The Sun.

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Harmony Duty in Albany.

The executive and legislative branches of our State Government cannot always be in harmony. Frequently they are not, even when each is of the same political party. At the present time there is a Democratic Governor with a Republican Legislature. There is, moreover, a control of the majority of the executive departments by elected Republican officials expected, in our theory of government, to act in cooperation with the Chief Executive.

For the better part of a month and a half, indeed for approximately the better part of the usual legislative session, the State of New York has had a government tug of war at Albany. The Governor has been pulling at one end of the rope, the Legislature has been pulling at the other end, and nothing much has resulted either to the good or to the interest of the 10,000,000 people of the Empire State.

To admit that this is not merely a negatively fruitless, but a positively evil situation, nobody need take sides with the Governor and nobody need take sides with the Legislature. Sufficient will it be to consider the public service. It must be perfectly clear to the general public and it ought to be to the Governor and to the Legislature that neither side was sent to Albany merely to conduct a political war on the other. Neither side was sent there merely to balk the plans of the other. Both were sent there to do the work of the public. They cannot do it by playing tug of war all the time.

Not as Republicans or Democrats, not as friend or enemy, but as representatives of the people of the State of New York, let the opposing elements, whatever they feel entitled to do in respect of other things, get together when it is a case of the business of the public pure and simple. This is what they were elected to do. To do it is their duty.

The First President of the New German State.

The German National Assembly at Weimar has chosen FRIEDRICH EBERT, who succeeded Prince MAX as Chancellor after the change from the Hohenzollern rule, as the first President of the new German state. He received a majority of 102 votes in the Assembly, representing practically the entire support of the Majority Socialists and a mixed support of the stronger "bourgeois" parties. He was opposed by the Conservatives and the National Liberals, and the Independent, or radical, Socialists refused to vote. EBERT's election has, thus, the approval of most of the new and constructive political elements represented by the Assembly.

Before EBERT became a Socialist politician he was a saddler, and he has frequently been referred to as a "man who rose from the pavement." His appearance in the Reichstag in 1910 was not propitious; he took a middle ground between the conservative and the radical Socialists, and he was apparently trusted by neither party. He was contemptuously called a "catspaw of the mighty" and "the Kaiser's messenger." It was declared that he had no initiative, no ability as a statesman, and no grasp of the situation that confronted Germany. In the discussion of possible Presidential candidates his name seldom appeared; he was spoken of as a probable Chancellor, but the highest honor was to go to VON GWINNER, the banker; NAUMANN the historian, or SCHEIDEMANN or ERZBERGER, older and more experienced politicians. But when the vote was taken the names of the first two were not on the list, and SCHEIDEMANN and ERZBERGER received only one vote each.

This faculty for securing results is one of the characteristics of EBERT's career. He wished to be Chancellor, and to the surprise of more experienced politicians he attained the office. It was prophesied that he was unequal to the requirements of the Chancellorship and that the "red horrors of the Bolshevik régime in Russia" would be repeated in Germany. Instead, EBERT overthrew completely the power of the Spartacus group, and Dr. EDUARD DAVID, Speaker of the Assembly, said that it was mainly due to EBERT that law and order were restored to Germany and that the German revolution did not follow the disastrous course of the Russian revolution and bring about similar chaotic conditions. It was, no doubt, because he proved himself a man of accomplishments, or as Dr. DAVID described him, "a man of skill, firmness and activity, who would protect the freedom of the new state," that he became the choice of the Assembly for the first President.

Herr EBERT as Chancellor set forth the principles of the new German Government as a government of the people that must preserve the Germans from civil war and famine, consolidate the liberty which they have won and make every effort to obtain peace for them in the quickest possible time. It was considered then that he spoke with sincerity, and his acts seemed to confirm this belief. It is to be hoped that he will continue in this course with an equal honesty of purpose.

Congress Help Needed to Sell the Victory Bonds.

The Senate Finance Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee do not like Secretary GLASS's Victory Loan proposal that they give him wide discretionary powers. They may think better of it when they know more about it. They may be glad to accept it when they understand the extreme need of it.

The Treasury must have funds to clean up the war bills. With the nation's military programme flattened out and national war enthusiasm subsided, it is going to be hard at best for Secretary GLASS to sell his Victory bonds. Furthermore, it is going to be financially dangerous to the country for the Treasury to be compelled to try to market its loan at a high interest rate.

