The Sun

AND NEW YORK PRESS.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1918.

MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.
The Associated Press is exclusively entitled to the use for republication of all news despatches credited to it or not otherwise credited in this paper and also the local news published herein.
All rights of republication of special despatches herein are also reserved.

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

Subscriptions by Mail, Postpaid.

	One Year.	Six Months.	One Month.
DAILY & SUNDAY	$10.00	$5.00	$1.00
DAILY only	6.00	4.00	.75
SUNDAY only	3.00	1.50	.40
CANADIAN RATES.			
DAILY & SUNDAY	$10.00	$5.00	$1.00
DAILY only	6.00	4.00	.75
SUNDAY only	3.00	2.50	.50
FOREIGN RATES.			
DAILY & SUNDAY	$24.00	$12.00	$2.25
DAILY only	15.00	8.00	1.50
SUNDAY only	9.00	4.50	.75

THE EVENING SUN, Per Month $0.50
THE EVENING SUN, Per Year 6.00
THE EVENING SUN (Foreign), Per Mo. 1.50

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

Published daily, including Sunday, by the Sun Printing and Publishing Association, 150 Nassau st., Borough of Manhattan, N. Y. President, Frank A. Munsey, 150 Nassau st.; Vice-President, Ervin Wardman; Secretary, R. H. Titherington; Treas., Wm. T. Dewart, all of 150 Nassau street.

London office, 40-43 Fleet street.
Paris office, 6 Rue de la Michodiere, off Rue du Quatre Septembre.
Washington office, Munsey Building.
Brooklyn office, Room 202, Eagle Building, 803 Washington street.

If our friends who favor us with manuscripts and illustrations for publication wish to have rejected articles returned they must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

TELEPHONE, BEEKMAN 2200.

Get Rid of Kitchin!

The last man in Congress who ever ought to have been chairman of the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives is CLAUDE KITCHIN. In time of peace, to place at the head of that committee, so deeply and powerfully involved in the industrial lot of the American people, a man of such limited intelligence, of such economic ignorance, was folly and mischief.

A man who doesn't know any more about the elemental principles of taxation, for example, than to pile such heavy burdens upon thousands of poor prospectors for oil that they could no longer go out and search and bore for oil wells.

A man so destitute of business sense that he would compel corporations, big and little, to distribute all their earnings, when no business can be safe unless, to take care of future needs and hazards, it sets aside and holds a reasonable proportion of its profits instead of squandering them.

A man so blinded by his unlicensed prejudices that, sinister toward all prosperity, he cannot see the difference between extraordinary profits snatched out of abnormal war business and ordinary profits plodded out of normal business.

A man so mentally topsy turvy that in his revenue measure last year he heavily penalized workers for earning their livings, when he imposed upon salaries a special tax, calling it a war profits tax, which not even the leisurely person having inherited a fortune in stocks and bonds was asked to pay.

In time of war to keep such a man at the head of the Ways and Means Committee is both a wrong and a peril. When he was violently opposing the entry of the United States into the war to save, before it was too late, its honor and its life as well, KITCHIN proclaimed that if we had war it would be a cold blooded war, engineered for profit by American plutocracy. When we entered the war KITCHIN swore that he would assess its cost on that part of the country north of Mason and Dixon's line. And, as far as he has been able to go up to now, KITCHIN has made good his threat. What his economic perversity has fallen short of doing, his malignant sectionalism has done with a vengeance.

If KITCHIN made fool taxes merely because he did not know any better, he deliberately drove those taxes, like poisoned spikes, into the vitals of the industry, the trade, the earnings, the savings, the bread and butter of the interests and the people north of Mason and Dixon's line.

KITCHIN's economic hallucinations and superstitions were bad enough. It was worse, hideously worse, that his passions and hatreds, distilled along with his stupidities and follies into the nation's revenue policy, should have made the industrial fields north of Mason and Dixon's line tax objects of pillage.

Thus KITCHIN, the economic ignoramus, but the sectional avenger, has, with his mania for destruction—always north of Mason and Dixon's line—come to be the most dangerous man in Congress, the most dangerous man in the United States. KITCHIN is a danger to the very Government of President WILSON because his frenzied policy must cripple resources which should be permanently available for the support of the Government. KITCHIN is a danger to our valorous armies in France because he must weaken the national power to back them up with munitions and food and clothing. KITCHIN is a danger to the future of the nation, in peace no less than in war, because he must paralyze its very arteries.

Wherefore it becomes the cardinal duty of American voters to get rid of KITCHIN.

KITCHIN comes from Scotland Neck, N. C., But you do not need to live in Scotland Neck, N. C., to vote against KITCHIN. You do not need to live in North Carolina to vote against KITCHIN. Any man or any woman that has a ballot in any district of the United States can vote against KITCHIN. All that American voters have to do to vote against KITCHIN is to vote for Republican nominees for the House of Representatives, wherever they may be. This is the way to get rid of KITCHIN.

