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TELEPHONE, BEEKMAN 2200.

Safeguarding Democracy in the United States—The Tumulty-Hays Incident.

The Republican managers in the several States and Congress districts are doing what they can to promote the election of Republicans to State offices and to the United States Senate and House of Representatives. This is natural. The Democratic managers are engaged in the same enterprise for the benefit of the Democratic candidates for Federal or State offices. This is a normal and legitimate function on the one side as on the other; and so far as it is exercised in a proper way and with equal loyalty to that national cause which in importance transcends all the aims and interests of organization politics it cannot be censured fairly from any point of view except that of a disingenuous and even sinister partisanship.

Nevertheless, the recent correspondence between the President's private secretary, Mr. JOSEPH P. TUMULTY, and the chairman of the Republican National Committee, Mr. WILL H. HAYS of Indiana, denotes a confusion in some quarters as to political ethics and fundamental principles. This strange confusion requires candid treatment.

The report which stirred Mr. TUMULTY to inquisitorial activity represented Mr. HAYS as having expressed the opinion, at a meeting of Republican State chairmen in Chicago on September 2, that "the Democratic leaders at Washington would not stop at anything they believed would insure the reelection of a Democratic Congress this fall. They would even end the war with any kind of a compromise that would insure the continuance of the Democratic party in power."

The President is the self-avowed and universally recognized leader of the Democratic party in the United States. If the language attributed by report to Mr. HAYS had in fact been used by that gentleman it would have warranted an outburst of righteous indignation on the part of Mr. WILSON. Nobody can blame the President for instructing his private secretary to ascertain without delay, and from Mr. HAYS himself, whether the chairman of the Republican National Committee had in fact publicly charged him with a partisanship so unscrupulous and a sense of official responsibility so shamelessly debased that he would compromise the war in order to elect a Democratic Congress. The accusation seems too ridiculous; but in political controversy ridiculous things are sometimes said.

In Mr. HAYS's frank reply to Mr. TUMULTY he was able to disclaim the extraordinary language attributed to him. He had not charged the President with a readiness to subordinate the nation's interests and modify the nation's declared purpose in the great war merely in order to procure a Democratic majority in the Sixty-sixth Congress! The Democratic "leaders" whom Mr. HAYS had accused of unscrupulous and unpatriotic partisanship were such local machine leaders as those in Wisconsin, for example, who addressed to the soldiers of that State at Camp Grant this unseemly appeal:

"You are entitled to vote for United States Senator from Wisconsin to succeed Senator PAUL O. HUSTING. President WILSON, your Commander in Chief, desires all loyal Americans to vote for JOSEPH E. DAVIES for Senator. DAVIES's election means joy at Washington and gloom at Berlin. DAVIES's defeat means gloom at Washington and joy at Berlin."

While it must have been extremely gratifying to the President to ascertain on the very best of authority that Chairman HAYS was guiltless of the insensate imputation about which Mr. TUMULTY had inquired, his honest wrath must have been transferred at once in increased volume to those local bosses in his own party. They are daring, in face of his declared adjournment of politics, to employ his illustrious name (and not merely as President but actually as Commander in Chief) to influence the soldier vote in favor of Democratic candidates for the Congress. How swiftly and imperiously the President must have instructed the faithful TUMULTY to turn his investigations in another direction; inward rather than outward, in the old partisan sense! However, this is a matter of party discipline which does not concern us, and it bears no relation to the issue between Private Secretary TUMULTY and Chairman HAYS of the Republican National Committee.

Such conduct as that of the Wisconsin Democratic leaders was justly characterised as follows by Mr. HAYS in his letter to Mr. TUMULTY:

"I regard this as an infamous prostitution of all patriotic proprieties and the grossest violation of the plainest civil duty. . . . The American people will not tolerate it. This is the people's war; and we demand that the war be kept out of politics, and that partisanship be kept out of the war. And what we ask from the party in power we irrevocably pledge for ourselves."

That seems to be a truth hard to blink, coupled with a pretty square statement of patriotic Republican intentions. We observe, however, no suitable acknowledgment or sympathetic acquiescence in Mr. TUMULTY's letter to Mr. HAYS closing the incident. While Mr. TUMULTY says to Mr. HAYS, "I am very glad to have your disclaimer," he refers in no way to the flagrant offences of the local Democratic bosses, as specified in Mr. HAYS's letter to him, but wanders off to a discussion of the "general trend" of Republican political management and to various utterances by Senator PENROSE, former Attorney-General WICKERSHAM, Representative FESS of Ohio, and others.