A 5 per cent. rate of itself, for example, might not dispose of all the bonds the Treasury needs to sell. Yet whether it did or did not, the Government could not go begging for funds at 5 per cent. without hurtful confession to the world that the credit of the United States was gone. The Government could not go begging for funds at 5 per cent. without pushing all the Liberty bonds still further down the scale of values. Already, with the exception of the tax exempt 3½s, they are sensationally below par. An issue of 5 per cent. bonds could not fail to drive them further down to a level disgracefully below par.

The heavy discount of to-day damages terrifically some 30,000,000 of our small bondholders. The still heavier discount of to-morrow might strip millions of them of the actual possession of their depreciated bonds; for millions of our small bondholders have been compelled to borrow on them. Millions more may be compelled to borrow on theirs. The market price cannot go below the amount of the loans they cover without taking their bonds away from hundreds of thousands of borrowers unable to put up more margins.

Again, the United States Government cannot go begging for funds at 5 per cent. without scuttling every other American security. When Liberty bonds were driven even further down than they are now, all other bonds, railway, real estate, no matter what, would be shot down still lower. This would shrink enormously the investments of the savings banks, of the insurance companies, of all manner of trust institutions.

Involved in the assets of the savings banks are millions and millions of Americans who are also involved in the depreciated Liberty bonds. Involved in the assets of the insurance companies are the same Americans. The United States Government must protect them, not only as to their present Liberty bond holdings, but as to their savings banks deposits and their life insurance policies.

Very likely Secretary GLASS is trying to work out a solution of this vast and complex problem in a way which will preserve the Government's credit, protect the patriotic investments of 30,000,000 little bondholders and save money for the taxpayers. Very likely he is convinced that it is possible to do all three of these things—every one of them supremely necessary to the welfare of the country—if the Government permits refunding of some of the existing issues, extension of the tax exemption privileges and other modifications of present limitations which have so debased the value of outstanding Liberty bonds that as a stable security they have become objects of financial derision.

And if Secretary GLASS should show the Congress leaders not only the merit but the necessity of his proposal they may be glad enough to help him, as they were glad enough to help Secretary McADOO when, on more than one occasion, he had to go to Congress for special and unusual powers to enable him to sell bonds which otherwise could not be sold.

There is no Congress leader, there is no Congress party, that will refuse to give Secretary GLASS what he needs to sell the Victory bonds, when the alternative must be a Treasury swept bare, a national credit vanished and 30,000,000 little bondholders betrayed in their faith of country.

Once More the Democrats Justify Their Defeat.

Congress has been so dilatory in its work on the appropriation bills that none except those providing for the Post Office and pensions has been passed. Final adjournment is less than three weeks away. Even if every moment available left to the Sixty-fifth Congress is devoted to the money acts they will not receive the study and consideration they should have.

Either these measures will be jammed through without thought except to get them enacted or the Congress will end without passing them. If the second of these courses is adopted, the present appropriation laws may be extended by resolution. If the bills die because of the expiration of the Congress, the Sixty-sixth Congress must be called in special session, and its meeting cannot be long delayed.

The fiscal year ends with June; new authorizations are necessary to make the money in the Treasury available to pay the nation's expenses beginning on July 1. Between March 4 and July 1 is less than four months, and the new Congress will be Republican in both houses. In neither chamber will the majority meekly accept the dictum of a department head with regard to appropriations.

The Democrats have had complete control of the House and the Senate. They completely control the Executive Department. They have ostentatiously refused to share the responsibility of legislation or administration with the Republicans. They have produced the chaotic situation that exists in Washington to-day; they alone are responsible for the crush that will make intelligent action on the appropriation bills impossible.

In a word, the Democrats in the last session of the Sixty-fifth Congress have amply justified the crushing defeat the American people administered to them on November 5.

Confusion About the Prohibition Effective on July 1.

Mr. BOHM, the corresponding secretary of the Central Federated Union, appears to be a victim of the confusion which in the minds of many citizens attributes to the prohibitory amendment to the Constitution of the United States the condition of bone dryness that is to be imposed upon us on July 1. In his circular letter urging "affiliated unions and organized labor generally" to take a referendum on the proposal to call a general strike with the slogan "No beer, no work" on that date, he says:

"Bone dry prohibition has been enacted into law without the consent of the governed.

"Legislatures have voted without consulting their constituents . . ."

The proposition on which the members of the trade unions are asked to vote is "if the bone dry prohibitory law is really enforced on July 1, 1919, to then cease work until this law is annulled." But no Legislature except the Congress of the United States had anything to do with the enactment of this law, and references in Mr. BOHM's letter to the Legislatures of California, Indiana and Massachusetts are beside the point.

