The Sun.

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Four Billions or Ten.

The revenue measure agreed upon by the Congress conference committee fixes the taxes not only to be collected now for the calendar year of 1918, but to be collected twelve months from now for the calendar year of 1919. To take care of the Government's expenditures during the next fiscal year, beginning with July 1, 1919, the measure provides for $4,000,000,000 of revenue. This is eight times the expenditures which the Government was making for all purposes only a few years before the war. Nevertheless, in voting the taxation measure members of the House expressed the fear that between July 1, 1919, and June 30, 1920, the Government at peace would need not a mere four billions, but all of ten billions of dollars.

The way it is going now the Government may do a great deal worse than to overspend the four billions by two and a half times. It looks as if, with a free rein, it might overspend it three times, possibly four times.

So far there has been no limit on the Washington Administration's game of pouring billions and billions of dollars into this, that and the other thing, some of it sheer idiocy, little of it an imperative necessity. There has been no limit on further obligating the United States Treasury by promise and contract to the reckless enterprise of pouring billions and billions of dollars more into other schemes conceived but not yet executed.

Eating up a beggarly four billions of dollars is not much of a feat for public squanderers with a programme of a billion for the farmers, a billion for the railroads, a billion or perhaps two billions for ships, a couple of billions for the army and navy, and nobody knows how many hundreds of millions or billions for insurance, pensions, or other relief of our soldiers and their dependents.

Meanwhile, of course, there are the ordinary expenditures of government. These, with the tribes of officeholders which have been added to the payrolls, will never come down to a normal level without a desperate struggle. There are the bread line funds, the peace league's obligations and all the rest.

There is no possible hope of cutting off the billions of threatened expenditures which will bankrupt the Government unless they are stopped by a Congress which refuses to appropriate and by an Administration which refuses to squander. The new Congress, which will be the only appropriating power after March 4, should never consent to provide moneys to go on with the present Administration's squander programme. Then, when the next national election comes around, the American people must make sure of choking off the executive squander by putting out the executive squanderers.

Mayor Hanson Did His Duty.

Mayor HANSON of Seattle has earned and has received unstinted praise from law abiding citizens all over the United States because he did his duty promptly, thoroughly and intelligently when a general strike was started in his city. THE SUN salutes him as an efficient, sensible Mayor; and we hope the example he has set will not be lost on other executives, city, State and national, in the immediate or the remote future.

What Mayor HANSON did in Seattle any Mayor may find himself called upon to do at any time. Faithful and energetic Mayors will achieve results like to those Mayor HANSON achieved. Faithless and lazy Mayors will palter with the mob, and bring disaster on their cities.

What Mayor HANSON did required no unusual intellect, no particular genius for high statesmanship. It required immediate, honest recognition of his duty, unwavering determination to do that duty, exclusive devotion to that duty. The strikers threatened to displace the rule of law and set up dictatorship by the mob. The Mayor's duty was to defend the rule of law. The law itself provided the weapons for him to use. He used them, and he beat the mob.

There was nothing new in the situation the strikers created in Seattle. Scores and hundreds of cities here and abroad have had similar problems. Unfortunately there is something unusual in the behavior of Mayor HANSON. Often Mayors and Sheriffs and Governors forget their duties, forget the law, forget their obligations to law abiding citizens. They compromise with the fomenters of disorder and parley with the mob. Then come riots, destruction of property, killings. In the end the law establishes its supreme power, but frequently its establishment has been made unnecessarily costly by the weakness and timidity of public officials.

Mayor HANSON deserves credit for doing his duty. He has done no more than his duty, and every Mayor, Sheriff and Governor can win the same credit he has won if, under similar circumstances, he does his duty and only his duty.

America's Purpose in the War, as Stated by Professor Herron.

One of the two men chosen by President WILSON to parley at Prinkipo with the representatives of LENINE and TROTZKY undertook about eighteen months ago to tell the Socialists of Europe why America had entered the war. Professor HERRON, then as now a resident of Geneva, wrote to the *Tribune* of that city and also to the *Giornale d'Italia* of Rome, in June and July of 1917, that President WILSON had "guided the nation into an understanding of the meaning of the war and into an acceptance of world responsibility" in order to create a world state embracing all nations. This is a sample of HERRON'S apocalyptic slush:

"Thus America travelled the road to Damascus and saw a great light. She enters now upon the war with a purpose and in a spirit that perhaps never hitherto inspired a warring nation. To her it is indeed a holy war. From the Atlantic to the Pacific, the nation is possessed by the purpose to 'make the world safe for democracy'—to create, in fact, a world state embracing all nations. . . .