What Mr. TUMULTY makes of this "general trend," so far as his remarks are intelligible, is that the maintenance of a Republican organization and the attempt to elect Republicans to State and legislative office while the war is going on is in some way not precisely described a process of disloyalty toward the President in his capacity as leader of the national cause and commander and chief of its military force. If we fail to render Mr. TUMULTY's thought very clear to the minds of our readers, it is because Mr. TUMULTY fails to render it very clear to our own eagerly receptive intelligence. For example, he says to Mr. HAYS:

"The President's war aims have been made the aims of all the nations fighting against the German Government. These aims have been stated unequivocally by the President upon a number of occasions since the war began. Not merely the American people but all the world is familiar with these aims, which assure 'force without stint' until victory is achieved. It is only through the subtle insinuations that characterize partisan politics that these aims might be diluted with any doubt."

Difficult, we say, to follow here Mr. TUMULTY's reasoning, or to see what bearing the foregoing undoubted truths have upon the question of the propriety of running Republicans for Congress, or how they justify the unauthorized use of the President's name in such local enterprises as the independent appeal of the Democratic bosses of Wisconsin to the soldier vote in that State.

If the President's private secretary will review again the President's war aims he will find that foremost among these war aims is the safeguarding of the world for democracy—meaning "democracy" in the broad sense, not Democracy in its narrow and partisan signification.

Now, making the world safe for democracy certainly includes making the United States of America safe for democracy. It is essential, as President Wilson could tell Mr. TUMULTY, to the preservation of democracy against the subtly insidious aggressions of autocracy in the United States that the American two party system shall be maintained; that there shall always be in existence a party in opposition to the party in power. One party power in the Government, one man power in the one party, means a "general trend" toward just that thing against which the President, with the support of a united people, is now fighting with courage and patriotism.

We accordingly invite Mr. TUMULTY, before he communicates again with the chairman of the Republican National Committee, to put himself in the spirit and attitude of the President's championship of democratic principles, and to reflect upon the consequences to American democracy of one party government suddenly freed from the restraints and checks which the American two party system provides.

A King for Finland.

The new King whom Germany offers to Finland is a Prince of Hesse, FREDERICK CHARLES of the older and non-reigning line. The Prince has accepted the crown, according to a despatch from Stockholm, and the Finnish Diet will soon confirm the acceptance.

Emperor WILLIAM early took the question of a future ruler for the Finns under his own personal consideration. In building up a kingdom which would serve his own best interests he had especially endeavored to form a Prussian outpost that would complete the Germanic control from the Arctic Ocean to the Mediterranean Sea. Berlin was to be the centre, with a subservient Austria and Bulgaria on the south and a row of Baltic states under the domination of Prussia on the north.

By annexing the islands of Aland to the Finnish crown he expected to have the control of the Russian outlet to the west and at the same time to deprive Sweden of her eastern defences and to make the Scandinavian countries mere political and economical adjuncts of the Prussian kingdom. The full realization of this northern scheme of extension had originally included the Finnish crown for one of the Kaiser's sons. Even the pro-German Provisional Government of SVINHUFUD, as willing as it was to serve Berlin, found it both politic and expedient to refuse the offer of both Prince OSCAR and Prince JOACHIM. It was likewise bold enough to withhold the crown from the former King of Greece, CONSTANTINE, and his Queen, SOPHIA, Emperor WILLIAM's sister.

Prince FREDERICK CHARLES has the rank of General in the Prussian army; his wife is a Prussian Princess. So he may be safely depended upon to carry out the will of Berlin. There is, though, in Finland a strong antimonarchical party, made up largely of Finns who have struggled for years for political freedom and have hoped for the establishment of a republican form of government. It remains yet to be seen how they will accept the substitution of Prussian autocracy for Russian czarism. There are a number of parallel incidents, which FREDERICK CHARLES might study to his advantage, where German Princes were foisted upon unwilling subjects. The most recent of these was the case of WILLIAM of Wied, Mpret of Albania, who, thanks to a convenient sea wall and a waiting boatman, escaped from his realm just in time to save his precious life.

A Consoling View of the Draft Raid.

Coincident with the quick and willing registration under the new draft law came the announcement from Mr. CONBOY, the Director of the Draft for this city, that the recent haul of slackers made here netted only 200 actual delinquents; that is, men who should have been in the army and who have been sent to camp. As many of these were shirkers from other cities, 140 is nearer the number of genuine delinquents taken in Mr. DE WOODY's net in this city; a number much lower than the estimate made by that gentleman after the raid, and a minute percentage of the thousands of men who were hurried to the armories for examination.