The prohibition which becomes effective on July 1, 1919, as THE SUN has heretofore explained, will result from the Jones rider to the bill designed to stimulate agriculture approved by President WILSON on November 21, 1918. This is a temporary prohibition, covering the period of the war and of demobilization, and the President is authorized to lift the inhibition by proclamation when in his opinion the need for it has passed. The prohibitory amendment to the United States Constitution does not become effective until January 16, 1920, and when it does become a part of the fundamental written law enforcement of its provisions by concurrent action of the nation and the States must be effected by appropriate legislation.

It is within the authority of Congress to repeal the statute under which the nation will go dry on July 1, but Congress cannot repeal the Eighteenth Amendment. Congress might submit to the States an amendment to remove from the Constitution the prohibition amendment, and this would take the course of any other proposed amendment; that is, it would be acted on by the State Legislatures, and if it were approved by three-fourths of them it would eliminate the Eighteenth Amendment. But the prohibition of alcoholic beverages beginning on July 1 is in no way related to the prohibition amendment, a fact which must be borne in mind whenever this important subject is discussed as seriously as it should be when it is designed to make it the cause of a general strike.

Great Britain's Constructive Post Bellum Programme.

It is plain from the King's speech opening Parliament and from LLOYD GEORGE's address in the House of Commons that the British Government does not intend to let the country drift into chaos during the period of demobilization and adjustment to peace conditions. The disturbed condition of labor, the numerous social problems created by the discharge of soldiers and sailors from their services, and the difficulties involved in providing for war workers in various fields are to be anticipated, and their consideration is not to be put off until distress or disorder compels action.

The form in which British efforts for national betterment will be cast was broadly outlined in the King's speech. The "better Britain" is to be built on a united public spirit which shall reform old abuses, no matter on whom that reform may impose sacrifices. A Ministry to conserve the public health, a Ministry of Ways and Communications to improve the transportation facilities, measures to insure better housing and for encouraging agriculture, are details of the programme, and "fulfilment of the pledges given to trade unions for the prevention of unfair competition by the sale of imported goods below the selling price in the country of their origin" would mean a change in commercial practices of great importance, affecting not only Great Britain, but all traders in her markets.

Mr. LLOYD GEORGE's words were particularly interesting because of his adherence throughout his remarks to sound economic doctrine, and his declaration that "if anybody uses force to drive an unfair bargain with the community, then we are bound to fight it with the whole weight of the nation." In brief, the new Parliament convened with the Government awake to the necessities and possibilities of the situation in Great Britain, pledged to utilize all its authority for the correction of improper conditions and the stimulation of national well being, but fully determined to have reason guide its course, and to defend the public order and peace with every weapon it can wield.

Our Valorous Negro Troops.

New York welcomed to their homes yesterday the negro soldiers who, recruited as the Fifteenth Regiment of the National Guard, won fame for themselves in the United States Army as members of the 369th Infantry. The tale of their courage, their devotion and their good humor preceded them. From the day of their landing in France reports of their soldierly conduct were frequent, and the testimony of their officers to their good behavior is borne out not only by that of newspaper correspondents, but by the numerous decorations conferred on them by the foreign commanders under whom they fought.

The negro soldiers did not face the task of making a good reputation for fighting men of their race. That had been written in the history of the nation by their predecessors in other wars. From the Revolution onward, whenever and wherever the United States has needed soldiers, the negroes have responded. They have always been recognized in the Regular Army as splendid material for professional soldiers, and they have similarly won honor in the ranks of the volunteers. In France they were brought into comparison with negroes from other parts of the world, and in that comparison they suffered in no way whatsoever.

The negroes of New York who went overseas return to their city with the knowledge that they have earned the plaudits that will be uttered in their honor by men of all races. They have upheld and raised higher than it ever was before the standard of their race. They have given the lie to the contentions that city life is peculiarly demoralizing to men whose skins are black, and that the city negro has not the physical stamina or the moral integrity of the field hand. The story of their achievements in the field is the final answer to those who have held that only in the Southern climate and under patriarchal government can the negro develop the highest qualities of manhood and self-reliance.

Secretary GLASS of the Treasury has formally asked Congress not to impose on his Department the job of enforcing prohibition. The Bureau of Internal Revenue has about all it can do explaining and collecting the income tax and does not want to exchange the task of selling stamps for the repressive duties of a police force. Illicit stills have furnished many picturesque adventures for the record of the Department, but the business of applying a criminal statute is something it would like to dodge.

