

The Sun

AND NEW YORK PRESS.

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Perfecity of the Blanket Ballot.

How long are the people of New York going to tolerate a ballot system that does not register the real preference of the voters?

The recount of the votes cast at the recent primary election in this city shows that the original official count was incorrect in a large number of election districts.

The cases that have come before the courts since the blanket ballot was adopted prove beyond a doubt that thousands of votes are thus nullified at every general election.

Neither our primaries nor our elections can be relied upon to express the will of the people.

What is the use of going to the trouble and the enormous expense of holding elections in which the blanket ballot is used, if the result is so often left in grave doubt, with the difficulty of ascertaining the will of the voters?

In the judicial investigations that have taken place ballots rejected by the inspectors as improperly marked, or marked for identification, have been received by the courts; and vice versa.

The truth is that too many ballots are treated as ineffective on account of errors in marking which ought not to be deemed fatal.

It is a monstrous indictment of our election system that thousands of voters who have endeavored to express their will at the polls are disfranchised every year in this State by the operation of the excessively technical rules of the statute.

We cannot believe that the people will endure it much longer.

A Statesman Under Fire.

We have received the subjoined despatch from Representative HEFLIN of Alabama:

"TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: Your editorial to-day does me an injustice by saying I stated members of Congress had received money. I made no such statement, but said that the conduct of a few had been suspicious and caused me to question their loyalty.

"WASHINGTON, September 26."

Mr. HEFLIN is entitled to his denial, which THE SUN cheerfully prints. The vigorous attack in Congress upon which THE SUN's editorial article was based was founded upon two distinct statements accredited to Mr. HEFLIN. The first appeared in remarks made by him in Congress September 21, and reported on pages 8,001 and 8,002 of the Congressional Record thus:

"I do not know what members of Congress, if any, have been influenced by this mysterious German organization. If I were permitted to express my opinion I could name thirteen or fourteen men in the two houses who have acted in a mysterious manner."

that members of Congress received money. They justify equally the assertion of Mr. Norcross, a member of the House from North Dakota:

"The gentleman from Alabama [Mr. HEFLIN], a member of this great body, said that he could point out thirteen or fourteen members of this Congress who have acted suspiciously and, inferentially, who have received part of this \$50,000 reported to have been asked from the German Imperial Government by Count von BERNSTORF."

But it was not alone by Mr. HEFLIN's official utterances that the House was fanned into a fury. It was charged (Congressional Record, page 8,061) that in an interview in the Washington Post he had used this language:

"I believe some of this money has reached some members of Congress I know. BERNSTORF's telegram was an insult to the country. I have heard a story that there is a gambling room in Washington where pro-German and peace at any price members of Congress get their pay by being extraordinarily lucky at cards."

Under heavy pressure and after prolonged heckling the gentleman from Alabama finally made this distinct disavowal—the most specific denial he put forth during the debate:

"Mr. GOODWIN of Arkansas—Did the gentleman also say in that connection that there was a gambling house in Washington where pro-German and peace at any price members of Congress get their pay by being extraordinarily lucky at cards?"

"Mr. HEFLIN—I did not. I said nothing of the kind—where peace at any price members got their pay. I used no such expression."

In the heat of the debate of September 24 Mr. HEFLIN was doubtless unable to make quite as clear and specific a denial of the words attributed to him as he makes in THE SUN. At any rate, the House was left confused with curiosity as to what he really did say, and received with approval resolutions of inquiry drawn by Mr. FOXBORO of Michigan, which in accordance with the regular order went to the Committee on Rules.

Until they are adopted and the investigation held Mr. HEFLIN is entitled to the sympathy due a gentleman who has pleaded not guilty to charges of having wantonly and without justification basely slandered his colleagues in the Congress of the United States.

Ebenezer J. Hill.

A fine old Yankee patriot is lost to his country in the death of EBENEZER J. HILL. Not only Connecticut but all New England, and, for that matter, all of America, will miss him from the House of Representatives. He was serving there his eleventh term and giving to American business the intelligent interest and broad knowledge that other great Republican leaders before him, like McKINLEY and DINGLEY, gave to it.