If anybody says that this would be war politics when such politics stands adjourned, the right answer is that not by one-thousandth part is it so much politics, war or any other kind, as it is sanity, not so much politics as it is security, not so much politics as it is patriotism.

If anybody says that to elect a Republican majority to Congress would deprive President WILSON of its support in his conduct of the war, the statement simply isn't true. That argument itself is no more than a slippery political dodge. Who is there now in the House or in the Senate, Democrat or Republican, that fails to vote the moneys that Mr. WILSON's Administration needs for the war? Who is there, Democrat or Republican, that fails to vote the guns, munitions, soldiers, sailors, ships that Mr. WILSON needs for the war? Who is there, Democrat or Republican, that fails to vote to give him the railroads, the telegraphs, the telephones, that he needs for the war? Who is there that fails to vote to give him anything and everything he needs? Do the Republican members of Congress ever fail in any single particular to give President WILSON, for his conduct of the war, the fullest and the strongest support? Nobody will honestly say so.

With a Republican House, President WILSON would still have the votes to support his conduct of the war, and they would be intelligent votes. They would be sound votes. They would be competent votes.

But when the American voters had overturned the Democratic majority in the House, which created KITCHIN, the prime revenue maker for the country, and which remains responsible for him, then, as chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, as a figure of national prominence, as a member of Congress in the very least degree noticeable, KITCHIN would disappear as completely as if dropped through a trapdoor into the cellar of the Capitol.

Get rid of KITCHIN!

The Governor's White Book.

Governor WHITMAN's principal campaign document is not an exception to the rule that everything rubs elbows with the war. It is called the White Book, to begin with, and the Governor explains in his introduction that two years ago, when he issued a report of his stewardship direct to the people, the pamphlet "came to be known as the White Book." The Whitman White Book Committee, which circulates "Governor Whitman's Report"—that is the official title—does not forget war's effect on the supply of paper, for it announces that it is trying to limit the circulation to one copy for each family in this State. In the event of more than one copy reaching a family—even a family so large, for instance, as that of Mr. ALFRED E. SMITH of 25 Oliver street, Manhattan—duplicates will please be handed on to other and less fortunate persons.

The Governor very properly but not unexpectedly declares that there can be only one course for the administration of New York State with respect to carrying on the war: no partisan division; all the resources of the State in aid of the nation; "prompt and unqualified support of the President and of every branch and arm of Federal authority." Mr. WHITMAN reviews the induction of the National Guard and the Naval Militia into the Federal service, the organization of the New York Guard for home defence, the taking of the military census, the provision for the system of county home defence committees, the appointment of the State Defence Council, the establishment of the State Food Commission and the Council of Farms and Markets; the provision, under the Military Training Commission, for the physical and military preparation of boys below draft age; and, of course, the organization of the exemption boards which added 350,000 New Yorkers to the national army.

The Governor's action in matters less closely knit with war is reviewed, not merely for the last two years but for Mr. WHITMAN's entire term of service at Albany. He declares he found that the administrations of Governors DIX, SULZER and GLYNN, "all dominated by Tammany Hall, had brought the business of the State in most departments to the verge of chaos." A Highway Department infested with bagmen, a politically inspired Conservation Department, a canal system dominated by a ring, a Civil Service Commission which interpreted the laws "in the interest of political patronage," a Tax Department which had been "the centre of political activity and manipulation"—these are some of the State offices whose reform is reviewed.

On lines more purely constructive, the Governor has a word to say about his establishment of the Department of Farms and Markets, the beginning of a new prison at Sing Sing, the organization of the State constabulary and the making of rules for the rehabilitation of former convicts. The Governor calls attention to the fact that every one of the present Public Service Commissioners was appointed by him. They, he says, "have become agents of the people and not the agents of the corporations which they regulate."

Seven pages of the White Book are taken up with a list of the principal appointees of the Governor in the last four years. They include five Judges of the Court of Appeals, fifteen Justices of the Supreme Court, five Judges of the Court of Claims, thirteen Public Service Commissioners, and nearly a hundred other men and women named by Mr. WHITMAN as heads of departments or as members of commissions. Accompanying each name is a brief biographical sketch. This interesting little directory is indeed an important part of Governor WHITMAN's record; and it is on his record, as he plainly says, that he goes before the voters of New York as a candidate for reelection.

One Yankee Infantryman.

The American infantryman is the most telling force against the German army. Of course there is plenty of honor to be distributed elsewhere, but the man with the rifle and the bayonet is the largest item in an organization whose freshness, strength and spirit are the most valuable possession of the associated enemies of Prussian autocracy.