It is an interesting coincidence that on the birthday of the rail splitter who became President of this country a harness maker became the first President of Germany.

The reports from Portugal are to the effect that the Royalist movement has failed and that the Portuguese Republican forces will soon be in complete control of all the disaffected region. The time was most inopportune for a Royalist uprising; that sort of revolution is not the style this winter.

During the war the United States has gathered about 7,000 undesirable aliens together, all of whom will now be deported to the lands from which they came. It is to be hoped that the process of repatriation will not add new burdens to the hard working peace makers in Paris.

A Liverpool gentleman was held up recently by four men wearing American army uniforms, whose spokesman shouted, "Hands up or we'll let daylight through you!" This sounds too much like a motion picture "cut in" to be convincing. Those highwaymen were impostors; no American robber would use such language off the stage or outside a novel.

Admiral JELLICOE's account of the loss of the Hampshire with KITCHENER of Khartoum will certainly revive interest in this mysterious incident of the war. According to JELLICOE, the Hampshire struck a moored mine set by a German submarine. The opinion that KITCHENER's death was the result of a betrayal of confidence is widely held; the hope that the Marshal survives is still harbored by many persons, with some of whom it amounts to a belief. The full story of this tragedy may never be told, but it should be, for it is one of the most interesting incidents of the war.

To the Peace Commissioners.

O, be strong,
And daily not with wrong!
Soft ways and subtle to the weak belong.

In strength begin
Your counsels, faithful as your arms have been;
Not compromise with sin,
Nor aid the enemy, nor let the outlaw in!

Do not ill
That good may come. Strong will,
Stern righteousness—shall triumph still.

Let your feet
Keep the broad highways. In your council meet
Not with the scornful! Sit not in their seat,
Nor let the lawless with the law compete.

O, take your stand
Firmly for justice unto every land!
From double dealing keep lips, heart and hand!
And may all hate be banned!

M. E. BUHLER.

Chance to Live Up to His Name.

From the Moberly Democrat.

Nodaway county has a representative in the Legislature named Will Job.

UNCLE SAM AS FINANCIER.

If Liberty Bonds Are Below Par, Railroad Securities Are Lower.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* All we can say to your complaining correspondents apropos of their infinitesimal and temporary paper losses on their Liberty loan bonds is this: Let us hope that Uncle Sam is a better financier than he is a railroad man. In the latter venture, certainly, he has been found wanting.

The railroad stockholders, who have seen all of their securities shrink down to panic prices, have by far more reason to complain than the Liberty loan bondholders. Still, let me add to their credit, in all this deafening noise that is made about the disposition of their property their voices are the only ones that are not heard in the discordant concert.

I sometimes wonder if the politicians, who talk a good deal, and so far haven't accomplished anything, have any money invested in the railroad industry. It is safe to assume, though, that if all the people that take an active interest in the railroad problem had say half of their capital invested in the transportation systems of the country, railroad shares in general would be selling at double the quotations at which they are selling at present.

DÉSIRÉ LESCARBOURA.

NEW YORK, February 12.

ANOTHER NATION LEAGUER.

In His Time Anacharsis Clootz Was "the Orator of the Human Race."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In the uncertainty as to the final outcome of the plan for a League of Nations it might be well to remind your readers of the efforts of Jean Baptiste, Baron von Clootz, better known as Anacharsis Clootz. While still young he lavished his money to promote the union of all nations in one family. In the French Revolution he saw the fulfilment of his dreams. He constituted himself the "orator of the human race," and on June 19, 1790, he appeared at the bar of the National Assembly with a number of his followers in foreign dresses, to represent the deputies of all nations.

When an impeachment was brought against Hebert and his adherents Clootz was condemned to death and executed March 23, 1794. His addresses had been heard with enthusiasm and greeted with storms of applause.

We were told by the "Preacher, the son of David, King of Jerusalem," that "The thing that hath been is that which shall be, and there is no new thing under the sun." The theorists of the present day claim originality; may heaven preserve us from the triumph of anarchy which threatens to follow the upsetting of thrones! SENEX.

PHILADELPHIA, February 12.

APPLEJACK VOTED DOWN.

Sentiment Failed to Guard an Orange County Town From Drought.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In your editorial article suggesting that New Jersey may not ratify the prohibition amendment you give as your reason for making this forecast the manufacture of applejack, and you add, "Nowhere, alas! is the Demon more firmly, because sentimentally, established."