"We are not alone in the struggle and the hope for which America has drawn the consecrated sword. Invisibly but appreciably proceeding in our midst, white horsed and well weaponed there, dead to egoism from the world's foundation and therefore predestined to victory, are the hosts and the Leadership no planetary powers or creatures can withstand. They hold in their hearts the meaning of these days, and upon them are the war's last issues, the earth's ineffable ends. . . .

"The peace that proceedeth from a worlded good will, the justice that inhereth in mutual love only, the freedom that is naught other than obedience to that love,—these are approaching, are inevitable. The kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Now, if there is anything for which the United States did not go to war with Germany it was to create a world state embracing all nations. That is a very different thing from making the world safe for democracy. President WILSON would not have said so then; he certainly would not say so now.

A man who like this HERRON was capable of telling his fellow Socialists in Europe in 1917 that from the Atlantic to the Pacific the American nation was possessed by the purpose of making a holy war to create a world state embracing all nations is capable of telling the Bolshevik delegates that the American nation from the Atlantic to the Pacific is now possessed by the purpose of joining them in the internationalization of government and the creation on this planet of a kingdom of heaven built on plans and specifications drawn by LENINE and TROTZKY.

Such a man ought to be kept where he can do no harm. It is a scandal of the first magnitude that he should have the opportunity, as a representative of the United States Executive, to misrepresent American opinion and policy and purposes.

The Poor Man's Club.

Among the thousands of men and women who have been trying to make life easier for soldiers and sailors here and abroad there must be a number who have been successful and who want to continue in the kind of work the war provided for them. From the ranks of these gifted individuals the promoters of the scheme to establish coffee houses to take the place of barrooms ought to be able to recruit capable managers for their experimental institutions. If these pioneer substitutes for drinking places are successful, private enterprise will see to it that there is no lack of such resorts wherever they may be needed.

The saloon has often been called the poor man's club. It is more than a poor man's club. It is everybody's convenience. It is about the most democratic place on earth. It furnishes, free and without question, toilet rooms, lights for a cigar, shelter from a sudden shower, a convenient meeting place. It has a public telephone, and a messenger call box. The casual stranger is welcome to use the facilities it provides, and need not explain himself or his mission, if he behaves himself. To shut up the saloon and provide nothing in its place would deprive the town of a good many things besides the privilege of perpendicular drinking.

The ministerial gentlemen who recognize the desirability of preserving certain features of the saloon and hope to furnish these to the public in coffee houses must be careful about one thing. Their adventure is doomed to failure if it starts out as a philanthropic enterprise, or an educational enterprise, or an enterprise for the improvement of morals. Just as saloons require their patrons to maintain order, so coffee houses must of course see to it that their patrons maintain order; but beyond this the management should leave things alone. A husky but soft speaking bouncer and no sermons would be a good motto for a coffee house.

Unless invention has died, the inventors of alcoholic drinks ought to be able to do something with the soda water fountain. This servant of civilization needs reform almost as much as the saloon does. For some curious reason, few venders of soda water recognize the desirability of cleanliness as cleanliness is understood in a respectable bar. The glassware of a saloon of no particular pretension shames the glassware of the most elaborate soft drink and ice cream "parlor." Few indeed are the soda water sellers who know the right height for a bar, and most of them are deluded into the belief that slabs of near onyx or even real marble are pleasanter to lean against than oak or mahogany.

Will the coffee houses sell good coffee? Let their owners take a hint from the saloons. Good wine needs no bush; there are in every town of size small bars, plain to actual severity in their appointments, situated on inconspicuous side streets, even on unpleasant alleys, which have thumping trades because they sell the best there is. Here is a rye of excellence; there a sherry of fine flavor and body; in another place ale at exactly the right temperature. Men seek such places out, and stick to them, and form friendships with their presiding geniuses, not because the places are odd, or out of the way, or old, but because the patrons know that in them they can always get good stuff.

Lukewarm coffee and lukewarm soda water will put the best intentioned proprietor of a temperance bar out of business in no time. Unless he means to furnish the best, he had better not take down his shutters. And let him learn to serve without slopping; there is more in this than some folks think; the men who patronize saloons are accustomed to neatness, and untidiness will find them unprofitable.

Suffragette Excesses in Washington.

If anything had been needed to solidify unconvinced Senators of the United States in opposition to an amendment to the Constitution to give the ballot to women it would have been supplied by the conduct of the suffragettes in Washington, whose most recent affront to good manners, good taste, and public order was the burning of the President in effigy.