We have perhaps a million and a half of these Yankee infantrymen in Europe. By next June, if necessary, the total will swell to four millions. These men, who used to produce things that sold for money, are engaged upon the work of producing something that money cannot buy: Liberty. They are adding nothing directly to the material wealth of the world, but an imponderable fortune to the happiness of it, soon and forever. Meanwhile they are being supported by the money of those who, for a variety of reasons, cannot go with them. It is impossible to value what they are doing, but what it is costing per man can be reduced to figures. The cost of each private soldier abroad is as follows:

Equipment	$157.71
Subsistence	251.85
Pay	396.00
Total	$805.56

There are other money charges which cannot be set down so exactly as the experts of the army have calculated these items. It may be assumed, however, that the cost of transportation across, of ammunition, and of the trip home of a man will not exceed $194.44. This amount added to the $805.56 makes a round thousand dollars. A man who cannot go to war, but who subscribes for a bond of $1,000, has the knowledge that he has lent to the Government enough to equip, transport, feed, supply with cartridges and pay (if you can call $33 a month the pay of a man who is offering his life) one American infantryman for a year.

Not merely a year, but The Year.

An Expert on Coal Saving.

Practical opportunities for saving coal are receiving the attention of experts who are in the best position to know the various problems, that is, by the managers of gas companies, factories and great industries. Their opinions are now available in the British *Gas Journal*, which considers the subject from all sides.

The results are not so simple as the public, and even many manufacturers, might suppose. If it be granted that a ton of coal, when converted into gas or into heat and light as electric illumination, will yield a certain number of mathematical units of heat, it seems by no means to be agreed that these units can be as exactly calculated as a sum in mathematics. Some manufacturers, basing their plans of economy, on the estimated value of coal, have reasoned that a ton represents 15,000 cubic feet of gas or 800 units of electricity, and that, these being the official figures, it is evidently cheaper to use the coal in their furnaces and stoves than to employ gas or electricity. As a matter of fact, expert knowledge and investigation have led to a different conclusion. As the *Gas Journal* points out, "the 15,000 feet of gas and the 800 units of electricity are more or less arbitrary allowances made per ton of crude coal." In other words, the quality of the coal, and of the machinery consuming it, are factors in the problem that must be calculated on the basis of actual experience.

It is a matter of common knowledge among technical experts that the machinery and different devices for saving coal in mills and factories are the subjects of anxious study wherever there is an adequate conception of the importance of this economy. The coal situation is serious. But it will do no practical good to experiment with theoretical methods of saving. One of the errors for which theory is mainly responsible is that the use of coal in kitchen ranges and fires is cheaper than gas or electricity. Figures are now given which show that, in England at least, gas and electricity are cheaper cooking methods than coal. Whether these estimates hold good for this country is not stated, but it may be inferred that with ordinary prudence on the part of the housewives they may be applicable here.

The great problem is said to be the methods of distribution. In England these have not met with the entire approval of experts. Distribution under a system of control has worked out badly in many cases, as allowances threaten to cut down the supplies of the gas and electric companies. As the by-products of the manufacture of illuminating gas furnish materials for explosives there is the danger, in depriving these companies of coal, of depriving the munition plants of phenol. Intensified war is called for, yet reduction of coal supplies is contemplated, and of the means of distributing them. That, in brief, is the essence of the problem. The remedy is to see that improvements are made to increase output and the power of distribution. The methods of control have been of a mistaken order, because they have not provided for an increased production of coal as the war intensified, and its distribution in needful quantities to quarters essential to the war.

According to the same authority the consumption of coal by the public is another phase of the problem that has frequently been misunderstood. The coal controller in England has approved the principle of saving coal in kitchens, but he has objected to the use of gas and electricity for this purpose. Housewives are advised to use 25 per cent. less coal than their rationed allowance. In urging this it would have been still better to counsel housewives to accomplish what is needed by using gas instead of coal whenever and wherever opportunity may allow. For one of the greatest means of economy is the saving of the "stand by" coal consumption of kitchen ranges and of fires for warming rooms.

In this view the question is very largely a question of explosives. The by-products of coal supply the materials of munitions as well as heat and light. Most of the argument is purely technical, but it shows very clearly that a coal shortage such as occurred in this country last year is a far more serious thing than a temporary lack of coal for a kitchen range. Moreover, the usual explanations of this shortage have not included all the factors.

To-morrow is moving day and Father Knickerbocker hunts vans while FOCH hunts vons.

Is a bond purchase harder to carry than a sixty pound pack?

The Hon. AL SMITH must wish that Mr. HARRIS was as unreal as *Mrs. Gamp's* mythical friend.

Should Mr. BARUCH's order to carry all parcels without covering be religiously observed the benefit will not be limited to conservation of wrapping paper; the nudity will likewise serve to enforce temperance and food saving, since all purchases will necessarily be bared to the public eye.

FOCH's strategy made Bulgaria quit. —*Headline.*

One FERDINAND flusters another.

The German who refuses to believe that there is an American army has a rival. A New York broker swears he never heard of the income tax.