I have seen the assertion made in print, and if my memory serves, in the columns of THE SUN, that Orange county, New York, produces more applejack, or "Jersey lightning," than the entire State of New Jersey. And sentimentally I venture to say that Orange county is proportionately as fond of applejack. And yet the township of Warwick, distilling much applejack and including within its limits the popular summer resort of Greenwood Lake, voted dry at the election of November, 1917, the law to become effective for two years beginning October 1, 1918.

Thus became sentenced to an arid doom the playground of pleasure seeking vacationists who had no more voice in this legislation than you or I have in the violation of the Constitution of the United States.

Sentiment? I take off my hat to your optimist. It is indeed refreshing.

SILENT SAM.

NEW YORK, February 12.

WHY THE GERMAN PITCH?

A Musical Innovation of Importance to American Orchestras.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* After years of study and propaganda, England and America adopted the French diapason normale, or standard pitch of A[1]=435.45 double vibrations to the second at 15 degrees Centigrade, about equivalent to A[1]=435 vibrations at 68 degrees Fahrenheit. There had been the philosophical pitch, with successive octaves representing powers of two; the Scheibler, Stuttgart or German pitch of A[1]=440; the French opera pitch, C[4]=540 or over, and the Philharmonic pitch, nearly or quite as high.

War was declared by the United States on Germany in April, 1917. On May 14, 1917, the American Federation of Musicians, in convention assembled at New Haven, Conn., adopted the Scheibler pitch as the standard for American orchestras.

What was the reason for the change? Organs generally had been tuned down from the Philharmonic to the French pitch. Orchestra players bought new instruments at the low pitch. The military bands were the last to succumb, but it is understood that our army and navy bands are now supplied with instruments at the low pitch.

Our general adoption of a higher pitch will require another retuning of organs and the replacing of thousands of band and orchestra instruments. Was the change necessary, proper or expedient? Why was the German pitch selected? E.

NEW YORK, February 12.

A B. R. T. Social Centre.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The B. R. T. insists upon ex-soldier applicants for jobs being "capable of self-restraint under all conditions."

How long, oh, how long has such a necessity been forced upon its patrons! Particularly those victims of a now and then schedule who are forced to wait at the Bay Parkway station of the West End Line and hear the loud, loose talk and see the antics of B. R. T. guards and guardesses. While it may be training in self-restraint for the passengers, something quite the opposite is practised by the mixed company train crews as made up at that social centre. BENSONHURST.

BROOKLYN, February 12.

Making Progress.

We dream of speech with Mars,
A trick we have not turned—
Perhaps we spoke long since
And now have better learned.

BROWSING DAYS ARE GONE.

Changes at the Public Library Made by War and Progress.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Those were happy days when one could fill in a half hour after lunch or a few minutes before the ante-prandial cocktail by sauntering to the circulating room of the Public Library to glance over the new books. These were temptingly displayed near the entrance, where one might stand and sip as at a cosy bar of literature, and there were comfortable chairs for repose if a find turned up in the daily grist and it seemed worth while to read more than chapter headings.

Those happy days are gone, and with them the chairs. The stand, too high to sit on, remains, but the legend "New Books" has no meaning. The promising delights are now stored in what is called the stack room, entrance to which is guarded by a barricade of tables and an overwrought attendant, whose duty it is to glance at a filled out slip, disappear for a long spell through the door and return to say that the book is out. Nibblings at new books are discouraged; if one must nibble let him do it standing over "Humphrey Clinker" or "Daisy Miller"; they are still shelved in the outer chamber.

And there are other uncomfortable changes, chief among them being the substitution of inexperienced assistants for the literate young women who knew a book from a handsaw and who may have hoped to grow gray and more literate in their charming daily companionship with books in spite of war and pestilence. It is the former, we are told, that has compelled the librarian to let these women go, and do other things which have made the library quite a different institution from that its founders intended it to be, a refreshment for mind and body.

The reading rooms on the third floor afford no substitute for the eager man who must read running if he read at all. Suppose him to have stolen a half day to drink deep of the Pierian spring; can he afford to spend half of that waiting for the spring to bubble—that is, for his books to come up from the shelves—and the other half glancing nervously at the clock to know when the short reading day has run its course?

Not thus was his hap when the foundations were lodged separately. He remembers lovely, solitary days at the old Astor—dear, delightful, stuffy spot!—he remembers how nobody bothered him at the Lenox, he recalls both with regret, and sighs to think modern progress has deprived him of the advantages of either. W. S.

NEW YORK, February 12.

THE REED ACT DECISION.

Its Effect on the Power of Congress Over the States.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* It may truly be said that the recent Supreme Court decision in the Reed bone dry act case is deplorable when it can lead to such vigorous outspoken dissent as that of Justices McReynolds and Clark.