The same loyalty that led EBENEZER HILL to leave Yale in his junior year, 1863, to join the Union army, led him to leave his sickbed last July and go from Norwalk to Washington to vote on war bills. A heat stroke at the capital put an end to the activity, and eventually the life of a man who had spent well his seventy-two years.

A Latin American League Against Germany.

A league of Latin American countries, such as is reported in a state of formation by President HIRROLO IZGUYEN of Argentina, is the natural renaissance of a continent against Hohenzollern methods. As is the case with most of the remainder of the world, South America has reached the limit of its endurance with German disregard of the rights of other nations and vicious meddling with their internal affairs.

The suave assurance of the Argentine Minister, MOLINA, that Berlin has given a satisfaction that "cannot be more ample or definite," has failed as completely to meet the approval of his countrymen as his opinion that they may be sure "the German Government will faithfully keep its promises." The Argentine Government has asked for time to make a further examination of the documents in the Luxburg affair, but the belief is expressed that before this can be done popular demands will force a break in relations with Germany.

Argentina is smarting not only from the exposure of the respect in which she is held by Berlin and the discovery of the diplomatic advice to sink Argentine ships "without leaving any traces," but from serious economic disorders. Such conditions have appeared in other neutral nations when the situation has been critical for Germany and the real cause has been found to be due to German intrigues. The people of Buenos Ayres report the discovery of the same underhanded methods, and the fact that German agents have been using German money to foment disorders in their capital has given renewed vigor to their anti-German demonstrations.

Germany has made an active campaign to win support in South America, not only because she needed the friendship of the Latin American countries in the war, but because she saw in them a field for commercial expansion when peace is declared. She established newspapers in the capitals of the states on the Atlantic seaboard and employed a large force of German agents to manufacture German sentiment. She spent large sums of money in her propaganda on the Pacific coast. Whatever good these influences may have accomplished for Germany was defeated by the destruction of shipping through subma-

rines and by the blunders of the Kaiser's diplomats.

The exposure of the Hohenzollern methods would seem to make the attempt of President IMBORNE to form a Latin American league against Germany comparatively easy. With the exception of Chile and two of the northern states the relations of all South American states with Germany are more or less strained. Brazil has broken off relations with Berlin, Peru is demanding satisfaction in a long drawn out controversy over the sinking of the Peruvian ship the Lorton, and Uruguay has shown her support of Argentina by sending a commission of Senators and Deputies to participate in the anti-German demonstrations at Buenos Ayres. The enmity of almost an entire continent created by official underhandedness, the humiliation to which the German Foreign Office must subject itself in order to appease small nations, and the expressions of mistrust of the word and faith of the German Government, are all factors in the present war situation that must eventually be brought home to the German people and reveal to them the true nature of Hohenzollernism.

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bulseye than I have come." The pistol is accepted and the recipient says: "Now that I have your pistol, I wish to say that it is only just that you should always supply me with pistols; and I will add that before aiming at the target I am going to put a bullet in you in order that this competition may be easier for me."

Probably no parallel to this incident has ever before come to the attention of the sportsmen of the Genesee Valley, the home, we believe, of Mr. SAMUEL FRASER.

The Devil's Bargain.
OTTO H. KAHN was born in Germany. In a speech delivered before the Chamber of Commerce of Harrisburg, Pa., he said:

"From each of my visits to Germany for twenty-five years I came away more appalled by the sinister transformation Prussianism had wrought among the people and by the portentous menace I recognized in it for the entire world."

"It had given to Germany unparalleled prosperity, beneficent and advanced social legislation and had taken other things of value, but it had taken in payment the soul of the race. It had made a 'devil's bargain.'"

Faust over again.
When Mr. PERKINS agreed to pay for the publication of the reasons for the alleged opposition of certain farmers' organizations to him as president of the State Food Commission he could not have known what trivial and unconvincing reasons the farmers intended to publish.

He who attempts to drive a wedge between the Kaiser and his people bites on granite. President KAUFFMANN of the German Reichstag.