Whether the authors of this outrage on decency are mad or merely lawless is a matter of little moment. Their breaches of the peace in the past have been apologized for by some women who recognized the injury they were doing to a respectable cause. For their latest misbehavior, who can find even apologies?

Woman suffrage has become an accomplished fact in many of the States. It will, we are convinced, eventually, and at no far distant date, become nationwide. But this triumph of a cause to which thousands of able and devoted women have given unmeasured effort will be brought about, not because of such excesses as those at Washington on Sunday, but in spite of them.

Fifty-four Reasons for Rejoicing.

Fifty-four aliens unfit for residence in the United States have been gathered together by the Immigration Service and are held in this city for deportation to the places from which they came.

They are classified as anarchists, though undoubtedly some of them would resent the application of that elastic description to themselves.

Their sequestration and impending exit from this country are encouraging and heartening facts to those who believe laws are enacted to be enforced, and not merely to fatten statute books.

The immigration act of 1917 not only gives authority to the Immigration Service to keep out undesirable applicants for admission to the country—and bars many desirable applicants through the operation of the literacy test—but also provides for the deportation of aliens who after admission prove to be undesirable members of the population.

While hostilities were in progress the deportation of aliens from the Atlantic coast was interrupted. Now hostilities have ceased the beneficent outward flow of the perverse and criminal can be resumed.

It is a good thing for the country that this cleansing process is once more in operation. It is a better thing that we are to be rid first of all of those creatures who, made free to join with Americans in the enjoyment of the great blessings our political institutions confer on all, endeavored to destroy the United States and to ruin its people.

The Peerless Awakes.

Can there be any doubt about it? Brother BRYAN'S blood is warming for the 1920 fray; he feels the surge and urge of battle; his armor, straps and buckles renewed, shining like a fresh minted silver dollar, lies at his hand.

One day we hear him dictating bills for enforcing ocean to ocean dryness. The next day he discloses a hog tight scheme in detail for trunk line railway reorganization. The next, mountains sway, prairies rock as he flings forth his Federal initiative and referendum forecast.

What is optimism, perpetual youth, the joy of life except to have a beehive for a bonnet?

There is apparently no end to the peace uses which the Government is finding for the airplane. The latest Federal arm to seize upon it is the Department of Agriculture, and its first service is to search out the pesky boll weevil. According to a Department report there are in southern Texas, along the line where this devastator of cotton fields is trying to invade the United States from Mexico, barriers of cotton free zones declared by law. But a few farmers, feeling their rights have been infringed, have become outlaw cotton planters. Much of the country is heavily timbered, and it has been possible for these planters to tuck away acres of cotton in some nook of the woods beyond probability of discovery by ordinary means. A Government inspector sent up a young man who knew a cotton field from a cornfield, and he sighted seven outlaw tracts in the wooded land around Galveston Bay. He kept at the job until there was not one outlaw cotton patch left for the invader to capture. The Department is so tickled over its achievement that it is looking around for other "important uses of this new means of transportation and observation for scouting and inspection purposes." This would seem to be a fair warning for all malefactors to take to cover.

It was on April 6, 1866, in the town of Decatur, Ill., that the organization of a Grand Army of the Republic, to be composed of the surviving civil war soldiers, sailors and marines, was first conceived to create an indissoluble bond of fraternity among the veterans and to perpetuate the memory of those who died. The announcement that Lieutenant-Colonel ROOSEVELT heads a movement to organize the United States veterans of the present war in a body resembling the G. A. R. will be greeted with enthusiasm. The task will undoubtedly be more difficult in proportion, but if this proposed association of American Veterans of the World War evolves from its present nebulous state an active reality it will become, for those who fought and lived, a brotherhood; for those who fought and died, a memorial.

To the white man has always been attributed the corruption of the original American's sobriety. But it seems that the Indian did not await the coming of "firewater" in order to get stimulus to paint the village red. The peyote bean has been found in use among the Osage tribes to be capable of generating as much good or evil spirit as the strongest of cocktails. And now the white man, far from being the cause of the Indian's association with intoxicants, not necessarily liquid, attempts, in view of national prohibition, to rid the Indian of the menace of the peyote bean. After July 1 the Boston variety may have to suffice.

The place to make public protest is, first, at Washington to the President of the United States.—*The World.*

Paris, friend, Paris!

THE GOLD OF THE INCAS.

How a Government Expert Exposed a Salted Peruvian Mine.