That it concerns liquor is of minor importance; far greater matter is concerned, and that is the right of a State to make its laws in the way the Constitution intended, and particularly so long as an adjoining State is left to that privilege. This decision establishes a power in Congress nowhere delegated to it by the Constitution. That the Supreme Court has spoken establishes it as law; but no court can make fact out of clear fallacy.

The decision purports, first, to interpret the meaning of the amendment, and second, to pass upon its constitutionality. It plainly errs in both cases unless the principles laid down in all previous decisions are erroneous and unless the English language has no meaning.

The Reed act itself nowhere prohibits the importation of liquor into any State except in interstate commerce, and just as plainly Congress has no power over the matter except so far as it concerns interstate commerce. But it has everywhere been interpreted that a man may not pass the border of a dry State with it in his hand or in his automobile, whether the State law permits that or not; and this interpretation is now upheld although individual action of the citizens of the States is a matter for State regulation over which no decision or any principle of logic gives the Congress any power.

Its power to regulate any matter concerning interstate commerce is unquestioned, provided all States are treated alike, and in the Webb-Kenyon case it was held with good common sense to have the power to regulate it differently for different States, according to the law of the State itself; that is, if a State has itself prohibited the importation of a commodity, then the Congress may prohibit interstate carriers, over which the State has no control, from importing it into that State, although its importation into an adjoining State may be lawful because that State has not prohibited it. To this extent Congress may treat the States differently, because they have themselves elected to be treated differently and may help each to have what it wants. But this decision now empowers Congress to enact different laws for different States, whether they have so elected or not.

For example, Maine and West Virginia have prohibited the manufacture and sale of liquor within their borders, but have not prohibited its importation, and so far as Maine is concerned I can confidently state that not only could no legislature be induced to prohibit it, but none could be elected to do so nor any referendum to order it. In other words, she has elected to permit its importation (so long as it is not sold therein) as much as Massachusetts does. Yet the Supreme Court has now said that Congress has said and has the power to say that it shall not be transported into Maine in any manner, but may be taken into Massachusetts, although so far as the State laws are concerned they are on the same level.

Justice McReynolds truly says in dissenting:

> The Reed amendment . . . is a direct meddling with the States' internal affairs. Whether regarded as reward or punishment for wisdom or folly in enacting limited prohibition, the amendment so construed, I think, goes beyond the Federal power; and to hold otherwise opens possibilities for partial and sectional legislation which may destroy proper control of their own affairs by the several States. If Congress may deny liquor to those who live in a State simply because its manufacture is not permitted there, why may this not be done for any suggested reason, namely, because the roads are bad or men are hanged for murder or coals are dug? Where is the limit?

The learned Justice might well have added that under this decision nothing now prevents Congress from prohibiting the importation of fish or beef into Massachusetts while permitting it to go to Maine, on the ground that it is unhealthy for residents of the former State but all right for the Mainiites.

ALEXANDER DOYLE.

DEDHAM, Mass., February 12.

MANN'S CHANCE FOR SPEAKERSHIP SLIM

Private Polls Show Only 91 Votes of 122 Necessary in G. O. P. Caucus.

GILLETT GAINS IN RACE

Issue Will Be Fought Out at Conference Called for February 27.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—The chances of Representative James R. Mann (Illinois) becoming Speaker of the Republican House when the next Congress is organized appear to be slim on the showing of private polls of the members of the new House elected last November.

Mr. Mann, the first to announce his candidacy, has been hard at work himself and has kept his lieutenants busy trying to pledge members to his support. In spite of weeks of effort the most liberal estimate of the votes Mr. Mann can count upon are now placed at ninety-one. In the Republican caucus 122 votes are necessary for a choice and in the House 217 votes will elect a candidate Speaker.

In the estimate of ninety-one votes Mr. Mann gets credit for two votes from New England, which are practically certain to go to Representative Gillett (Mass.). The same is true of five votes among the Michigan members of the House. The Michigan delegation held a meeting soon after Mr. Mann announced his candidacy and with one exception the Republicans declared in favor of Mr. Mann, but did not actually pledge themselves to vote for him.

Beefsteak Incident Hurts.

This occurred, however, prior to the revelation of the acceptance by Mr. Mann of a horse and a roast of beef or a steak from Henry Veeder, chief counsel for Swift & Co. That incident has worked enormous harm to the Mann campaign and many sly references to "Beefsteak Jim" and "the steaksman, Mr. Mann," are heard about the Capitol.