Another rat ripped in the bud.
The first weekly summary of the progress of the war issued by Secretary HAKEN shows that the vice of elaboration has not attacked the War Bulletin. It is written with the matter of fact aridity of a census report.

By judicious adjournments of the King case the accession of North Carolina may be postponed until after the war.

On the same day Mr. ROOSEVELT in Chicago and Mr. TAFT in Montreal bitterly denounced LA FOLLETTE and expressed the wish that he might be punished for his seditious utterances. There being no more living Presidents the symposium is complete.

Perhaps somebody has to write letters to MAX EASTMAN, but we cannot understand why the President of the United States should fritter away his time doing it.

It's all very well for Columbia to drop an Austrian tune, but the problem confronting the producers of operettas is not so simple. Their only hope is to make people understand that they bought the rights half a dozen years ago to pieces they are now putting on.

The chrysanthemums we know are all offshoots of two blended Chinese and Japanese species. We are apt to forget that the oxeye daisy in the pasture is a chrysanthemum too.

A railway has been found which pays a synthetic dividend. Doubtless it puts 2 per cent. and 2 per cent. together to make four.

The woman Mayor of a Florida village was married to an army Captain. The Mayor was herself a Major on the staff of the Governor of Florida. We know that she takes the Captain's name; but does he take her name?

The speed with which Texas disposed of Governor FIBBS makes one wonder how she would treat COHALAN.

FROM THE MELTING POT.
A Watcher Sees Rise the Emulvia of Unamerican Elements.
TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: The mistake this country made a hundred years ago was to announce to the world that the United States considered itself, without restrictions, an asylum for the oppressed of all nations. The result is that there has been deluged into the country the most undesirable elements of all Europe—anarchists, opposed to government in any form; socialists, desiring the kind of government which shall force the indolent and improvident—and all these profoundly indifferent to the rights of those whose homes they have invaded.

The peace societies, that are playing into the hands of the Central Powers and howling for peace at any price, are composed chiefly of aliens to whom we have given better opportunities for living than they ever had in the countries from which they came. Gratitude for our hospitality is never considered for a moment, but plotting for the destruction of American ideals is going on everywhere. It is the old story of the asp that stung the hand that rescued it and was its benefactor. M. T. R. New York, September 27.

Dead Things That Rise.
TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: A man will exhumed in the heat of argument some trivial offence long expurgated to his own astonishment and shame as well as to dazed resentment by his interlocutor—and rear it, in spite of himself and of sanity, into a cross on which he nails first himself and then the friendship assured by his own path.

EGAN'S CONDEMNATION OF COHALANISM.

An Associate of Farnell on the Beal Fees of Ireland.
TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: I desire to set before the readers of THE SUN certain facts as to the campaign of the National Library War Council, members of which were appointed by the Secretary of War, and of the Greater New York Library War Council, of which I have the honor to be chairman.

The national slogan "A Million Dollars for a Million Books for a Million Men," appears to have been misunderstood. We seek in the nation \$1,000,000 to provide for the young men who have joined our National Army and who are distributed among the thirty-two cantonments provided by the Government and to provide for the soldiers overseas and the sailors of the navy suitable, abundant and proper reading matter.

We do not propose to spend \$1,000,000 for 1,000,000 books in the literal sense. Arrangements have been made for the purchase of large quantities of books of the sort approved by the council, for much less than \$1, contrary to some misapprehension among the general public. The \$1,000,000 is needed not only to purchase the books but to provide temporary library buildings at each cantonment and elsewhere for them, and to provide capable persons to care for the books and to act as librarians for the young men of our army and navy, who will be so rarely in need of both recreation and mental stimulus during their leisure hours in the service of the country.

Large numbers of books undoubtedly will be given to the council, but unfortunately it has been found that many of the books thus donated by well-meaning persons have been unsuitable, have represented the interests of propagandists, have been works on important subjects so old as to have lost their value, or have been of a character which would fall to appeal to the men whom the War Department and the Library War Council hope to serve.