The statement of Attorney-General GREGORY, in effect a mea culpa for his Department of Justice, may soothe the feelings of the wounded to some extent. There is also the consolation to be found in the fact that the Department of Justice made its mistakes when it did. To have waited longer would have made matters worse. Suppose Mr. GREGORY's aids, for whose conduct he seems genuinely regretful, had their work—and their lesson—still ahead of them. Their net was spread among those of the 633,000 registrants under the early drafts who had not gone to camp. Had the fishing been delayed until next week, for instance, at least a million men of New York would have been called upon to show their cards or go to the armory; for last Thursday's registration was bigger than all the previous registrations. Its total was nearly 760,000.

Capacity for indignation is usually greater among men between 31 and 46 than it is among their juniors of the first draft age. If the raid victims of last week could stir up such a sentiment against official schrecklichkeit, what would be the civic temperature if the myrmidons descended upon about twice as many men of more advanced age and more profound dignity? The rage waves would break the recording instruments. The older registrants should feel grateful to the younger for having stood the brunt of the battle of Slacker Day, one of the few battles that may be referred to as decisive, for it appears to have resulted in the rout of official foolishness in at least one department of the Government.

We are not certain that this consolation, such as it is, will utterly appease the innocents whose shoulders still burn from the tap of the finger of suspicion. Yet it is better balm than was offered by BILDAD the Shuhite to an ancient person whose patience would have made him as respected in Manhattan as he was in the Land of Uz.

Futile and Foolish.

Mr. WHITMAN's vote for Governor in 1916 was 835,820, that being about 52 per cent. of 1,615,065, the total vote for Governor that year.

Mr. WHITMAN's vote at the primaries in 1918 was only 295,471. His opponent, Attorney-General MERTON E. LEWIS, received 118,879 votes. Together the two Republican candidates at the primaries in 1918 polled 414,350 votes. That is to say, the primary election interested and brought to the polls a little less than one-half of the Republicans who voted for Governor at the real election two years ago.

The same thing is true on the Democratic side. Judge SEABURY had 686,862 votes in 1916. ALFRED E. SMITH had 199,752 at the primaries and WILLIAM CHURCH OSBORN 32,761; together 232,513. A little less than one-third of the Democratic vote at the real election for Governor two years ago figured in the primary vote of 1918.

These primary statistics emphasize what THE SUN has been saying about the low value of the present law as an agent for determining political sentiment in the matter of nomination. The primary vote when counted is found to be insignificant. The result is not worth what the expensive and elaborate machinery costs.

The reply of the defenders of this foolish and futile system would probably be that the law affords an opportunity for a full and conclusive demonstration of party sentiment, if the citizens would only take advantage of it. The rejoinder to this is that they don't and won't. They positively refuse, here in this State and elsewhere, to avail themselves of the theoretical blessings of the direct primary system.

It is a failure. It will continue to be a failure. The right thing for the Legislature to do is to abolish it and permit a return to the representative convention system.

A German Weeps for Europe.

Germany having failed with her appeal to fear of death, she appeals to fear of poverty. This is conveyed in the speech at Stuttgart of the German Vice-Chancellor, VON PAYER:

"All of the belligerents of Europe must admit, if they are not blind, that the longer the European peoples lacerate each other the more certainly will the historical and paramount position of weakened and impoverished Europe be lost in favor of cleverer and more calculating peoples."

The speaker's sudden pity for the historical and paramount position of Europe may have sprung from reading about the needless destruction wrought by German troops in their retreats from French territory; but who are the "cleverer and more calculating peoples"?

Surely they are not the blödsinnige Yankees, whose stupidity and ignorance have been established to the satisfaction of all Germans. Surely they are not the people of the near Orient, to whom Germany vainly tried, before the war, to explain the excellence of German business methods. They are not the Mexicans, who could not understand the great opportunity for conquest that ZIMMERMANN laid before them. They cannot be the South Americans, who are content to sit at home and have business come to them.

Probably it is the business schemers of Iceland, or Tibet, that the Vice-Chancellor dreads on behalf of the Germany that weeps for weakened and impoverished Europe.

Lucky Secretary BAKER, to get a front seat at such a first night performance without having to settle with a speculator!

To housewives who complain about costs we offer the consoling information that European salients are being rapidly reduced.

Berlin announces that the evacuation of the St. Mihiel salient had been "under contemplation for several years." But PERSHING hadn't contemplated it so long as that.

Bridgeport, Conn., deserves study by our most eminent sociologists. It is America's most extraordinary community; not the old Bridgeport, but the new Bridgeport born of war, the site of the great industrial plants which are turning out weapons and ammunition for our army.

Can it be possible that there is not a member of the International Machinists Union in Bridgeport who has a son in France? That there is not one who has a brother in France? Nor even one who has a dear friend in khaki?

