. The German army, it was supposed, was so wonderful that it could strike at the empire's foes without having to go by way of territory which the empire had pledged itself to keep in-

violated. The discipline of the army was supposed to be so perfect that it could invade without committing crimes so heinous that they will be remembered after the last Hohen-zollern is dust with his fathers.

There has been talk about Russian despotism, and it will continue until Russia understands herself and is understood. There has been talk about the French craving for revenge, but it has been silenced in the spell of admiration, if not astonishment, which the neutral world has for the most magnificent defence of the war.

By English treachery the speaker may mean Great Britain's refusal to wink at the invasion of Belgium. If that was treachery, then England is the most glorious traitor among the nations of Europe.

Mr. Lane's Oil Lands Policy. Secretary LANE, who has been attacked by Mr. GIFFORD PINCHOT, formerly his admirer, for advocating the Phelan mineral bill, undoubtedly belongs to the conservation school that believes in using as well as guarding our natural resources.

Secretary LANE once more recommended "a general development bill providing for a practicable method of disposing of our oil, gas, coal, phosphate and potash without danger of monopoly or abuse."

The so-called mineral bill introduced by Senator PHELAN of California, a Democrat, authorizes "exploration for and disposition of coal, phosphate, oil, gas, potassium or sodium." It is the measure Mr. PINCHOT complains of.

As to oil and gas the Phelan bill provides that the Secretary of the Interior may, "under such rules and regulations as he may prescribe," grant permits to prospectors on Government (withdrawn) lands, who shall have the right to drill for oil or gas on territory subsequently leased to them for terms of years, paying to the Government one dollar for each acre in addition to a royalty equal to "not less than one-tenth in amount or value of the production."

It may be observed that the conservation plank in the Republican platform calls for "a careful husbandry of all the natural resources of the nation—a husbandry which means development without waste, use without abuse."

This is also the policy of the Democratic party in a general way. It is the alleged purpose of the Phelan bill to carry it out. Mr. PINCHOT seems to think there is "a nigger in the woodpile," and he may be right. Mr. PINCHOT, "with great reluctance," he says, now charges Secretary LANE with neglecting the public interests and playing into the hands of the enemies of conservation.

One of the great questions involved in the controversy is whether oil operators have any rights in mineral lands which they had begun to develop when those lands were withdrawn by the Government.

Secretary LANE maintained the affirmative in his last report, in which he said: "I shall not assume to say what policy should be followed as to the naval reserves, but as to the other withdrawn lands I believe Congress (which is the one forum wherein relief can be sought) should so act as to recognize the equitable rights of those operators." The Phelan bill in seeking to protect their interests aroused the suspicion of the champion of conservation who has lost faith in Secretary LANE.

Mr. PINCHOT declares that "if this legislation which Secretary LANE is trying to get passed is enacted the oil land reserves set aside for the use of the navy will be destroyed."

That of course could not be permitted. On the floor of the Senate on July 13 Mr. PHELAN replied to this charge by saying that "the only matter in dispute between the navy and the oil operators relates to naval reserve No. 2 in California, consisting of 30,000 acres, 20,000 acres of which, two-thirds, are patented lands or lands clear listed for patent."

That is to say, Senator PHELAN claimed title, "unassailable title" was his expression, for the oil operators in two-thirds of the tract; and he added that "the oil is available for the navy just as soon as the navy is ready to pay for it." The matter is now in litigation. Mr. PHELAN estimated that the 3,000,000 acres of Government oil land would provide 175,000,000 gallons of oil a year, and he was sure that the navy's oil supply would be safe.

The controversy started by GIFFORD PINCHOT awakens memories of the bitter fight made upon Secretary BALDWIN during the Taft Administration by Mr. PINCHOT and his friends. In so far as the charges now preferred against the Hon. FRANKLIN LANE affect the question of naval preparedness, the people will want them satisfactorily answered. And the whole Phelan bill comes under fire. It must be shown to square with the demand of the Republican platform that conservation means "development without waste, use without abuse."

Our Archeological Need. Mr. VAVASOUR EARLE, an authority on the qualities of stone used in building, has warned the readers of THE SUNDAY SUN that:

"To the trained eye of the expert such buildings as the great Public Library, Fifth avenue and Forty-second street, erected within the past five or six years; the magnificent Metropolitan Tower; that finest of all the churches on the American continent, St. Patrick's Cathedral, and one of the handsomest banking houses in Wall street, erected about two years ago, already display the distinctive marks of incipient decay."

He adds that these and other structures, intended to be monuments of our time, will probably survive for

future generations only in a weather-ravaged state.