The shirker's cry and the waster's moan: I can't afford to subscribe to the loan!

Ah, ha! The smoke rooms of the House have received a sore blow and the habitants are uttering loud cries and lamentations. The Hon. WILLIAM JOSEPH SEARS of Kissimmee, Fla., first felt the stroke. "Cigars which sell for eight cents," he exclaimed, his eyes filled, voice choking as he read from the schedule, "taxed $12 a thousand!" Then the Hon. WILLIAM H. STAFFORD of Harvard and Milwaukee placed his finger on the wound. "The stogies," he groaned, "that members of Congress can afford to smoke." What a run there will be on the comforting corncob pipe the Speaker buys for his friends!

Turkey will be ready politely to sue for peace as soon as she has massacred the few remaining Armenians.

HARRIS may have been the reason why SMITH left home.

OLIVE OIL FOR COLDS.

With Jelly as a Chaser, if You Can Afford It.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Allow me, as an old author, continually doing all the good I can by my books, pamphlets, articles and letters to the nation and the world, to suggest a remedy of the utmost simplicity, but which I have found surprisingly efficacious in cases of grip and colds in general.

A teaspoonful of good olive oil every two or three hours and a little taste of some pure jam or jelly, such as grape, immediately afterward to prevent any irritation of the throat by the oil, and also snuffing a little of the oil from the forefinger up each nostril, has cured me, to my agreeable surprise, of every attack of grip and cold.

If the simplicity of this remedy will not prevent the doctors from recommending and prescribing it, and the people from trying and using it, recollecting the case of Naaman the leper and his simple cure as recorded in II. Kings v., 8 to 14, it may be the saving of countless lives from the attacks of influenza, which has so far killed so many.

ALBERT P. SCHACK.

NEW YORK, September 28.

A Suggestion for the Red Cross.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I saw a newspaper article relative to sending Christmas boxes to our boys in France through the American Red Cross. I think it would be a good idea if the Red Cross were to have these boxes made and sell them to the people who have boys away from home. I think they could have them made cheaply and distribute them throughout the country and sell them at a fixed price and in this way help the Red Cross fund. The boxes could be made of one size and in this way be easy to handle.

BROOKLYN, September 28. F. EICH.

The Sons of Cæsar Serve.

From Leslie's Weekly.

From mountain peak to mountain peak,
Methought I heard a swelling song;
A song that cheered the small and weak,
From hearts that sought to right a wrong:

We are the sons of Cæsar,
The sons of a nobler Rome;
We fight to conquer Freedom's foe;
We strive that all the world may know
The blood of Cæsar
Still doth flow
Through veins of those who joyful go
To strike a strong and mighty blow—
The sons of Cæsar serve.

We are the sons of Cæsar,
The sons of a nobler Rome;
Our storied past hath taught us well,
And while midst sound of shot and shell
The blood of Cæsar
Still doth tell;
God keep us from the wiles of hell,
And savage hostings help us quell—
The sons of Cæsar serve.

We are the sons of Cæsar,
The sons of a nobler Rome;
May all the world be some day free
From pain and guilt and misery,
The blood of Cæsar
Calls on Thee.
Once nailed to the shameful tree.
Lord Jesus see our agony—
The sons of Cæsar serve.

OWEN E. MCGILLICUDDY.

ARCHBISHOP IRELAND AS A PENSION GETTER.

He Got an Allowance for Murphy and Then Had It Doubled.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In 1907 I was president of the village of Saratoga Springs, N. Y. That year the national G. A. R. encampment met there. The late Archbishop Ireland was national chaplain of the G. A. R. It devolved upon me to show him the principal points of interest in that vicinity. He was accompanied by the late Bishop McGoldrick. The latter told me this incident in the career of the Archbishop.

Private Murphy, who was a member of the regiment to which the Archbishop was attached, was discharged for intemperance a few weeks before the war closed. Some years afterward while in dire distress Private Murphy, through friends, sought the Archbishop's aid in getting a pension.

One time while in Washington on other business the Archbishop appeared before the Pension Board in behalf of Private Murphy. The appeal was made, the commissioners had held a consultation on the matter and the chairman said to the Archbishop with a twinkle in his eye: "We will grant the pension and do anything else you ask in this matter if you tell us how such an ardent temperance advocate as you are can consistently represent a man who was discharged from the army for intemperance." His Grace replied: "Private Murphy when he entered the army did not know the taste of liquor. He fell in with a few bad companions and acquired the habit."

The pension was granted and the chairman called the next case, but the Archbishop reminded the chairman that the Murphy case was not closed as it was agreed that anything else, if the reply was satisfactory, that he (the Archbishop) would ask would also be granted. The chairman, somewhat astonished, asked what if anything else could be done. "Well," said his Grace, "Private Murphy at all critical times in the army was where the fighting was hardest and never shunned danger. I have often thought he was worth two ordinary soldiers, and I now ask that you double his pension."