Besides the desirability of providing our valiant youth with appealing literature for their own entertainment there are tremendous reasons why these young men should have placed in their hands books which will make them more patriotic, abler and better citizens upon their return to civil life. This can be accomplished only through the raising of \$1,000,000, which, considering the needs and the purpose, is a most modest sum for the nation to raise.

New York, September 27.

CAST PEARLS.
A Symposium Offered by an Oklahoma man to the King of Prussia.
TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir: Here is a handful of texts for the Kaiser: Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.—J. CORINTHIANS. The people will come to their own at last: God is not mocked forever.—JOHN HAY.

The Ten Commandments won't judge.—LOWELL.

When the first just man appeared on the earth, from that day a fatal Waterloo was visible for all the men of pride and fraud and blood.—C. F. DOLE.

Whatever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.—GALATIANS.

When God is planning ruin for a man, He first deprives him of his reason.—AUTHOR UNKNOWN.

Who breaks his faith, no faith is held with him.—DU BARRIS.

There is no truth in him.—JOHN.

Better it is that thou shouldst not vow than that thou shouldst vow and not pay.—ECCLIASTICUS.

The words of a man's mouth were softer than butter, but war was in his heart.—PSALMS.

Out of thine own mouth will I judge thee.—TIMOTHY.

Pride goeth before destruction and a haughty spirit before a fall.—PROVERBS.

There is no peace unto the wicked.—ISAIAH.

BOOKS FOR SOLDIERS.

Judge O'Brien Explains the Campaign Now in Progress.
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SOME REMINISCENCES OF NOTED OLD TIME BOHEMIANS.

A Qualified Geographer and Historian Tells Briefly of His Comrades and Their Foregatherings in Pfaff's, at the Clover Club and Elsewhere.
Why do the heathen rage and the Philistines imagine vain things about Bohemia? A list of the names of those who drank beer at Pfaff's is not a treatise on the Bohemianism of half a century ago, even if George Arnold did write his immortal apostrophe to the beverage while he sat there. That began:

Here With my beer I sit idly sipping here While golden moments sit, And as they pass unheeded by, I am.

My friend I find in the collection of his poems published by Osgood & Co. in 1881. That had a limited sale for a few years. Then Billy Bunn, erstwhile the Governor of a Territory out West somewhere, and later one of the maddest was in the Clover Club of Philadelphia, bought up all that was left of the addition to give away to congenial souls. I put a feather in my cap when he gave me a copy, for I too have dwelt in Arcady.

Clover Club! Ah, yes. They called it "Bohemian" but it wasn't. In the first place it was riotously extravagant as to the price of the eats, even if gentle George Boldt did stand the burden of the expense. You had to wear a swallowtail and immaculate linen to be comfortable at dinner, and though clean shirts are as highly prized in Bohemia as elsewhere, swallowtails are never had badges of servitude to custom, fit only for waiters. The mere sartorial detail, however, is immaterial. The expense was the thing. To be ready at a fixed time for the feast one had to hoard beforehand. Now no true Bohemian ever sleeps with yesterday's money in his pocket. Yet the party was delectable, those Clover Club nights. To watch Mose Handy's flaming beard wagging as he presided over the disorder was more the price of admission. Poor Mose! Jim Ham Lewis's only rival in whiskers, he sank rapidly into the non-sensical Bohemian Philadelphia. His friend Achates, Lew Merzger, was never the same man again. He took to visiting New York, where he would go to Jauss on Sixth avenue, to colligate with Hugh Farrar McDermott and that gang. You remember Hugh. A less responsible Irishman never roistered than he. Yet the party was delectable, those Clover Club nights. To watch Mose Handy's flaming beard wagging as he presided over the disorder was more the price of admission. Poor Mose! Jim Ham Lewis's only rival in whiskers, he sank rapidly into the non-sensical Bohemian Philadelphia. His friend Achates, Lew Merzger, was never the same man again. He took to visiting New York, where he would go to Jauss on Sixth avenue, to colligate with Hugh Farrar McDermott and that gang. You remember Hugh. A less responsible Irishman never roistered than he. Yet the party was delectable, those Clover Club nights. To watch Mose Handy's flaming beard wagging as he presided over the disorder was more the price of admission. Poor Mose! 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