The haste of New Yorkers to replace anything that is even slightly out of date makes it seem unlikely that our descendants will be suffered to enjoy these noble ruins in peace. We have a passion for mending and repairing everything, and shudder at the thought of a suitable antiquity. However shortsighted, this feeling must be reckoned with.

Graciously knows, New York needs a few good ruins! There is, properly speaking, no field here whatever for archeological research. Why should it be necessary for our young men and women to go to Rome to see a Colosseum bathed in moonlight or to dig in the Forum? Hitherto we in New York have signally failed to take advantage of our opportunities to develop satisfactory ruins. The Federal Government set a vicious example recently by repairing and attempting to clean the Federal Building instead of leaving it to sink into a decay partly redemptive of its superb ugliness.

Of course, a beautiful ruin is to be preferred to a repellent structure, like the Criminal Courts Building, since it is not legally possible, as is the case in vaccination for smallpox and typhoid, to compel soldiers to go under anesthesia, the matter be given to a commission for decision.

It is a gratifying reflection that amid all the wreck and ruin of this war there lingers still a living spark of civilization—the supremacy of the law, which holds out the promise of a better day for humanity.

An Unlucky Country. President WILSON discloses in his campaign plans his customary fixity of purpose. At one time he was determined to let his record speak for him. At another he planned to sit on the porch of Shadow Lawn and write notes to friends and opponents. Again he would cross the continent on the trail of Mr. HUGHES. Now he is undecided as to this scheme, owing, it is alleged, to vexation arising from the premature disclosure of his decision; but he retains the privilege of changing his programme.

In these revisions of unalterable purposes, resolving themselves at last into an unyielding determination to adhere to no resolution, Mr. WILSON exhibits once more the curious lack of stability that has so often baffled and mystified his friends. He will and he won't; in Mexico, in transactions with other foreign Powers, in national defense, in problems from trivial to grave, the project seriously put forward to-day is upset by the impulse of to-morrow.

A very frank, a very sincere nature Dr. WILSON would award to himself; but he does not stay put.

Mr. Garretson's Comparison. The spirit of levity in which some of the leaders of the railroad employees threatened to starve 100,000,000 citizens of this country is displayed in the subjoined comparison attributed to A. B. GARRETSON, chairman of the brotherhood's committee:

"How about the rise in the price of gasoline? That made me suffer, but we did not hear anything about it not being patriotic."

Leaving out of consideration the fact that the high cost of gasoline was the inciting cause of numerous denunciations of its manufacturers, and brought about an official inquiry, the "suffering" produced by it was in no way comparable with that which Mr. GARRETSON and his associates would bring on the country. It did not menace the food supply of any community. It reduced no industry to impotency. At no time did it threaten to disrupt the social and industrial life of the nation, or to destroy the essential agencies of its orderly business.

If Mr. GARRETSON believes the regulation of the price of gasoline to be on the same plane of public importance with the maintenance of traffic on the steam railroads of the nation, his conception of the functions of a public carrier does not inspire confidence in his capacity for the post his fellows have conferred on him.

Some Incidents of the Supremacy of the Law in War. In the war in Europe practices that were well established half a century ago—for example the exchange of prisoners, protection of sick and wounded and respect for non-combatants—are constantly set at naught, until the whole wondrous if it is lapsing into barbarism. During our civil war General ROBERT E. LEE spoke the sentiment of the American public when he ordered:

"Make war only upon armed men. The Commanding General earnestly exhorts the troops to abstain with the utmost care from all unnecessary or wanton injury to private property, and enjoins upon all officers to arrest and bring to summary punishment all who shall in any way offend against the orders on this subject."

If any proclamation approximating this order has been issued during the present war it has escaped attention. On the contrary, every consideration of humanity and Christian forbearance toward non-combatants has been disregarded in the determined purpose, announced by the promoters of some of the contending nations, to annihilate their opponents.

It is therefore worthy of record that in two recent instances at least the legal rights of the soldiers have been preserved. The Paris correspondent of the Journal of the American Medical Association reports a decree of the French Minister of War instructing army surgeons that a soldier has the absolute right to refuse

any operation or treatment that involves risk to life. A more remarkable concession to the soldier's rights is evident in the upholding of his refusal of an anesthetic when ordered by the surgeon. Such action is directly opposed to the good of the service. Aside from the saving of pain and shock and facilitating correct diagnosis, both of which hasten recovery and probable restoration to duty, there is involved in the question of using anesthetics the detection of malingering, which is often resorted to by men whose patriotism is not sufficiently strong to resist the call of self-preservation.