The pension was doubled.

J. D. MCNULTY.

WASHINGTON, D. C., September 28.

WHO'S WHO IN THE SKY.

Venus Will Not Be Evening Star Until Next Year.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Your "Veteran Reader" is entitled to a vote of thanks for calling attention to the grand star display in the morning sky.

Venus is due to appear as evening star early in 1919 and its present sky companion is Mercury, with which it was in conjunction on September 25 about 3 A. M., industrial time.

L. Cortambert, who writes under date of September 26, should consult the American Ephemeris and Nautical Almanac for 1918, where he would find on page 675 that on November 23 Venus will be in conjunction—that is in direct line—with the sun, and that several weeks must elapse before she can emerge from his rays and "make her bow in the evening sky." He would also find that on the morning of September 27 the planets held position in right ascension as follows: Venus, 11 hours 16 minutes; Mercury, 11 hours 18 minutes; Saturn, 9 hours 45 minutes, so that Saturn is not in the near neighborhood of Venus, although it is true that Venus and Saturn were in conjunction early in the month, that is on September 5 in R. A. 9 hours 32 minutes.

J. H. PAQUET.

NEW YORK, September 28.

A DOLLAR AN HOUR.

Shall the Industrial Army Have It When Fighters Get $1 a Day?

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In time of war we should have two armies, the fighting army and the industrial army. Each should wear a uniform and be under absolute governmental control. The wages, the hours of labor, the rules of living, all should be determined by the Government.

Every man in the United States owes his life to the country. The manner in which his life is used, whether in the front line in France or in the essential industry here, is none of his concern. Those in supreme authority alone are best able to determine how that life should be used to the best advantage.

In the fighting army a man gets his maintenance and $31 a month. As to hours of labor, a friend of mine in the old Sixty-ninth has just written home that he had been fighting two weeks, almost without rest. Why should the fighting army have less pay, more hours of labor and less privileges than the industrial army in essential industries?

A soldier overstays his leave and becomes technically a deserter. If caught and convicted he gets from one to twenty years in a military prison. Why should a worker in an essential industry be treated differently?

How will you explain to the fighting army when it returns the special privileges of the industrial army?

I know an enlisted man who worked eight hours a day and made $15,000 a year in his business. He now gets about $60 a month and is liable to work twenty-four hours a day. What would happen to him if he struck, either for shorter hours or for more pay? If his strike happened at the front he would be introduced to a firing party.

Why should a worker in an essential industry, a shipyard or a munition factory, be treated differently?

A friend of mine who is personnel officer in a camp where many of the men are expert mechanics tells me that when he signs the payrolls he notices that many of the men only get $8.65 a month. The balance goes for insurance, Liberty bonds and to dependents.

What will these men think of shipyard men, 58 per cent. of whom are of foreign birth, demanding a dollar an hour and double pay for overtime?

If men in essential industries are to be exempted from the draft let them at least be enlisted in an industrial army. Put a uniform on them, have a Government board fix their hours of labor and their wages, and give them no privileges over the men who night and day are facing the machine guns, gas bombs and cannon of the German army.

EDWARD P. DOYLE.

NEW YORK, September 28.

Was It Not Sometimes "Buy a Bond"?

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* As I was in the country this summer I noticed that even the bullfrogs have awakened to the fact that we are at war. Their cry used to be "Jug o' rum," now it is "Lick th' Hun." LUAP RAC.

RUTLAND, Vt., September 28.

LOUIS THE SAD GUEST.

His Host Sends a Bullet Whizzing Past Him and He Leaves.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* It is not always advisable to enter into chummy conversation with stranger co-travellers on railroad trains. Sometimes, as on a protracted run from Yuma to Memphis, this means for entertainment might prove worth while, as it did in 1903 to me.

There were two men who seemed respectable. We enjoyed most of the trip of two days smoking, at cards and exchanging adventures.

I was booked for New Orleans. One of the two was a Mr. Short, an Englishman; the other was a salesman, bound for New York.

"You must stop at Memphis and accept my invitation to visit my plantation ten miles away from ——, which village is ten miles from Memphis," said the Englishman.

As it did not matter to me where I got off for novel adventures, I said, "All right, I'll be up your way in a few days."

"I'll have my team waiting for you," and we parted.

The word team seemed like enchantment to me. He must own a large plantation, I thought. However, thinking does not insure reality, as we shall later on notice.

I gave my city address to the salesman. After three days of sightseeing, enjoying the theatres and acquainting myself with Southern life, I wrote a postal to my friend.

The next day I took train to the village.

As soon as I alighted my disappointments began to blossom. I had left my trunks at the Memphis hotel, and a mere satchel and my trustworthy cane were the only safeguards I had.