For would any man put his son, his brother or his dear friend in a field for the Germans to shoot at and refuse to give him a rifle or a machine gun or the bullets for either?

Plainly the assumption is absurd and unthinkable.

The conservator of note paper should speak to Mr. TUMULTY.

We trust that the sung inquiry of the American army, "Where do we go from here?" will not be regarded by Generalissimo FOCH as undue curiosity as to his plans.

What are twenty years to EUGENE V. DEBS so long as he is notorious again?

The President's letter to the Bridgeport strikers is one that he who loafs may read.

THOSE KNOWING DOGS.

Strange Behavior of a Dachshund on the Failure of "Nach Paris!"

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* We all know that some dogs are endowed with a great deal of intelligence. Although worth mentioning, the feat of your correspondent's dog, who on hearing that the Government needed peach pits brought a dozen and dropped them on the floor, is not more astonishing than the following that happened about four years ago in the home of one of my dearest friends in Westchester county.

Hearing his master reading about the Crown Prince, who in his hurry to reach Paris had forgotten his lunch and was obliged to eat raw turnips from a neighboring field, the house pet, a German dachshund, with a plaintive and almost human sigh, hurried out and came back fifteen minutes later with a dead crow in his mouth, which he deposited on the kitchen floor.

DESIRÉ LESCARBOURA.

NEW YORK, September 13.

The Worst the Barometer Can Do!

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Crossing the Atlantic on the steamship Amerika in December, 1911, I saw the barometer at 27.45 for several hours.

E. H. W.

NEW YORK, September 13.

Uncle Sam's Nephews.

The poplar trees are tall and straight,
The road is straight and long;
We swing along with easy gait
And sing a Yankee song:

You're thinking of a cornfield,
I'm dreaming of the sea;
A mountain land's alluring
The fellow next to me.
He likes the blue eyed maidens,
I like the brown eyed ones,
But we're "nevies" of one Uncle
When it comes to fighting Huns.

Above us spins an aeroplane,
A mighty weaving song:
"Earth will be fit for men again
With Huns where they belong."

You're thinking of a cornfield,
I'm dreaming of the sea;
A mountain land's alluring
The fellow next to me.
He likes the blue eyed maidens,
I like the brown eyed ones,
But we're "nevies" of one Uncle
When it comes to fighting Huns.

MAY D. HAYCH.

THE GERMANS IN CHINA.

A Description of Their Brutality by a Famous Reporter.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In THE SUN of Thursday there is quoted from the condemned book that had Creel's O. K. the following:

P. 225. Q.—Were German soldiers worse than others in the march on Pekin?

A.—According to revelations made by correspondents who managed to get through to Pekin, and by officers after the trouble was over, there seems to have been very little to choose between the conduct of the various troops. Of all, the Japanese emerged with the cleanest record and the Tonkinese troops of the French with the worst.

Let me quote the late Wilbur J. Chamberlin, who represented THE SUN in China at that time and for whose accuracy you doubtless can vouch:

"Our officers did not loot. Our men who were caught at it were punished. I know of two who were tried by court-martial. One was sentenced to ten years imprisonment at hard labor, and the other to five years, and they are serving their sentences.

"The Germans did not get here until the worst of the fighting was over, and they have been trying to make up for loss of time since. Scarcely a day passes but three or four Chinamen are shot in their district, and sometimes the number reaches fourteen or fifteen. An English officer who is attached to the staff of Count von Waldersee said to me yesterday: 'Why, it's so bad around these headquarters that I don't dare stick my head out of the window after dark for fear of being shot.' They are shooting all the time.

"Our policy has been from the start to keep the peace, to clean up, to encourage industry and to give the unfortunates an opportunity to get together enough to keep them from starving to death this winter. . . . The news spread that it was safe to live in the American district. The Chinese who had escaped killing came back in droves and the district became overcrowded. Though naturally filthy, they are forced to keep clean. . . . They are pleasant and respectful, and an American is as safe in that district as he is at home.

"The contrast in the German district is striking. There the streets are deserted. The stores are all closed. Now and then you see a Chinaman skulking around, afraid to say his soul is his own. If a shopkeeper opens his shop, the German soldiers rob him. If he shows himself on the street, he is commandeered and forced to do coolie work, and, likely as not, if he protests he is shot and the official report is that he was a Boxer.

"The English district is better than the German, but away behind our own. The only district that compares with ours is that of the Japs. Like ours, it is overcrowded, but unlike ours it reeks with filth.