H. A. Barber in Travel.

It is indeed a surprise to the uninitiated to learn that the United States sends its emissaries into far off corners of the world to protect its citizens from cheats and swindlers. Large expense and infinite trouble are often involved in these endeavors to safeguard the people from the promoters of fraudulent schemes. When connected with the Post Office Department the investigation of a specially interesting case of gold mine swindle took me to a little known region of South America. The fraud given to me for investigation was a particularly well known case, having already reached such proportions that the innocent public had been cheated out of some $400,000. From the first I felt sure that the gold mine was a fake, for on examining the promoters' literature I discovered that portions of it were copied verbatim from Prescott's "Conquest of Peru."

When near Llata, the mining engineer and I walked down four miles to the Culquis bridge and examined several playas for evidence of test pits said to have been dug by one of the promoters on his original exploration trip. We found numerous traces of these and noted their location and condition on our map. The next day tents were erected at the bridge, the gold rocker put together, a dozen native workmen engaged, and a pit dug to the depth of ten feet. The engineer was satisfied from the appearance of the soil that there was no coarse gold there, and we had not intended to pan the concentrates from the rocker; but an Indian, a former employee of the men who had owned and explored the mine, had grabbed a pan, filled it with the concentrates, and proceeded to wash it in the river. When the panning was finished five good sized gold colors were found and we knew at once that the concentrates had been salted.

In order to get rid of the Indian who was suspected of salting I crossed the Culquis bridge with him to examine the west side of the river for several miles. On returning I was informed by the engineer and guide that fifteen tests had been taken from the pit sunk the day before, and that the concentrates had been panned without getting a single gold color. I then had a session with the Indian and accused him of having put gold in the pan the previous day. He denied this, but admitted that he had some gold with him. This gold he was induced to give me, and I kept it for evidence. The Indian spoke Spanish, and a written statement was secured from him concerning his connection with the mining scheme.

We prepared our Government report carefully, satisfied that the gold mine was indeed a fake one. Speedy conviction for the culprits followed Uncle Sam's presentation of the facts in the case, and the gullible public was saved from being fleeced in one more wildcat venture.

A Model Missouri Youth.

From the Kansas City Star.

The original model youth is Willard Holman, 18 years old, who put in sixty-five acres of corn the past year and tended it himself. Then he fed the corn to a carload of cattle, having them on feed seventy-eight days and making them gain 280 pounds per steer thereby. He also cared for a drove of hogs by himself and caught enough furs to purchase a Liberty bond.

TRADE BRIEFS.

The declared exports from Prince Rupert, British Columbia, to the United States during 1918 show a decrease of $1,237,560 compared with the preceding year, being valued at $2,822,765 and $4,160,325 in 1917 and 1918 respectively.

The total amount of butter secured in Canada for the British Ministry of Food under the commandeering order was 6,508,768 pounds. The price paid for this butter at Montreal was 46½ cents a pound, or a total of $3,026,556.

DIES OF TEXAS.

He Has Made Good Use of the "Rudiments of an English Education."

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Martin Dies of the Second Texas Congress district, a bit of landscape covering fourteen counties and not much larger than some of the New England States, has only this to say in the Congressional Directory as to his schooling: "Received the rudiments of an English education in the public schools of Texas." Then those public schools seem to have taught Master Martin a large quantity and excellent quality of English, history, economics and law. Dies was elected County Judge in one of his district's counties when he was 24 years old; District Attorney of the First Judicial district of his State when he was 28, and ten years later a Representative in Congress, where he has been for ten years. A fairly active political and official career for a man not yet 50.

Without wanting to detract from the implied excellence and scope of education offered by the public schools of Texas the fact must be mentioned that Dies, beyond his "rudiments of English," dug out his education by feeding a healthy intellectual appetite and a retentive memory with the contents of many books widely unlike the books he read for his license to practise law.

This was conspicuously shown in debate a few sessions ago when a bill was up to give a Federal charter to the American Academy of Arts and Letters. The bill was truculently opposed by a few Southern members on the ground that the academy was a New York close corporation of highbrows in which the South did not have a fair representation of eligibles, not even from those Southerners who had become residents of New York. The offended members coaxed Dies to make a speech in opposition. Dies took up a list of the "fifty would-be Immortals," as he called them, and remarking that while the proponents of the bill might possibly be familiar with the literary, artistic, or musical eminence of the Academicians, "we plain people from the long grass know little about them. What, for example," he demanded in indignant tones, "do we plain people know about ——?" and he mentioned an architect and proceeded to name the most noted examples of his art. "What have we ever heard of ——?" naming a historian and commenting interestingly on his notable contributions to American history. And so on through the list, displaying a surprising familiarity with the works of America's foremost artists, novelists, poets, playwrights.