In vain I craned my neck for a team. No equipage in sight. Had he fooled me? The village was there, but the streets were deserted. I stood as riveted to the ground.

All at once down the muddy road an aged negro comes running toward me.

"Ah, sir!" he grins. "Mr. Short sends his regards. Come up the hill. I'll drive you to his plantation!"

My risibility ran riot down my spine. "What lurked behind the hill?" I wondered.

On reaching the top and looking down I spied the team and elegant vehicle—two old mules and a heavy, half demolished four wheel cart with only one seat at the front.

Keeping my expletives to myself all I could do was relinquishing to my fate.

Bunkety-bunk the cart rattled for two hours over a flood soaked road, up hill most of the time, frequently half upsetting when a sudden two foot hole appeared. In spite of the five cigars I smoked during the ride my nervousness found a climax when the negro pulled in reins in front of a store—a real shanty twelve feet front and thirty feet long.

"Howd'ye!" said a man. "Mr. Short has gone five miles down the road to visit his girl cousin. "Come in. This is his house."

Consternation did not express my feelings. It was 3 P. M.

The only men there were four negroes sitting on the narrow porch. The overseer excused himself, and I was alone.

When a man is confronted with unexpected conditions of incredulity, lighting a cigar is the best palliation. This I did. Then I walked along the forlorn road, at times sketching. I always kept my sketchbook handy in my coat pocket.

At 6 I returned. Mr. Short, who, by the way, stood 6 feet in his shoes, greeted me. He excused himself. Then we had supper: ham and eggs, coffee and sugar. I bit my lips, while smiling at him.

"All our 'hands' retire at 9 P. M. We get up at 5 A. M. Nothing to do here at night."

He showed me to his room, where I was to sleep in his company! A room 6 by 8, one large double bed. One long wood box as a lounge and two chairs, and one mirror on the wall near the one window! And, at closer inspection, by the bed wide spaces of open air in between the laths! "How sleep in such a draught!" I moaned.

The next day I made three drawings of the "hands" on the porch. No dinner; just a drink and crackers. At 3 P. M. the overseer came and invited me to a drive to a distant plantation.

"This is a bad horse," he said. "I told Mr. Short to sell him." Three times he shied and ran. The last time near to the store he grew furious, rearing, foaming and almost running into a telegraph pole. I tell you I was scared. "You must know Mr. Short's house was burnt down a month ago. Since that day he kind of acts queer!" At last some light was thrown on my friend's behavior.

In going to bed that night my friend said, "I'll give you the entire use of the bed. I'll sleep on the lounge!" I was undressing; he had just crept into covers. I stood silhouetted against the open low window. I was putting off my shirt—"Bang!" I felt a bullet pulling at my elbow! "By ——! I saw a nigger's head in the dark." Then he told me that he was afraid of the darkies; excused his having forgotten that I was in the path of his bullet.

Next morning I hastened to tell him that I was obliged to be in New York in a week, as I had an appointment with my book publishers. "Oh! stay longer. I was so lonesome, you know."

"No use. Get me a rig—I must go."

When I got back to Memphis I resolved to be more circumspect with whom I talked on railroad cars.

LOUIS M. EILSHEMIUS.
Supreme Spirit of the Spheres.

NEW YORK, September 28.

THE VANISHING BILLIONS.

A Remarkable Suggestion: Save Some of Them With Economy!

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I note that the Government is asking for more than $7,000,000,000 to cover the deficiencies for the present fiscal year and that it will need $30,000,000,000 for the year. I also note that Congress is looking in every direction for new methods and subjects of taxation, but nowhere do I see any mention of any better method of spending the revenues.

If all the revenues are being as wastefully spent as are those which go out in this section, all that is necessary to cover deficiencies is to have efficient supervision of the expenditures, thus seeing that the Government received adequate value for its outgo.

This would not only save the money but would largely increase revenues from income and excess profit taxes by enabling business concerns to operate more efficiently and economically.

R. WOODWARD.

SUFFOLK, Va., September 21.

FIFTH AVE. AGLOW FOR LIBERTY LOAN

Forty Blocks of Flags, Sculptures and Paintings Stir Throng of Patriots.

DISPLAY NEVER EQUALLED

Colors of the Teuton, the Turk and the Bolsheviki Only Ones Missing.

If some supercook mixed together the ingredients which compose an Easter boardwalk parade at Atlantic City, stirred in an art gallery two miles long, added a sculptural hall of the same size and then called in a supermilliner to decorate the dish with fluttering fluffy ruffles the result would almost approach the wonder and magnificence which yesterday was Fifth avenue.

Never in the history of ——

But that hackneyed superlative phrase is too much a bromidiom, too silly and tame and altogether commonplace to give even a faint notion of the flag clouded, painted and sculptured thoroughfare which was once Fifth avenue but now has been changed by the Liberty Loan laborers from Madison Square to Central Park into the dazzling "Avenue of the Allies." The Liberty Loaners had "the finest street in the world" as raw material to begin with, and with this flying start they successfully set themselves to the task of making the avenue almost as transcendently gorgeous as Wilhelm the Unnecessary and Crown Prince Stoopid the Chinless think themselves to be between drinks.

