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distinguished foreigners were comparatively rare. It is the members of the present corps and of the cadet body in the past few years who have had unusual opportunities of meeting famous military and civil officials who have come to America.

These visits are enlightening to our guests in that they show our great source of the nation's military strength. But still more are they an inspiration to the cadets themselves in bringing before them men who have distinguished themselves in the profession they are about to enter and men who have attained renown by great accomplishments in the work of the world.

Our German Trade Goes On.

Our disgruntled advocates of the defeated League of Nations are filling the air with warnings that we cannot trade with Germany over the dead body of Mr. Wilson's treaty. But it happens to be a cold, hard fact that we had resumed trading with Germany before Mr. Wilson's treaty was killed.

In August of this year, for example, our imports from Germany were \$236,293, whereas for August of the previous year they were of course nothing. In August of this year our exports to Germany were \$11,674,237 as against nothing the year before.

For the first nine months of this year our imports from Germany were \$1,586,933 and our exports were \$8,838,693. For the first nine months of last year our imports from Germany were \$1,757,170 and our exports \$31,756,574.

Compared with the days before the war blockade of the Central Powers the foregoing figures are not staggering. But compared with only a very short while ago, when they were at zero, they are impressive. Those figures, moreover, are proof enough not merely of our trade with Germany, treaty or no treaty, League of Nations or no League of Nations, but of the strong and rapid growth of that resumed trade.

As an example of just how much stock those who give the warnings are entitled themselves to take in them we extract the following from a despatch of one of the loudest of the warners—no other than our neighbor the World:

WASHINGTON, Nov. 19.—German citizens will be permitted to come to the United States on business, and a mission of business men is expected here soon. It represents various manufacturing interests and desires to purchase large quantities of raw materials.

In this and similar cases, the State Department announced today, it will "instruct the appropriate diplomatic or consular officer to grant the necessary permits, provided, after strict examination and investigation, it is believed by the department that the visits will be beneficial to this country and that the persons in question are not objectionable."

Though the German traders may not be welcomed by league and treaty ghosts, the American people will be on hand to receive them in this world market of fair and square bargains in good goods.

The Results of the Italian Elections.

The latest official reports from the Italian elections put a different complexion on the results from that indicated by early returns. The Socialists have not overwhelmingly carried the elections, as their leaders asserted upon the basis of the early returns from some of the industrial centers of northern Italy. They will have 155 seats in the Chamber of Deputies, a gain of five over the combined strength of the Socialists, Radicals and Syndicalists in October, 1918, when the political character of the last Parliament was determined. In opposition to them will be 355 seats representing the strength of the Constitutionalists, Catholics and Republicans.

In this count of Socialist strength are included all the different Italian socialist parties. In the Italian reports the results were not given separately as they were in reports of the French elections; but the Radicals, Independent Socialists, Syndicalists and Extremists were all reported as one body. The wide divergence of views between the conservative and extreme Socialists is as clearly and definitely marked in Italy as in France, and the difference between these bodies has already appeared in the calculation of the advantages that may be taken by the Italian Socialists of their gains.

The demand of the extremists, who are far in the minority, that the present moment should be seized for the overthrow of existing governmental conditions is met by a firm stand of the other socialist bodies in support of present conditions and respect for existing laws. This in effect is the admonition of Deputy Taveras, the Socialist leader during the last session of the Chamber. In fact he takes practically the same position that was taken by the Socialists when their support was most needed by the Government to overcome the disaster of Caporetto and to unite Italy during the last Austrian invasion.

The Socialists had also counted upon the weakening of the Constitutional party through the advent of the new Popular party by which the Catholics for the first time entered Italian politics with the approval of the Vatican. But in this they failed to take into consideration Premier Nitti's strength with the Popular party. The Constitutionalists will unquestionably

have the support of this new element in Italian politics in many of the most important governmental issues. The whole result of the election is that Italy has proved itself safe and sane; it has made progress in its ideals of democracy, "peace, work and order," and it is in better condition now than it was before the elections to meet successfully its internal and international problems.