Now this brilliant bit of satire directed against the colleagues he was supposed to be helping proved to be the most persuasive argument in favor of the bill that was addressed to intelligent members, and none more than Dies enjoyed the fact that the real purpose of his speech was not understood by those who had urged him to make it. They were satisfied that Martin had ripped up the Yankees. Dies slipped into the cloak room during the roll call which passed the bill, explaining to the much relieved member in charge of the bill, who thanked him for the speech, "I didn't dare to vote for the bill. If I had, some one of the gentlemen who induced me to make the speech might have imbedded his bowie knife in my midst."

His party in the House never gave Dies an important committee assignment, his three committees being Railways and Canals, Claims and Reform in the Civil Service. He is a nonconformist to the doctrines of Democracy most splendidly represented by gentlemen who hold high places in the administrative branch of the Government and even more highly, though unofficially, placed near the person of the Chief Executive, and who hail from Austin, Tex., or thereabout. This lack of recognition in the House organization never seemed to trouble Dies; it gave him more leisure to browse among the shelves of the Congressional Library.

Speeches by Dies are frequently reported or quoted from in news despatches; frequently, that is, compared to news mention of speeches by other members, yet relatively he is an infrequent speaker. Indeed, the *Record* will show that he makes but one or two serious speeches a session; yet more often, after listening to some ultra radical or idealist, watching him with half closed eyes and whimsical smile, Dies will courteously beg the privilege of asking a question and soon be plunged into a debate which brings members from the cloak rooms and reporters to their gallery.

Dies, like Austin Dobson's "Gentleman," "owns some land and dwells thereon," and declares his purpose of retiring from politics and cultivating his acres. Perhaps. There are those here, however, who want to believe the rumor that when the time comes for his State again to elect a Senator there will be a successful demand for an "ambassador from a sovereign State," as Morgan of Alabama used to call Senators, such as Martin Dies would make, better to represent Texas in the less numerous branch of the national legislature.

Shocking Incident at the Movies.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* May I use your estimable paper to give vent to my wrath at the shocking way some people acted when the picture of one of our most distinguished citizens was thrown on the screen?

A few days ago I went to see the movies, and as the main picture was rather tiresome that day I became drowsy. I must have been slumbering for quite a while when hisses and epithets shook me out of my lethargy. Looking up, I had just time to glance at the picture of the Hon. W. J. Bryan, a wreath on his head and holding in his hands a loving cup given to him by the Prohibition party, I believe.

"Where did you get the growler, Bill?" shouted a rough looking individual sitting alongside me.

I was so mortified that I walked out of the building and went to the nearest drug store to take a drink of grape juice to steady my nerves.

DÉSIRÉ LESCARBOURA.

NEW YORK, February 10.

Avoiding the Appearance of Evil.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I thank you for setting me right as to the contents of the two barrels emblazoned on the coat of arms of New York.

Isn't there a law to the effect that the name or description of the contents of all containers, including barrels, shall be placed on the outside? If there isn't, there should be. T. P.

NEW YORK, February 10.

POSTAL INSURANCE.

Another Instance of Neglect by the Department.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I was grimly interested in "Old Reader's" letter in THE SUN of February 7, for I have had just such an experience brought to my attention by an old mother who on June 10, 1918, sent an insured package to her son, a soldier at Camp Wadsworth, containing a watch valued at $25.

No redress being had at the local post office in response to Form 1510, which the mother made out, and no answers to my repeated letters on her behalf, I wrote to Postmaster-General Burleson on December 12, giving him full details and asking him to have the matter looked into. No attention being given this letter, I sent him a duplicate by registered post on January 31 last, and still no answer has come!

What a farce it is to insure valuable parcels if the United States post office will not stand back of its contract and refund the amount on which insurance has been paid if the parcel does not reach the addressee.

It is certainly high time that the public should be made aware of this fact and so avoid using the mails for any such purpose.

Like "Old Reader," I also am determined to hang on till I see this matter to a finish. S. T.

NEW YORK, February 10.

ON THE REVOLVING PLAN.

Improvements at the Custom House Add Zest to a Visit There.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* A couple of merchants—a class of men who are really like poor relations and have no right to exist—met at Bowling Green inside of the modern wooden railing—the old iron one has been removed because of its horribly antiquated appearance—a few days ago. One of them had just come down the broad steps leading from the rotunda of the Custom House and stopped to chat with his friend.