Some Flags That Were Missing.

Always excepting the banners and standards of the Hun and the tottering Turk—and also, incidentally, of the Bolsheviki and Jerry O'Leary's jolly old Irish Republic, neither of which is doing any useful fighting these days—with these exceptions the avenue was ablaze with brave banners that float over home capitals from the equator to the poles. The avenue was hazy with the flags, the windows of the wonderful shops glowed with the art of the country's foremost painters, and all day and evening through the cloudy magnificence coursed, north and south, from building lines to curbs, a throng of the kind one sees there on any sunny Easter noontide.

For almost forty blocks the flag array was of the kind that almost shut off the blue sky. Twenty-two of these blocks were given over to the national and maritime flags of twenty-two allies, each of these national blocks being devoted solely to the colors of a particular nation. Scattered at intervals betwen these stretches of allied colors were blocks—"Liberty Loan Blocks"—which were great splashes of crimson bunting decorated with the Red, White and Blue.

Luckily the day was gaseless, at least almost gaseless; for down beneath the flying flag storm the crowds of slow moving pedestrians at times were so dense that perforce the happy sightseers as often as not found themselves overflowing to the asphalt at points of especial interest.

At the Altar of Liberty.

The Madison Square section of the avenue, for a block north and south of the beautiful Altar of Liberty, was chiefly of the "Liberty Loan Block" scheme of decoration. The avenue from Twenty-seventh to Twenty-eighth streets was given over wholly to Uncle Sam and his Stars and Stripes. The next block to the north was hazy with the banners of far off Siam.

Serbia had all of the stretch from Twenty-ninth to Thirtieth street to herself. Even Russia—the Russia of the Allies—had her own block, from Thirtieth to Thirty-first street. And then as one looked up the slope, with these avenue climbed to the Roaring Forties and Fluttering Fifties, a trembling rainbow stretched away, blazing with the colors of Portugal, Panama, Nicaragua, Italy, Montenegro, Japan, Honduras, Hayti, Guatemala, Greece, France, the Czecho-Slovaks, Cuba, England, Brazil and the wonder nation, Belgium.

At the Altar of Liberty, in the neighborhood of the Library and at St. Patrick's Cathedral were particularly beautiful flag displays—long lanes of towering white staffs, from each of which floated an Allied banner. And bound and woven, twisted and twined among all these were the special Liberty Loan banners and the ever present Stars and Stripes of the greatest land of all.

Fifth avenue had seen itself all aflutter with flags before, although never to the lavish extent of the present Liberty Loan display of bunting; but never had the avenue, or perhaps any street seen so great and continuous a display of the handiwork of foremost painters and sculptors. Paintings of mammoth size, sometimes in the dazzling colors of the pleinairists and again in the sombre tones which scenes in sorrowing Belgium demanded, held their crowds of admirers in every block. Plaster figures of heroic size, tinted to resemble bronze, held their rifles or the high flung heads of their chargers out toward the crowds in menacing fashion.

F. W. Benson, George Bellows, Edwin H. Blashfield, Carl Melchers, Albert Herter, Joseph Pennell, Frank Valenti, Jonas Lie, Franklin Booth, Charles Livingston Bull, Francis C. Jones, Carlton Chapman, Willy Pogany, Augustus Vincent Tack, Gifford Beals, David Robinson, S. J. Woolf, W. Granville-Smith, Gardner Symons, Harry Rittenberg——these were but a few of the leading painters and draftsmen whose "originals" graced the windows and led the crowds from canvas to stirring canvas.

Sculptors Who Lent a Hand.

Sculptors that included H. Prellwitz, H. A. MacNeil and many others had contributed monumental groups to add to the lavishness of an esthetic display which vied in glory with the martial gorgeousness fluttering on high. Behind the plate glass windows of many other shops decorators and scenic painters had erected stage settings, where panoramic backgrounds, real military costume and equipment, hay and straw and lay figures brought to the eye and heart thrilling scenes in far off Flanders or Picardy.

Great submarine torpedoes, each one costing $7,500, were arranged in the windows, the torpedo war head, the main body and the propeller sections placed at different spots so that landlubbers could grasp a better idea of the workings and mechanism of the Hun's chief weapon. There were trench mortars that once had roared on battlefields in France, gas masks, machine gun exhibits, big gun shells, cumbrous looking German helmets almost as dense and solid loking as the heads of the Huns that once had worn them.