The matter being referred to the Academie de Médecine, Dr. RAYNER proposed to make the administration of anesthetics compulsory for diagnosis, because "it is often impossible to demonstrate the hysterical nature of certain contractures, and one is therefore obliged to discharge men who might well be cured and who are perfectly fit to take their place in the ranks. In these conditions respect for the individual will which rules in civil life cannot be held compatible with military discipline." Dr. VAHLEMB, Inspector-General, advised that since it is not legally possible, as is the case in vaccination for smallpox and typhoid, to compel soldiers to go under anesthesia, the matter be given to a commission for decision.

It is a gratifying reflection that amid all the wreck and ruin of this war there lingers still a living spark of civilization—the supremacy of the law, which holds out the promise of a better day for humanity.

Have primaries eliminated the wicked bosses or are the wicked bosses eliminating the primaries? Certain projected coronation ceremonies in the Orient have been indefinitely postponed.

A letter from the Schwaben Verein of Los Angeles, mailed on May 10, has just arrived at Stuttgart, having been enclosed by the British censor. An enclosure of \$255 was missing.—Despatch from Berlin.

Probably the expense of translation. Mount Aetna is again in eruption. Is the Gulf Stream responsible for this new calamity?

Unless the Stielow case clears up before it comes to him the Hon. AUGUSTUS BOGERT will be called upon to show all the better qualities of SOLON and SOLOMON.

Of all men in the country JOSEPHUS must know best when a target is hit. Car has 12,000,000 soldiers.—News-paper headline.

A long way from his last moujik. The Democrats are perfectly logical in asserting that a doubtful State would be naturally Wilsonian.

I enforced the civil service law to the letter.—W. J. BRYAN. To the "deserving Democrats" letter.

Those English newspapers which see a German plot in the rise of wheat prices should have their attention called to the devilish German conspiracy to shift the Gulf Stream.

What are we going to do with woman?—MR. AQUARTH. Well, as she has been doing her bit in the present emergency, you will have to give her the ballot.

Rumania is gradually getting the cat located. DOGS ON THE ROOF. A Complaint That the Board of Health Will Not Enforce an Ordinance.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—In THE SUN recently it was suggested that "a body of sanitary police made up of volunteers, authorized to issue summonses to violators of the sanitary code, would do much to make New York a healthier place to live in. Some new law will have to be adopted, for the present method is outrageous." On July 13, 18 and 24 I wrote to the Board of Health and quoted the Sanitary Code that was being violated in an apartment house. Not one word did I get until August 11, when a policeman called to direct me to go to the magistrate's court and tell my story. I told him I would not do so, as the Sanitary Code required the Board of Health to take care of the matter. I had complained about it. As long ago as April I wrote to the Board of Health about dogs being taken out on the roof. On April 29, 1916, I received a printed card referring me to the Tenement House Department. Later a policeman called and told me that my complaint did come under the jurisdiction of the Board of Health, and the Board of Health only. When I showed him the card I had received he said: "That's the way they do. Turn it over to another department, and that department turns it over to us and we can do nothing but tell the people the law. Now you can break your lease if you want to." I said I did not want to do that, and still does our roof. The Board of Health is the Board of Health when it doesn't enforce the Sanitary Code. A SUN READER. NEW YORK, AUGUST 15.

Ned Harrigan's Song. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—I note with interest in your issue of Mr. Frank L. Greene in your issue of August 5. The refrain of Ned Harrigan's song has been brought down in memory by some old timers whom I meet occasionally, and as rendered by them runs as follows:

"That's a fine! It is a lovely! Heave the captain round! When your own's gone! It's the same old song! Get up, Jack! John, sit down!"

It contains perhaps more truth than poetry. As I remember it, the old man Jack was sailing from old Brazil to Bunker Hill. Perhaps some of your readers can supply the other incidents of the voyage as recounted in the song. NEW YORK, AUGUST 15. J. M. ALLEN.

Not Caridam. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Mr. Lewis gives Wilton's meaning of "no word to fight" as "non-dilemma." With two of my family lost on the Lusitania and myself nearly in Mexico, I think Wilton's meaning is plain. "Caridam" is "caridam." SUSSET A. WITMAN. NEW YORK, AUGUST 15.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS. A Wife of One Tells Some of the Work They Are Called on to Do.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—In answer to Mr. E. G. Miller, who thinks that the Public Health Service officers spend their time in blowing their own horns but doing little, may I as the wife of one of these officers say a word in their behalf?