"I haven't been in the building yonder for some time, and I have had a surprise," he said, pointing to the imposing Federal structure opposite to the little triangular park. Then he fell into a narrative yarn of how it all happened:

"The new architects are improving its interior. Its exterior, I see," he said, glancing at the allegorical figures ranged in a row around its eaves, "with the exception of the reformed statue of Germany, remains as it was originally designed. But when I stepped into the rotunda a half hour ago I got a real live shell shock.

"I thought that I had mistaken the building and was in the wrong box. I found that the world in general and the Custom House in particular have been rapidly revolving, the latter interiorly on its own particular revolving fund. I was looking for a man, an official, with whom I had been on friendly terms for some years. I knew that he was still holding down his job, and I made a bee line for his office—could find it in the dark, I was sure.

"When I reached the spot where he had been wont to sit comfortably in his swivel chair, the resonant stroke of hammers and the tuneful clatter of stone masons' trowels greeted my ears. With the exception of these artisans the room was empty.

"I asked for the whereabouts of my friend. A stone mason with a paper cap—was it really a paper cap or a coronet?—pointed with his trowel in the direction from which I had come.

"'Ask the guide at the entrance.'

"I did. He unroiled an architect's plans and consulted them.

"'He was in this room yesterday. Maybe he's in there to-day,' he murmured to himself, putting his finger doubtfully on a spot on the plans. 'Try room 3333,' he hazarded in desperation.

"Asked where room 3333 was, he answered that it should be on the third floor. I tramped the third floor on three sides—the corridor over the entrance is railed off, and you have to travel three blocks to get from the State street side to the Whitehall street side on that floor—about six times, three good blocks to a lap, or about a mile. Then I went to the guide and told him that room 3333 wasn't on the third floor, at least not on any one of three sides of it.

"'Try the fourth floor,' he said.

"I circled the fourth floor five times—another good mile—and couldn't find it.

"'Room 3333 isn't on the fourth floor my friend. What's your idea of its location?' I asked again, appealing to the man with the plans.

"'I haven't an idea,' he said, grinning.

"'Did you find your man?' the listening friend asked. He held his breath in excited suspense for the answer.

"'No.'

"'Of course you didn't! Ever been to Murray's? You needn't tell me you haven't. They have a revolving floor at Murray's. You leave your highball on the table when you get up to dance and when you have finished your spiel and look for it some one else is sitting at your table sipping your Scotch. At least you think that's what's happened. But it isn't. The highball's somewhere, but not where it ought to be. Things have got moved about a little and you didn't look in the right place.'

"The searcher for the lost official looked puzzled.

"'Ever been on a merry-go-round? Of course you haven't—you're hopelessly behind the times! If you had you'd know how to tilt for a brass ring. Go practise a bit, and then go back to the Custom House and you may be able to find your lost friend.'" FINDLAY SACKETT.

NEW YORK, February 10.

ANOTHER AMENDMENT.

Should Export Duties Be Permitted by the Constitution?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I am glad you published my letter on an export duty on cotton, as it was written with the hope of exciting discussion even among our representatives in Congress, to the end that Article I. of the Constitution might be abrogated or amended so as to permit of export duties being placed on certain articles exported in large quantities from this country.

As some eighteen or twenty amendments have already been made there should be no great difficulty in making another to meet present requirements. Conditions have changed greatly since the Constitution was drawn up, and unless we have an export duty, as well as a duty on imports, to raise a Government revenue, the Government, as well as individuals, will be bankrupt through the huge debts proposed and at present incurred. J. B. JAMES.

NEW YORK, February 10.

Musings of a Voter.

Pax.
Tax.
Axe.

GENERAL STAFF DIES WITH NEW ARMY ACT

House Committee Denies Nearly Everything Desired by War Department.

SERVICE STRIPES TO GO

Temporary Establishment of 28,579 Officers and 509,909 Men Provided For in Bill.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Secretary of War Baker and Gen. March, Chief of Staff, received a severe jolt from Congress to-day when the House Military Committee reported the annual army appropriation bill and denied expressly and exploitly virtually everything which the War Department most desired.

Although the measure authorizes a temporary strength by voluntary establishments of 28,579 officers and 509,909 enlisted men, yet the number of men by which such strength exceeds the authorization of the national defence act is to be considered temporary and authorized for one year only from June 30 next. The measure calls for appropriations totalling $1,117,289,488.

By expressly repealing provisions of the Overman act the measure tears down virtually in its entirety the powerful General Staff organization built up during the war and which Secretary Baker and Gen. March have persistently urged be made permanent. Except as regards tactical units the President is instructed to return to the administrative machinery and bureau systems worked out in the national defence act of 1916.