"I sent off a long cable to-day [November 26, 1900] expressing a few succinct opinions concerning the Germans. They are still shooting around here, just as if a war were going on. They don't think anything at all of a Chinaman's life, and on the least excuse they shoot them down like so many dogs. As you have probably noticed in my despatches, I have not much use for the German soldiers anyhow. They are a big lot of swine, if human beings ever are swine."

All this is taken from "Ordered to China," a compilation of letters by Chamberlin, mostly to his wife, which was printed shortly after his untimely death. He says nothing concerning the behavior of the Tonkinese.

G. F. KAUCHER.

NEW YORK, September 13.

BOMB PROOF JOBS.

Sergeant Pifeafilly Resents the Charge That They Are Sinecures.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The attitude of the person who is a friend of your correspondent "C. D. L." toward the personnel of the army officers now stationed in Washington is resented not only by the officers themselves but by every civilian employee of the Government who is acquainted with the work that is now being done by the "young men in uniform" who are compelled to work "at least four hours each day."

Now, sir, with or without reason, I have been accused of having a sense of humor. I fail, however, to see anything humorous in this puerile comment on the wonderful work that is now being done by the officer personnel of the army. I am not an officer. I am merely a sergeant at the munificent sum of $38 a month and am forced to do extra work in order to eke out an existence in this town, which is honeycombed with graft and grafters, of whom I doubt not the distinguished friend of "C. D. L." is a charter member. I know that the work of the officers on duty in Washington at a great personal sacrifice not only pecuniarily but to the detriment of their health, comfort, morals and temper is little short of wonderful. The gentleman who has the honor of serving the Government at the head of the censorship bureau, of whom perhaps this carking "friend of ours," if he has not been too busy grafting from the soldiers, sailors and civilians now doing his work, has heard, is Rupert Hughes. Major Hughes doubtless has an income of many thousand dollars a year from his pen. He is now serving the Government in uniform at the wonderful salary of $2,000 a year, when his time is worth that much a week. He is at his desk at 9 every morning. He seldom leaves before 6 o'clock at night, and often an interested observer might see lights burning in his office until the wee hours of the morning. I merely cite this instance for the reason that not only am I personally acquainted with this fact by reason of my position in the censorship bureau, but because what is true of Major Hughes is true of practically every officer in this service, and parallels the experience of almost every man now stationed in Washington. An officer is compelled to work in order to hold his job here, for there are thousands of men throughout the army not only willing but anxious to come to the heart of the world, as Washington has become.

PISISTRATUS PIFCAFILLY.

WASHINGTON, D. C., September 13.

A Question for Commander Newberry.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In THE SUN of September 12 you have a letter from Commander Newberry regarding the navy in which he says:

"The navy offers a splendid opportunity to the young man that will be invaluable in civil life." You would confer on me a great favor if you would ask Commander Newberry through your paper how I can avail myself of this opportunity, as enlistments are closed.

A VOLUNTEER.

NEW YORK, September 13.

Where High Prices Hit the Ozarks.

From the Mammoth Spring Sun.

Notwithstanding the high price of living, Abe Hughes of Salem came to the reunion and bought him a good whetrock for a dollar.

THE STATEN ISLAND FERRY.

A Constant User Denies That the Boats Are Unclean.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* As a great number of readers of THE SUN are residents of Staten Island it occurs to the writer that you will be willing to give enough space in your valuable sheet to correct the impression which might be created by recent communications to your paper that the city of New York is operating a fleet of cattle boats between Richmond Borough and Manhattan. Such is not the case.

It may not be amiss to say that the city in October, 1905, took over the Staten Island ferry and built and put into commission a fleet of five large, commodious ferryboats, named after the five boroughs.

The writer—and his SUN—have travelled daily for the past ten years or more to and from the city on these boats and has yet to find them in a dirty condition. On the other hand, it is a fact easily determined by the vision that the boats are kept spic and span, that the windows are washed regularly and frequently, and that the deckhands keep the floors and woodwork clean. It must be borne in mind, however, that the lower decks of these boats are of necessity partially given over to teams and automobiles, and that that class of traffic is very heavy, especially during the summer months. The fact that horses are carried on practically every trip of these boats obviously prevents the gangways of the lower decks being kept as clean and as free from unwelcome smells as would be possible were these boats used for the transportation of passengers only.

The operation of the boats and the control of their crews are under the supervision of Lawrence Hanlon, superintendent of ferries, who by reason of an experience of thirty years in the ferry business, coupled with the ability and desire to keep the ferry service up to a high standard, is particularly well versed in his line of work. A visit to the plant will disclose him on the job every day during the year. This statement can be confirmed at any time.