It is to these same health officers that San Francisco acknowledges her debt for having freed from the awful scourge of bubonic plague and New Orleans has loudly sung their praise for quelling an epidemic of yellow fever.

These officers are all picked men, as the entrance examinations are most rigid. They are well informed on all matters of sanitation, having worked in laboratories and hospitals. They are not seeking glory and there is no one in New York to-day who has much longer hours or harder work than these officers, and his wife rarely has an opportunity to dine with him before he goes to his office.

It is true that hundreds of innocent children have died in New York and these men have not been able to save their lives. But no one can estimate how many thousands of children have been spared by their efforts.

From the fact that so many men can be spared from their home duties, that is if they have such duties. While the men in New York are working overtime the officers at their stations are doing double work so that their brother officers may wage war against pestilence.

WILSON. NEW YORK, AUGUST 15. A CRISIS IN WASHINGTON. When Tommy Scully Did or Did Not Catch Nick Longworth's Fly.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—You did well to give expert and serious consideration to certain causes and effects revealed by the score of the recent game of baseball between the Republican and Democratic members of the House of Representatives.

One point you overlooked: the loss to the Democratic side caused by the absence from Congress of the Hon. Eugene F. Kinkaid of New Jersey and the Hon. Thomas Lawrence of Connecticut. Ah, the joy of Democratic anticipation when those giants of the diamond buckled their armor on; the hysteria of delight when, victorious, they took their armor off!

Sheriff Gene was manager, boss, inspiration, captain, pitcher, catcher and second base of the Democratic team in the Sixty-second Congress, playing some other positions, but shining most in those mentioned. He learned baseball at Seton Hall, and a man I know who also played there tells me that Gene could make more noise, threaten umpires more beligerently than any other Setonian I have ever known.

Tom Reilly, in the early innings of the game I'm speaking of, played second. Nick Longworth lifted a fly to left for which Tommy Scully of New Jersey (Tom's son is playing good ball for Princeton now) ran nearly to the plate in Philadelphia. Reilly, who got under the ball, fell with it and rolled over half a dozen times before he was on his feet holding the ball up for the gaze of joyful Democrats.

Nick had passed second by this time, and Sid Anderson caught him on to third. Reilly, who really had rolled over the ball for the purpose of getting it up unseen—and Tom from Jersey!

You should have seen Reilly and Gene, shoulders hunched, heads poked forward, chins extended, lips curled in sneers of frightfulness, run to third with the umpires (one Republican, one Democrat) shouting "out!" Reilly, who was holding up the breathless Nick. Soon there was a roar going on around third which was plainly heard over at Fort Myer.

Sid declared that the runner, Nick, would never leave the base until the militia was called out to protect him. Reilly, who never had seen such rough stuff attempted; Gene was roaring inarticulately, and Nick and Sid were trying to make as much noise as the umpires, so no one noticed Tommy Scully strolling in from deep left at a secret signal from Gene.

Sid felt it necessary to gesticulate with both hands, and let go of Nick, who thereupon fell off the base. Tommy Scully put the ball on him.

"I learned something at Seton Hall, anyway," Gene remarked, trotting off to play a new position.

It is hard to confess oneself a quitter, but at Herald Square I had to give in. I looked for a taxi. There was but one on the island of the city. I rushed to it and called to the driver, "Get Reilly!" I opened the door and jumped in. As I did some one entered the cab, and I was thrown out. Our heads came together with a crash. It was Bill. NEW YORK, AUGUST 15.

TOLL OF THE PLAGUE. A Tale That May Be Profitably Studied To-day. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—In there not grave danger in the present situation as to infantile paralysis of panic adding to the ravages of disease? Centuries ago, when the Plague sought admission at the gates of a certain city, the gatekeeper asked him: "How many lives will you take?" The Plague answered: "Only a thousand," and was admitted.

Some weeks later, as the Plague was passing out, the gatekeeper called him to task for having taken 10,000, whereupon the Plague said: "No, I took but 1,000 as agreed. Panic took the other 9,000." GRANDWATHEAN. NEW YORK, AUGUST 15.

ITALY'S PROGRESS. Somewhat More Effective Than That of a Fly on Sticking Paper. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—On July 29 Mr. E. J. Hutter of Newark said in a letter printed on the editorial page of THE SUN that the King of Italy resembles a fly on sticking paper, twittering his wings but making no headway.

Perhaps now, with Gorizia taken, the gentleman will be so kind as to regret his remarks and frame an apology to Vittorio III. We never can tell. Italy, with all her "swiftness," has still collaborated with the Entente to accomplish a great victory. NEW YORK, AUGUST 15. DOVER.