Thus "Attaboy" received the formal sanction of the heir of Britain's throne, whose English the English language will one day be. The solemnest of lexicographers cannot ignore this official mark of adoption and approval. Whether it pleases them or displeases them, they must include "attaboy" in their lists. They had better bow to the inevitable promptly and inscribe the word in their monumental works while the inevitable quarrel over its authorship, derivation and exact meaning may be enjoyed by those who use it. Too often such literary picnics are reserved for a generation incompetent to extract from them their full measure of innocent merriment.

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CHARLES R. SKINNER. ALBANY, November 21.

When erected the New flag mast will be, it is believed, the tallest in the world except one in British Columbia. It will be supported by eight steel towers and to lessen decay and to give free play it will not be sunk in concrete but will rest on a steel plate with a rigid fitting into a socket in the base of the mast. For bracing inspection it will be possible to hoist a man by the halyards to the very top. The mast will be 12 feet higher than the monument near London, Bridge and 72 feet higher than the Nelson Column. Being fixed with wireless masts the New flag is no great thing, but the latter is all in one piece.

University Americanism. Have Radical Theories Slifted Through Class Rooms to the People? A friend of THE SUN relates the substance of some views expressed by a citizen of large means and known interest in educational matters who was appealed to in behalf of one of the university drives, so-called. Our friend refers to the views as something "worth thinking about," and surely they are of a character to arouse thought and also discussion by both those who agree and those who do not agree with an implied doubt as to the soundness of the Americanism heard in some university lecture rooms.

Paraphrasing the expressions used by the man who gave voice to them we can thus fairly, we believe, convey their sense. He admitted having the impression that university lecture rooms may be more or less responsible for conditions the country now faces. In his opinion the most vital thing all loyal classes must now consider is the stability of the country, which can be best assured by the education and Americanization of the foreign population and elimination of all prevalent radicalism. Do all our universities have these things intimately in purpose? That question was actively in his mind and he felt that one solicited to contribute to any of the funds referred to was within his rights in asking to see the platform of the institution of learning he was asked to help, and he sure that it had a clean bill of health in these respects.

In his opinion the steps through which we have reached the present critical situation are the Adamson law, the Clayton law, the present income tax law and a recent amendment to an appropriation bill granting immunity from prosecution to labor unions and farmers. This last he thought to be if not unconstitutional certainly out of step with the fundamental principles of our Constitution. These steps, he regarded as a series of minds not being trained to think straight, and he questioned whether present conditions were not the result in some degree of Old World advanced theories sifting through university lecture rooms to the people.

He referred to the fact that all of the printed matter sent to him by those who had written asking for contributions was silent on these paramount questions. He would not seek to subsidize our universities, yet felt that they should come out in the open on the vital point of keeping step with the fundamental principles of our Government. That is, he took the position that before distributing any surplus fund Mr. Roper might leave him he wanted to be sure that it would not be used for advancement of theories to which he is opposed.

WORDS WE PRIZE.

On the Defeat of the Covenant and the Salvation of the Constitution.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: This morning's news of the defeat of Mr. Wilson's proposed League of Nations must be particularly gratifying to you as to all loyal Americans, and I take the liberty of congratulating you on this result, to which I feel your steadfast efforts have contributed in no small degree.

For many months past I have read with great satisfaction the editorial articles published in your paper, which I consider some of the finest work in defence of American principles accomplished by any publication, and as a plain citizen, believing that the interests of the world at large are best served by loyalty to our own country, I wish to thank you sincerely for the good work you have done.

C. B. TUNNEY. NEW YORK, November 20.

The Long Fight.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Your fight against the internationalism of the League of Nations and the methods by which it was sought to be imposed upon this country entitles you to the thanks of every patriotic American.

I offer mine now from the bottom of my heart.

JOHN M. WARD. NEW YORK, November 21.

God Reigns.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: God reigns, and America still lives!

CHARLES R. SKINNER. ALBANY, November 21.

"That Our Flag Was Still There."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: The foregoing sentiment is respectfully dedicated to THE SUN and to those patriotic Senators who have fought against all attempts to pull the flag down.