Readers of THE SUN, I think, all feel that you are always willing to print a "boost" as well as a "knock," and for that reason, and because I think in justice to the city ferry administration and those captains, engineers, oilers and deckhands who are daily "doing their bit" to give us good service, I want to say a word further as to delays.

Those of us who get and have been getting for a long while past the benefit of a very delightful water trip through one of the finest, if not the finest, harbors in the world, know that the vehicular traffic on the ferry is always heavy, particularly during these war times, when so much material is of necessity transported to and from Staten Island via these boats. The heavy loading of horse drawn vehicles due to the volume of wartime shipyard traffic, &c., frequently delays a boat for the reason that when a boat enters a slip the steep incline, due to tide conditions, makes it necessary to put into operation an electric winch, the cable being attached to the vehicle that is unable to get without assistance from the boat to the dock. This frequently delays the departure of a boat, and the writer, as well as many other users of the ferry, has frequently seen at both South Ferry and St. George vehicles being drawn from the boats in the manner indicated.

Necessary running repairs are made at the ferry shops at the St. George terminal. As most people are aware, it has been and is difficult to get a boat into a dry dock, where the condition of a boat necessitates dry docking, due to the fact that the shipyards are all crowded with Government work, which naturally has and should have the preference. For this reason it has not been possible for the ferry administration to dry dock the boats as often as would be possible during normal times.

The ferry carries successfully about 20,000,000 passengers and up to 500,000 vehicles annually, which would appear to demonstrate its efficiency.

Perhaps if "New Yorker" will take the fine trip any Saturday or Sunday from now on, or any other day for that matter, when the perspiration is not streaming down his chest, as he states it was on that hot night, he will find himself in a better frame of mind to enjoy what is acknowledged to be a really delightful sail down the bay.

Let me say in conclusion that the locomotive coal dust complained of can be avoided by taking any of the many trolley cars at the St. George terminal for a trip around Staten Island.

FRANK A. KEYES.

NEW YORK, September 13.

AN EX-SMOKER'S TALE.

He Quit the Weed to Give the Money for Soldiers' Comforts.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I notice that Mr. Brown began smoking at 14 years of age, precisely the age when I quit. I became a wreck from cigarettes, having palpitation of the heart, shortness of breath, headaches of three and four days duration, general emaciation and bleeding of the nose. One evening when smoking I determined that that smoke would be my last, and to the surprise of my fellow smokers it really was, as to cigarettes. At 29 I went to Cuba to represent my firm, and there began smoking pure Havanas, reasoning that inasmuch as I was in the country where they get the best in the world in that line it wouldn't hurt me, as I had grown up and was fully developed. Then I smoked them by the box and enjoyed them.

A year ago last Memorial Day I was smoking a Havana while watching a parade of the very boys that are now in France, and determined that I should not smoke again till the Kaiser signed the articles of peace, and to give my smoke money to the boys. I have followed out the programme and have contributed to THE SUN fund, distributed collapsible air pillows to thirty-five friendless soldiers, $75 to the Red Cross, $15 to the Salvation Army War Relief, &c.

When B. O'Brien said he did not want to quit he stated his case plainly. I didn't either, when a cigarette smoker, but when it came to decide between giving up smoking or the ghost, I, unlike Mr. O'Brien's doctor friend, preferred the former. When a man says he will do a thing he can do it if he wants to. Won't a few more smokers cut it out for the war period or reduce their needs one-half, and give the money to THE SUN fund?

CIGARRO.

NEW YORK, September 13.

Changing Times in Arkansas.

Advertisement in Paris Progress.

The jail has been well cleaned and fumigated. The old bedding has been burned and entirely new bedding installed. I am ready now to accommodate all who wish to patronize a clean county hotel.

ED PEARSON, Proprietor.

TRAINING FATHER FOR WAR.

Further Suggestions on the Way to Make the Old Boy Fit.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Just in New York for a few days from Leon Springs, Tex., on furlough and 42 years of age and father of a boy 14 years old, I read with much interest your article on "Training Father for War" and was most pleased with the general physical programme laid out in preparation for real military training later on.

You fail to suggest, however, I believe, a most important element, and that is that everything that father does in this line should be done every day, beginning at the same and ending at the same time. Let him get out of bed just at the first streak of dawn (the zero and military hour) and at once for fifteen minutes, no more and no less, go through different and various setting up drills.

Allow fifteen more minutes to dress, and thirty minutes exact from the time he has left his bed have him start a three mile walk, returning so as to arrive at the starting place exactly one hour later. Let him penalize himself for every minute late he starts such duties every morning, one less cigar or one less drink or none of either, and if vigorously carried out he will have a very much more valuable not only physical but mental and moral military training than any mere physical exercise alone can possibly give him.