The organization of the National Guard is preserved and $10,173,674 is appropriated for Government contributions to the equipment and upkeep of organizations. Reimbursement in kind for property carried into the Federal service by National Guard organizations is ordered.

Promotions Are Authorized.

The Secretary is authorized to put into force promotions recommended prior to the signing of the armistice and stopped by order of the Secretary after November 11.

Virtually all legislative provisions in the bill were written by Representative Kahn (Cal.), ranking Republican member of the committee, and accepted by the committee without strong opposition. The general attitude of the committee toward the War Department is indicated by the hostile nature of the legislative riders. In eliminating the powerfully centralized General Staff organization the committee felt it was striking at the root of an autocratic military machine in part responsible for many alleged injustices.

The legislative rider authorizing a continuation by voluntary enlistments of the present organization of the army reads in part:

"The enlisted force of the Regular Army shall be raised by voluntary enlistments for periods of three years and for the additional forces herein authorized by voluntary enlistments for the period of one year. All existing enlistments for a longer period than three years shall be terminated as though made for three years and after expiration of one year's honorable service any enlisted man whose commander shall report him as proficient and sufficiently trained may be furloughed to the reserves."

The base pay of the enlisted man is continued at $30 a month and is made permanent instead of for the duration of the emergency.

Service Chevrons Abolished.

The rider authorizes covering officers of the army of the United States serving for the emergency into an officers reserve corps at the rank or grade held by them in the emergency or at a higher grade.

The bill cuts the Gordian knot of controversy over the distinctive overseas and home service stripes by prohibiting both.

The provisions involving the strength of National Guard units demanding Federal contributions are modified to give greater time for recruiting of State troops.

In reporting the bill Chairman Dent said:

"The amount of the revised estimates was $1,185,721,466; the amount which the committee has reported is $1,117,289,488. The original estimates called for $1,916,905,572. It is not intended by this bill to suggest even a permanent standing army of any such size or strength. Under this bill we may have more than a million men in the service at the beginning of the next fiscal year and perhaps not more than 200,000 at the end of the fiscal year. The committee also recommends that the pay of the enlisted men provided during the emergency be continued."

PUBLIC LECTURES TO-NIGHT.

MANHATTAN.

"Social Psychology, the Individual," by William J. Durant, 9th Day Wadleigh High School, 115th street west of Seventh avenue.

"Through the Rockies," by Robert G. Weyh, Public School 63, Fourth street, east of First avenue. Stereopticon views.

"The Temples and Religious Art of Japan," by Sidney Neiville Usher, who lived in the Orient for three years, Public School 66, Eighty-eighth street, east of First avenue. Stereopticon views.

"Bernard Shaw," by Louis C. Wilkinson, Litt. D., of Cambridge University, Public School 90, 147th street, west of Seventh avenue.

"Lessons From Germany's Economical and Commercial Career," one of a course on "National and International Reconstruction," by William B. Guthrie, Ph. D., of C. C. N. Y., Public School 132, 132d street and Wadsworth avenue.

"Belgium, Past and Present," by Miss Helen Harrington, Metropolitan Temple, Seventh avenue and Fourteenth street. Stereopticon views.

BRONX.

"Music and Its Charms," by Miss Lorena C. Ryan, Public School 45, 138th street and Hoffman street and Lyrical pieces, illustrated by vocal and instrumental music.

"Music in Italy To-day," by Giuseppe A. Randegger, Public School 51, 158th street, Jackson and Trinity avenues, illustrated by instrumental music.

"Sir Walter Scott," by Prof. J. G. Carter Troop, Ph. D., formerly of Chicago University, Public School 56, 207th street and Hull avenue.

"The Days of Our Grandfathers," by Uriah McClinchie, Supervisor of Public Lectures, Irvington, N. J., New York City Protectory, Van Nest. Stereopticon views.

ENTERTAINMENTS FOR MEN IN UNIFORM.

Dances—Grace Church Unit (W. C. C. S. Unit No. 19), 98 Fourth avenue (near Eleventh street), 8 P. M.; Christ Church House, 244 West Thirty-sixth street, 8 P. M.; W. C. C. S. Unit No. 24 (National League for Woman's Service), 261 Madison avenue (Thirty-ninth street), 8 P. M.; Jewish Welfare Board, New York Section, C. J. W., 115 West Seventy-ninth street, 8 P. M., refreshments, prizes and smokes; Seventh Assembly District, Soldiers, Sailors and Marines Club (W. C. C. S. Unit No. 32), 2228 Broadway (Eightieth street), 8 P. M.; Riverside Community House (W. C. C. S. Unit No. 35), Riverside Park and Ninety-seventh street, 8 to 11 P. M.