All day long the sun came from a cloudless sky and added to the sparkle of the two mile Liberty Loan show. And when night fell the rows of street lights, tinted to a golden yellow glow, stretched away amid the glories in the same faultless alignment in which, some day soon, the lads from Paris and Antwerp and Medicine Hat and Skaneateles and London town will swing along Unter den Linden to the bang of drums and the blare of brass—will swing along, at least, if the throngs in the "Avenue of the Allies" yesterday obey promptly the slogan to "Lend as They Fight!"

THOUSANDS TRAIN FOR NEW U. S. FLEET

32 Schools Prepare Students to Become Officers in Huge Merchant Marine.

GOOD PAY; EXCITING LIFE

Secretary Daniels Opposes Plan to Exempt Navy From Income Tax.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 29.—Sufficient officers and sufficient man power for the enormous merchant marine building in America are assured, according to the emphatic statement of officials of the Shipping Board to-day.

Thousands of young Americans have been trained and are in ocean service, and thousands more are in training in schools and on training ships. The problem of supplying merchant marine officers at a time of huge expansion in the navy and in a nation that has been without a merchant marine for more than half a century has been solved by the same intensive methods as were applied to shipbuilding.

For more than a year young men have been recruited in every corner of the nation. Good pay and an exciting life has attracted them.

Six months ago the problem of finding men to man the ships was regarded by many officials in Washington as ever a greater problem than building ships faster than the submarines could sink them, but the men, like the ships, have been forthcoming. Under the guarantee of good earnings and ample insurance protection by the Government, particularly for the men sailing in the war zones, the youth of the nation and many older men of sea experience have been lured by recruiting agents and posters.

Enough for All Ships.

Officers and men will be ready and available for every ship as fast as it can be completed. It has been suggested that because the navy is manning all of the ships in the transport service that the American Merchant Marine will be short of men after the war. Shipping Board officials are confident this will not be the case. They point out that with the coming of peace and the mustering out of men from the naval service they will be keen for the life and the pay and go into the merchant marine. In addition, men of draft age can be drawn into the merchant marine.

It is a significant feature of merchant marine recruiting that a large percentage of the men is coming from the middle West, from a class and section that never saw the sea. These men are expected to stick and to bring their brothers and sons into the service.

The number of Americans skilled in seagoing and competent to serve as deck officers, or having mechanical knowledge fitting them to become marine engineers, who have come forward in response to the board's call for officers has astonished the most sanguine prophet in the Shipping Board's recruiting service.

Training for More Than Year.

In anticipation of the demands for officers for the new merchant fleet this service began training officers in June, 1917, at navigation and engineering schools established for the purpose. The goal of the service was then to secure 10,000 students for these schools in eighteen months.

This total was passed early in September, and this week the total reached 11,000. The present attendance at the schools is 1,662 students. The engineering schools lead with 865, and the navigation schools are coming strong with 797. There are thirty-two schools.

The success of these schools is considered one of the most encouraging features of the present development of the merchant service. Shipping Board experts believe it demonstrates that the United States is fast becoming a seagoing nation in every sense of the word; that not only the public is again thinking in terms of ships, but that there is an abundance of virile American manhood ready to seize the opportunity offered in every branch of seagoing employment and lucrative returns to the individual.

The Navy Department and officers of the navy do not want the proposed exemption of their salaries from the income tax enacted into law.

Secretary Daniels's Protest.

Secretary of the Navy Daniels made this clear to-night in a letter he sent to Senator Simmons, chairman of the Finance Committee. Mr. Daniels is particularly opposed to the suggestion that the $3,500 exemption from naval officers' salaries apply only to officers serving abroad.

After pointing out that having the proposed exemption apply only to officers serving abroad would result in a great deal of complication through officers serving part of a year on foreign service or at sea and the others on shore duty, Mr. Daniels wrote:

"If it shall be the policy of Congress to exempt naval officers from the income tax I shall urge that the exemption shall include all without discrimination, for those officers remaining in America are not doing so by choice, but are ordered to be sent for service abroad."

The Secretary also pointed out that Congress has granted naval officers abroad allowances for commutation of quarters and an increase of 10 per cent in pay. "I venture to suggest," he said, "that in the framing of the new revenue measure in so far as it affects the navy no exemptions whatever be given. Most naval officers regard it a privilege in an emergency to pay their income tax. I would not like to see a precedent established of exempting from this tax men who are rendering this high service.

"Congress has enacted legislation which has resulted in the promotion of most officers of the navy, and of course this promotion has carried an addition in salary and an addition in commutation of quarters. Further increases will come with the increase of the navy and there is no sound reason for exemption from the income tax. Naval officers have not asked it, the Department does not ask it, and I feel it my duty to communicate this information to your committee."

Mr. Daniels concluded his letter in this way:

"If I may be permitted to express an opinion upon the matter, it is my judgment that the income tax should be paid alike by every one, whether in the naval service and other military service as well as those in civilian life."

The Double Sacrifice of Tobacco and Money.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: In THE SUN recently "D. L. S." extols