The important thing for the military father to learn is to get out of his comfortable, luxurious and soft civilian habits and customs and to do lots of hard, disagreeable and uncomfortable work and do it now and regularly and every day at exactly the same time and when he doesn't want to do it and when he hates to do it. A programme founded on such a basis will make old Dad a soldier twenty times as quickly as any amount of physical exercise alone and without regularity.

I have been down in Texas now since May 9. The temperature every day has been as high as 97 degrees and generally higher, no clouds and but two showers during that time of the dust laying variety only. Otherwise a continuous boiling hot sun. I know whereof I speak.

In the signal corps training camp I learned how to ride a horse in a week at a slow trot, fast and a gallop, and to perform setting up drill mounted without stirrups. I never knew anything about a horse before, and had previously led a soft, luxurious Borough of Manhattan existence.

Add this to your programme, "Do what you don't want to do at zero hour daily, and keep it up until you are (drafted) in and some one else makes you."

JOSEPH W. GREENE, Jr.

YALE CLUB, NEW YORK, September 13.

GOOD SEEN IN PRIMARIES.

One Citizen Enjoys Voting for Both Osborn and Whitman.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* You are entirely right in holding that party precedence ought not to be regulated by law, yet the direct primary is worth keeping for a time as a means of preferential voting until we get a better system, because it allows thousands of voters to express themselves pretty freely without throwing away their votes like a Prohibitionist in the final election.

At the primary I voted for my first choice, Osborn, and at the polls I shall vote for my second choice, Whitman, and in my twenty-odd years of voting I have never before been able to express my wishes by ballot with such freedom and completeness. Voting for Mr. Osborn gave me $25 worth of mental satisfaction, and if it gave the like to thousands of other voters the primary is worth its cost. And as to cost, the public paid the primary election officers in your city for years and years before the direct primary was adopted.

J. DEL. V.

FISHKILL, September 13.

SKIP STOP ON THE "L"?

A Faster Service Suggested for Sixth Avenue.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Coincident with the conservation of power to be expected from the skip stop, effective from Sunday on, on the surface cars, why not a skip station schedule for the elevated roads, the stations to be skipped, except by every fourth train, being those added stations which have been built since the original ones.

This could be done on the Sixth avenue road and on the Ninth avenue line north of Fifty-ninth street. The Sixth avenue elevated road, starting from Fifty-eighth street, has no service of an express nature.

LEWIS PHILLIPS.

NEW YORK, September 13.

WHERE THE BILLIONS GO.

A Young Man Finds Golconda in the Shipyard.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* A young man whom I have known for years gave up his regular occupation some time ago and went to work in a shipyard. I doubt if he had ever made over $50 a week in his life. I met him at the end of his first week in the shipyard and he told me, and I believe him truthful, that he had made over $100, and he a green hand.

F. F. A.

NEW YORK, September 13.

King Cotton.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Those denominated by your Washington correspondent as "cotton statesmen" who are energetically working to have the War Industries Board abandon the plan to stabilize cotton prices exhibit a loyalty to King Cotton out of harmony with the idea of "making the world safe for democracy."

They represent a section contributing but a small proportion of income taxes and other war expenses. They should be more than willing to do their bit for the general welfare. The wheat farmer submitted gracefully to Government regulation of prices, as have other lines of industry.

Why should the cotton grower claim exemption for so important a basic commodity as cotton—going so far as to protest even a survey of the cotton situation?

C. G. C.

NEW YORK, September 13.

Age Limit.

From the Washington Star.

My Uncle Jim spoke up one day,
In accents stern and slow:
"There's just one thing I want to say,
I'd surely like to know
Discriminations aren't right
As often we've been told.
Why do they claim a man can't fight
When forty-six years old?

"When silvery locks begin to show
Above a feller's ears,
And joyous hopes of long ago
Have molted with the years,
When all the dreaming days are o'er,
Then battle brings delight,
A man of forty-six or more
Is jes' the age to fight."

LIBERTY BOND TAX BILL PASSES HOUSE

Legislation Exempting $30,000,000 of New Issue From Levy Is Unopposed.

SENATE WILL SPEED IT

Provision Giving McAdoo Power to Prohibit Sales Is Retained.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 13.—Almost without a hitch and without a dissenting vote the legislation demanded by the Secretary of the Treasury as necessary to the certain sale of the next Liberty bond issue was passed by the House today.

Chairman Kitchin of the Ways and Means Committee occupied most of the time in the discussion of the legislation, but none of the speakers opposed it. Mr. Kitchin's talk was almost entirely an explanation of the features of the measure drawn by Mr. McAdoo.