Dancing Classes—W. C. C. S. Unit No. 8, Sixty-fourth street and Central Park West, 8 P. M. sharp; Riverside Community House (W. C. C. S. Unit No. 35), Riverside Park and Ninety-seventh street, 7 to 9 P. M.; W. C. C. S. Unit No. 2, 70 Manhattan street (intersection Amsterdam avenue and West 126th street), 8 P. M.

Motion Pictures and Lecture—Y. M. C. A., West Side Branch, 318 West Fifty-seventh street, 7 to 10 P. M.

English Folk Songs—Concert by People's Music League of the People's Institute, Great Hall of Cooper Union, Astor place, 8:15 P. M.

The Sun Calendar

THE WEATHER.

MINIATURE ALMANAC.

Standard Time.

Sun rises ..... 6:56 A. M. Sun sets ..... 5:25 P. M.
Moon sets ..... 4:23 A. M.

For eastern New York—Fair and slightly warmer to-day; to-morrow fair and warmer; gentle to moderate shifting winds becoming southerly.

For New Jersey—Fair and slightly warmer to-day; to-morrow fair and warmer; gentle to moderate shifting winds becoming southerly.

For New England—Fair to-day; tomorrow fair and warmer; moderate north winds becoming southeast and south to-morrow.

For western New York—Warmer and generally fair to-day and to-morrow.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—The disturbance that was off the North Carolina coast Sunday night moved rapidly northeastward, and it is apparently central to-night near Sable Island. The western disturbance is over Manitoba to-night and there has been another decided fall in pressure west of the Rocky Mountains. From Ontario southward to the Gulf of Mexico pressure is moderately high. General rains continued in the Pacific States and the northern plateau, but there was no other precipitation of consequence except in the immediate vicinity of the lower lakes and in North Carolina. Temperatures are low in the middle and south Atlantic and east Gulf States, and there was freezing weather Monday morning as far south as northern Florida. Over the central portion of the country it is much warmer, with temperatures decidedly above the seasonal average, and high temperatures continue in the interior of the far West. A general rise in temperature may be expected during the next two days in the Atlantic and east Gulf States, the Ohio Valley and the lower lake region, while in the upper lake region higher temperatures Tuesday will be followed by a moderate fall Wednesday. Fair weather will prevail except in the upper lake region, where local snows or rains are probable. Storm warnings are displayed on the North Carolina coast.

Observations at United States Weather Bureau stations taken at 8 P. M. yesterday, seventy-fifth meridian time:

Stations.	Temperature. High.	Temperature. Low.	Barometer.	Rainfall last 24 hrs.	Weather.
Abilene	70	36	29.90	..	Clear
Albany	28	16	30.10	..	Clear
Atlantic City	34	22	30.06	..	Cloudy
Baltimore	34	28	30.14	..	Clear
Bismarck	52	14	29.80	..	Clear
Boston	34	24	29.96	..	Clear
Buffalo	34	16	30.18	.10	Snow
Charleston	42	32	30.16	..	Clear
Chicago	34	26	30.04	..	Pt. cloudy
Cincinnati	36	26	30.20	..	Clear
Cleveland	24	18	30.22	.04	Clear
Denver	52	24	29.82	..	Pt. cloudy
Detroit	32	18	30.20	..	Cloudy
Galveston	54	50	30.14	..	Cloudy
Helena	46	22	29.66	.06	Cloudy
Jacksonville	48	32	30.20	..	Clear
Kansas City	40	20	29.90	..	Cloudy
Los Angeles	66	54	30.08	.14	Cloudy
Milwaukee	28	20	30.02	..	Clear
New Orleans	50	36	30.24	..	Pt. cloudy
Oklahoma City	56	38	29.92	..	Clear
Philadelphia	34	24	30.10	..	Clear
Pittsburg	36	20	30.22	..	Clear
Portland, Me.	26	16	29.98	..	Clear
Portland, Ore.	50	44	29.52	.34	Pt. cloudy
Salt Lake City	48	34	29.78	.12	Cloudy
San Antonio	52	34	30.06	..	Cloudy
San Francisco	58	50	29.66	2.52	Rain
San Diego	64	50	30.06	.01	Rain
St. Louis	42	22	30.00	..	Pt. cloudy
Washington	32	26	30.14	..	Clear

LOCAL WEATHER RECORDS.

	8 A. M.	8 P. M.
Barometer	30.06	30.14
Humidity	62	34
Wind—direction	N.	N.
Wind—velocity	25	17
Weather	Clear	Clear