The Baptismal. It is like a war through the meadow. No noisier, no longer it sings of delight in the starlight, its music has vanished—a hush without strings. It is as if the baptismal waters were dry. They whisper the rustling of wings. No longer the ripples subside. It is as if the baptismal waters were dry. It is like a war through the meadow. No noisier, no longer it sings of delight in the starlight, its music has vanished—a hush without strings. It is as if the baptismal waters were dry. They whisper the rustling of wings. No longer the ripples subside. It is as if the baptismal waters were dry. It is like a war through the meadow. No noisier, no longer it sings of delight in the starlight, its music has vanished—a hush without strings. It is as if the baptismal waters were dry. They whisper the rustling of wings. No longer the ripples subside. It is as if the baptismal waters were dry.

High Cost of a Stage Career. From the "Stage" Column. Tank Haverly, who has the best care and attention necessary to the training of a pig for stage purposes, would, if properly applied, produce a million pounds of bacon, four hundred thousand hams and a proportionate amount of sausage and leaf lard.

MEN SIT AND LIE. Drinks, Boasts and a Cab Collision in the Search for the Blonde.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Why is it that so many gentlemen whose honore has never been assailed, who honestly and business integrity have never been questioned, and who rightly place high value on and take great pride in their reputations as men of probity and responsibility, will so often sit together in their club or cafe and lie about other about trivial things of frivolous, unimportant personal achievements—some of which exist only in their imagination—with a barefacedness only equalled by the futility of it all? And do this, too, in a state of ice cold sobriety.

Flash stories probably predate Jonah, and to-day there is no really ambitious man who inclines to make his trail on at least one man eating shark. After golf came in the 1,000 yard put was heard of almost simultaneously with the creak of the ice in the glass of the tenth Scotch and soda at the clubhouse. Later Scotch were run on high gear up hills whose incline rendered the trail on the top of Mount McKinley look at flat as the Merrick road on Long Island. Aeroplanes have not yet become so common that they are a feature of this Manichaeism small talk, but their day will arrive. Think of some cheerleader in a laboratory or hospital, how he flew from Chicago to New York in twenty minutes, when as a matter of fact it took him nearly an hour.

It was just this sort of childishly boastful conversation that Bill, a few other friends and myself were enjoying at a table so far from the bar that the poor waiter who was carrying it would be overcome in his many trips this hot weather. We should always be mindful of others. Then the subject of forced pedestrianism because of the car strike came up. Bill said that he would go to walk around the island before breakfast each morning. It really was nothing. Another chap, who lives in New Rochelle and whose office is near Bowling Green, told how he used to walk from his home in New Rochelle to New York morning and several times caught cold because absentmindedly he had passed his office and got his feet wet by walking off the sea wall at the Battery. It was up to me.

"Well, gentlemen," I said, "all you have told me is most interesting. But I want you to know what happened to me one Sunday morning. I started that morning on foot from West 119th street for the Imperial to get an eye opener. My old friend Joe Gross there knows just what I want. As I walked I thought I do my best thinking when walking."

"That's why you don't suffer from corns, isn't it?" put in Bill.

"However," I continued, paying no attention to Bill, "I walked on and on. The urban scenes dissolved into the suburban, and these in turn changed to the open country. I was thinking of my morning and several times caught cold because absentmindedly he had passed his office and got his feet wet by walking off the sea wall at the Battery. It was up to me.

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THE THREATENED INVASION OF OUR COASTWISE TRADE.

Under the Provisions of the Shipping Bill Foreign Ships Can Be Put Into Trade Between American Ports.

From a speech by Senator Harding of Ohio.

The uncertainty of the extent to which the Government will proceed, the effects of its competition, which seem to have no limitation in any direction in foreign or domestic carrying—all of these meet and important questions will remain in abeyance until the Government has shown its hand. Pitiably small as \$50,000,000 is in this undertaking, it makes a formidable competitor, and the party which votes fifty millions may vote five hundred millions, if kept in power.

Of course there is a possibility that some corporation may be formed, if one is not already formed, whose relations to the new Federal Shipping Board, when that board is appointed, will be closer and more intimate than the relations of other corporations or firms or individuals, and such a corporation, managed by men astute in the buying and selling and the chartering and leasing of ships, might be a very useful adjunct to the Federal Shipping Board, a semi-official company as it were, through which "the people in the business," if alive, would quickly find it to their advantage to operate if they had any occasion at all to do business with the Federal Shipping Board. There are unlimited opportunities for ramifications and connections, more or less close, of this kind, and favoritism may become a new "pal" of the party in power.