An amendment to the bill offered by Representative Platt (N. Y.) was adopted after Mr. Kitchin agreed to it. It removes the provision that only $100 worth of war savings certificates may be obtained in one purchase.

"The present law is a dead letter, anyhow," Mr. Platt said. "Every one violates it. I understand even the President has violated it by buying $1,000 worth of certificates at one purchase."

Only One Fight Made.

Only one real fight on any feature took place. Representative Hayes (California) tried to strike out the provision giving the Secretary of the Treasury power to prevent buying, selling and trading in United States bonds and certificates of indebtedness to aid in stabilizing their market value.

In committee of the whole the House adopted this by a vote of 54 to 32, but in the House proper Representative Kitchin, in charge of the bill, managed to change the mind of the House and the amendment was beaten, 116 to 31, leaving the bill in almost exactly the shape in which it came from the Ways and Means Committee.

"The Secretary of the Treasury believes it is essential for the protection of Liberty bond holders, big and little, for the President or the Secretary of the Treasury to have the power to regulate and prohibit, if necessary, the sale of or transfer of these bonds and certificates of indebtedness," said Mr. Kitchin.

"At present there is no power to prohibit doubtful buying, selling and trading in these bonds and certificates. Little bodies of men here and there—of whom the Treasury Department knows—are buying up Liberty bonds and manipulating them for forcing down the price of bonds so that the interest rates on succeeding bond issues will be higher."

The Senate Finance Committee, when apprised of the action of the House, decided to drop consideration of the revenue bill for the time being and will take up the McAdoo legislation to-morrow. Only brief consideration is necessary, it is believed, for the committee will be prepared to submit the bill to the Senate.

Chairman Simmons just before adjournment of the Finance Committee's hearing on the revenue bill to-day, suggested to the members that it was expected the bill would be passed by the House before adjournment.

"In that event," Senator Simmons said, "it will be my desire to have the bill before the committee, where I believe only a few hours will be needed for its consideration."

Senators Lodge (Mass.) and Robinson (Ark.), who will have to attend the specially called meeting of the Committee on Foreign Relations, asked to be recorded as present for the purpose of counting a quorum of the Finance Committee, which insures full attendance and the probable unanimously favorable report upon the measure when the Senate reconvenes Tuesday.

Representative Cannon (Ill.) suggested that, instead of exempting Liberty bonds from all taxes up to the limits set in the McAdoo measure, all outstanding Liberty bonds and the next issue be converted to 3 per cent. bonds entirely free of all taxes.

Longworth Urges Higher Rate.

Representative Longworth (Ohio), the last speaker, showed the House there are three ways to bring Liberty bonds to near parity on the exchanges and hold them there. These ways are to raise the interest rate, to raise the normal tax on incomes and to exempt the income from the bonds from taxes to a certain extent.

Mr. Longworth said he thought it would be advisable to increase the interest rate from 4 1-4 per cent. to a higher rate.

"For some time I agreed with Mr. Cannon that the best thing to do would be to have a 3 per cent. bond free of all taxes," said Mr. Longworth, "but I now agree with the gentleman from Texas, Mr. Garner, that it would be inadvisable to add to the tax free obligations of the Government. We must do something, though, and I am thoroughly convinced that the thing to do is to proceed along the lines laid down in this bill.

"However," Mr. Longworth continued, "the credit for the idea is really due to Mr. Cannon of Illinois. In the second Liberty Loan act he offered an amendment to exempt from surtaxes and excess profits taxes the income from $50,000 worth of these bonds, but the House cut this amount down to $5,000. We are now proceeding along those lines, but we have raised the exemption to $30,000 on the coming issue of bonds."

TEACHERS IN THE DRAFT.

A Suggestion That Girls Would Fill Their Places in the Schools.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* May I ask why or how the educational system of our city would be endangered if Provost Marshal General Crowder refused deferred classification for male teachers who come within Class 1 of the new draft?

Perhaps if these men were called upon to do their duty, the girls holding positions as clerks in offices would be able to come out and fill the positions they studied so long and hard to attain.

Maybe Mr. Somers does not know there is a waiting list, but I do and Mr. Crowder learns of it in time.

FLORENCE C. [illegible]

NEW YORK, September 13.

The Welcome Peril.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* May I say, with "A French Girl," "Why should American girls worry if American men marry French girls?" In my estimation nothing could bind America and France closer than the intermingling of the two nationalities. Every American girl should count as a real sister every French girl who marries one of our American boys. Isn't France enshrined in our hearts, and do we begrudge one of our boys to the French girl who decides—as a minor detail