On the Gillett side of the fight prospects now seem brighter. Not counting the two New England votes credited to Mr. Mann, but almost certain to be cast for Mr. Gillett, or the five members of the Michigan delegation who are almost certain to bolt the Mann machine, polls of members place the number pledged to Mr. Gillett or certain to support him at 109.

The other principal contender in the race is Representative Fess (Ohio). Friends have urged upon Mr. Fess a strong campaign, but this method has not been followed, and it is believed now that Mr. Fess entered the race too late to make up the ground gained by Mr. Gillett. The members certain to support Mr. Fess at this time are placed at forty. These polls leave only three Republicans of the next House unaccounted for.

Conference Called February 27.

The Speakership will be fought out at the Republican conference scheduled for February 27. The plan to decide upon committee chairmen at that meeting probably will be abandoned. It is being urged now that disposing of the Speakership and the floor leadership at that meeting will be enough to do and that the chairmanships can wait.

Concerning the floor leadership an even sharper fight than for the Speakership is brewing, and a plan to prevent too much bitterness is being advanced now and meeting with a good deal of favor. This plan contemplates a committee of five members to take the place of a floor leader. This committee would be known as the administrative committee and would meet every day, keep in close touch with the chairmen of all committees and thus in close touch with all legislation coming before the House.

The adoption of this plan or sticking to a single floor leader, as at present, have equal chances.

PUTS BAN ON "YEOMANETTE."

Rear Admiral Blue Also Objects to Yeowoman.

BOSTON, Feb. 12.—Use of the terms "yeowoman" and "yeomanette" to designate young women in naval reserve service is discountenanced in an official order received at First Naval District headquarters from Rear Admiral Victor Blue, Chief of the Bureau of Navigation, to-day.

The order says: "The official designation of these young ladies is yeoman (F), and it is hereby directed that the unofficial designation titles be discontinued."

PUBLIC LECTURES TO-NIGHT.

"Distinctive Work in American Fiction," by Frederick Paulding, Washington Irving High School, 40 Irving place.

"Homes, Habits and History of the French People," by Prof. Henry E. Northrup, Public School 57, Forty-second street east of Third avenue; stereopticon.

"Land of the Incas," personal experiences, by Mrs. M. Claire Finney, Public School 46, 156th street and St. Nicholas avenue; stereopticon views.

"Spencer, the Philosophy of Evolution," by William J. Durant, Ph. D., Public School 89, 228 East Fifty-seventh street.

Special Motion Pictures—Official war films will be shown in Public School 62, Hester, Essex and Norfolk streets, together with an address on an "Americanization" subject by a prominent lecturer, probably Abram I. Elkus.

"The Upbuilding of Anglo-American Political Ideals," by Miss Grace F. Caldwell, Public School 165, 225 West 108th street; stereopticon views.

"The Physical Basis of Music," by Prof. J. Loring Arnold, Ph. D., of New York University, Labor Temple, southwest corner Fourteenth street and Second avenue; illustrated by experiments.

"The Beauty of Machine Made Things" (one of a course on "Art and Daily Life," by John Quincy Adams, Ph. D., Y. W. H. A., 31 West 110th street; stereopticon views.

BRONX.

"Charles Darwin" (one of a course on "Modern Prophets of Democracy"), by Dr. John H. Randall, Morris High School, 166th street and Boston road.

"Folk Songs of France," by Albert G. Crawford, Public School 43, 168th street, Findlay and Teller avenues; illustrated by vocal and piano selections.

ENTERTAINMENTS FOR MEN IN UNIFORM.

Dancing Class—National League for Woman's Service, 261 Madison avenue (Thirty-ninth street), followed by general dancing. Vacation Association Club, 38 West Thirty-ninth street, 8 P. M. Seventh Assembly District Soldiers, Sailors and Marines Club, 2228 Broadway (Eightieth street), 8 P. M.

Dances—Sailors and Soldiers Club, Broadway above Seventy-sixth street, 8 P. M. W. C. C. S. Unit No. 8, 17 East Forty-first street, 8 P. M. Y. W. C. A. Bronx branch, 329 East 176th street, 8 P. M.

Social and Dance—West Side Y. W. C. A., Fiftieth street and Tenth avenue, 8 P. M.

"Another Chance," address by Adjutant Porter, solos by Lieut. Murphy, at Volunteers of America Service Club, 520 Seventh avenue (Thirty-ninth street), 8 P. M.

Social evening, singing, dancing, refreshments, All Angels Parish House, 251 West Eightieth street, 8 P. M.