C. R. GEORGE. KATONAH, November 21.

November 19, 1919.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Congratulations! November 19 ought to be a national holiday—a bigger day than Armistice Day—a greater victory for us under General Lodge and his noble staff than we had over the Germans—a victory as important as 1776. I read THE SUN mornings, evenings and Sundays, and your able assistance did much toward the glorious victory of November 19, 1919, and the defeat of the Bolsheviks down in Washington. C. YEAKEL. EAST ORANGE, November 21.

MOTHERS-IN-LAW.

With a Deserved Word for Those Worthies, Fathers-in-Law.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: In these days of strikes and riots and the rest the editorial article on "Mothers-in-Law" is refreshing reading. It will strike deep down in the heart of many a man who is not ashamed to confess the help and comfort received from his mother-in-law.

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Attaboy!

There are many Americans who believe that the Hon. HUGH JENNINGS coined the vocable "Attaboy!" a locution long established in the vocabulary of the baseball fan. Perhaps the honor belongs to another; the philological exploration necessary to establish its genesis shall not be undertaken here. If Mr. JENNINGS did produce it in one of those fits of contor-

tion or distortion which mark his inspring conduct at a baseball game he must have flushed with pleasure when this word of power was uttered by the Prince of Wales as a compliment to the gallant soldiers of Canada. In those seven letters he included all the praise that could be bestowed, all the friendliness that could be conveyed by speech alone.

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CHARLES R. SKINNER. ALBANY, November 21.

pleasures recalled to the memory of a City Dweller.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: These Carman and Southard kids are laying out trouble for themselves. What do they mean by coming around these parts, talking about spelling bees, coo huns, bee trees, hog killing, pumpkin pies three inches thick and boots with legs on them?

What's the big idea? Want to make out of staid and respectable old citizens? Want to make elderly folks dissatisfied with tall builders, tubs, money in the bank, membership in the club and everything that sixty years of sweat have won from fortune's hand? You two regular devils ought to be muzzled for the comfort of elderly society.

But say, did either one of you have a hole in the timothy hay in the mow where you read Beadle's Dime Novels and played euchre with the neighbor boys? And did you blow birds' eggs into a tin can in a box on pick cotton? And did you ever win a prize at the fair for the longest string of rat tails to put you in the running for rat holes in your boot heels with "gimblets"? Ever ketch pipe 'n' pick-rel through the lot? Ever put a hornet's nest and get a hornet up your breeches leg? Zowie! Ever steal chickens and cook 'em in the woods? Ever—

But what's the use! Say, fellow, why is a city anyhow? Buckwheat cakes and maple molasses! And smoked bacon! And ham what was! And doughnuts and cookies and pies! O boys! And appetite! Aye, there's the rub—and appetite. Youth and cherry pickin'! Gee, I nearly forgot that.

Go 'way, you kids, go 'way! You've made trouble enough for me. P. F. BROOKLYN, November 21.

Hard Work Along With the Fun.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: It is a pleasure to read boyhood memories when written by such gentlemen as Mr. Carman and Mr. Southard, but let me ask them:

Did you ever milk twenty cows of a morning when short of hands?

Do you remember the taste of a cow's tail when wrapped around your face?

Did a cow ever put her foot in the pail while you were half asleep, and did you get a thrashing for spilling the milk? Did you ever clean the stables for forty head and ten horses, and then while you were resting churn the butter or draw water from a 100 foot well to do the washing?

Did you ever put turpentine on a frosty morning with your poor fingers dead with cold, or pick up pumpkins, each one a cake of ice?

Did you ever get your ears boxed for asking for a pair of mittens or a pair of shoes before Thanksgiving Day?

Did you ever have a railroad tie with a broadaxe and get a kink because the log rolled and you made a bad start?

Did you ever have to cut down a baton ball tree 2 1/2 feet in diameter and chop it into cord wood?

Did you ever have to sprout potatoes in a damp cellar on a cold spring morning?

Did you ever roll the elder on the skids before it had stopped working and got locked until you wished you were dead because the bunch blew out and soiled the precious stuff all over the cellar?

Did you ever mix a load of Rhode Island "red" in with the Indian corn for the husking and be banished from the feast because all the women got kissered?

Ah, what happy days were those, but what a time I had. S. CARY BRINCKER. BROOKLYN, November 21.

Oh, the Joys That Were!