Music, social, dance Church Unit, 98 Fourth avenue, near Eleventh street, 8 P. M.

Motion pictures and lecture, Y. M. C. A., West Side branch, 318 West Fifty-seventh street, 7:10 P. M.

Special entertainment, Cardinal Farley Soldiers and Sailors Club, 15 East Thirtieth street, 8 P. M.

Illustrated recitals of modern operas, East Side Y. M. C. A., Eighty-sixth street and Lexington avenue, 8 P. M.; showers, swimming pool.

The Sun Calendar

THE WEATHER.

MINIATURE ALMANAC.

Standard Time.

Sun rises.....6:54 A M Sun sets.....5:27 P M
Moon sets.....5:48 A M

For eastern New York, partly cloudy to-day, rain to-night; to-morrow warmer, probably rain; southerly winds, increasing to-night.

For New Jersey, partly cloudy to-day, rain to-night or to-morrow; warmer to-morrow; southerly winds, increasing to-night.

For northern New England, fair and somewhat warmer to-day; snow or rain to-morrow; moderate variable winds.

For southern New England, fair and warmer to-day; rain and warmer to-morrow; southerly winds, increasing to-morrow.

For western New York, increasing cloudiness to-day, followed by rain or snow to-night and to-morrow.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—Low pressure is general to-night except over the central and southern districts west of the Rocky Mountains, with a severe disturbance central over southern Kansas. Rains or snows continued west of the Rocky Mountains and extended eastward into Kansas, Missouri and the west Gulf States. There were also snows in the extreme Northwest, the lower lake region, southeastern lower Michigan and the middle Atlantic States. It is much warmer from the Ohio Valley southward and temperatures are now generally above the seasonal average east of the Rocky Mountains. Although considerably lower than on Tuesday through and along both slopes of the mountains, the western disturbance will move east northeastward, attended by general rains Thursday in the Ohio Valley, the east Gulf and south Atlantic States and by rains and snows in the lake region, followed by colder and generally fair weather Friday except in the lake region and the upper Ohio Valley, where there will be local snows. During Thursday night and Friday the rains will extend into the middle Atlantic States and New England. It will be warmer in New England and the middle Atlantic States.

Storm warnings are displayed on the extreme north Pacific coast.

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

Stations.	Temperature. High.	Temperature. Low.	Bar. meter.	Rainfall last 24 hrs.	Weather.
Abilene	46	68	29.36	..	Cloudy
Albany	34	16	29.94	..	Cloudy
Atlantic City	40	32	29.96	..	Clear
Baltimore	40	34	29.96	..	Foggy
Bismarck	28	24	29.80	..	Cloudy
Boston	38	20	29.90	..	Clear
Buffalo	38	22	29.88	.02	Cloudy
Charleston	62	44	29.96	..	Cloudy
Chicago	40	28	29.86	..	Cloudy
Cincinnati	44	34	29.76	..	Cloudy
Cleveland	44	36	29.84	.01	Clear
Denver	48	22	29.62	.04	Cloudy
Detroit	40	32	29.84	.02	Clear
Galveston	66	60	29.82	..	Cloudy
Helena	26	30	29.96	.06	Pt. cloudy
Jacksonville	70	60	29.98	..	Pt. cloudy
Kansas City	56	38	29.24	.32	Rain
Los Angeles	64	50	29.16	..	Clear
Milwaukee	40	34	29.74	..	Pt. cloudy
New Orleans	72	60	29.68	.10	Rain
Oklahoma City	64	48	29.12	.06	Cloudy
Philadelphia	40	30	29.96	..	Cloudy
Pittsburg	42	36	29.88	.01	Cloudy
Portland, Me.	34	14	29.92	..	Clear
Portland, Ore.	42	36	30.06	.06	Cloudy
Salt Lake City	34	28	30.10	.66	Cloudy
San Antonio	72	60	29.66	.10	Rain
San Francisco	58	46	30.36	..	Cloudy
San Diego	60	54	30.20	..	Clear
St. Louis	56	42	29.48	..	Cloudy
Washington	48	34	29.94	..	Clear

LOCAL WEATHER RECORDS.

	8 A. M.	8 P. M.
Barometer	30.04	29.96
Humidity	94	58
Wind—direction	E.	S E
Wind—velocity	6	9
Weather	Cloudy	Cloudy
Precipitation	None	None

The temperature in this city yesterday, as recorded by the official thermometer, is shown in the annexed table:

8 A. M.	31	1 P. M.	32	6 P. M.	34
9 A. M.