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THE NEW YORK HERALD was founded by James Gordon Bennett in 1835. It remained the sole property of its founder until his death, in 1872, when his son, also James Gordon Bennett, succeeded to the ownership of the paper, which continued in his hands until his death, in 1918. THE HERALD became the property of Frank A. Munsey, its present owner, in 1920.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1920.

The Mugwump Mind and the League of Nations.

We are invited to say something further about the sempiternal American Mugwump, with a view to the classification of those Republicans to whom the meaning of the seven-million majority in the recent great and solemn referendum is as naught compared with the complacency of their own personal convictions in the matter of the Wilson League of Nations.

With pleasure.

In Mr. FARMER's wonderful lexicon of "Americanisms, Old and New" (London, 1889) we find:

"**Mugwump**—A Republican who claims a right at times to vote independently of his party. Mr. CHARLES F. NORTON, the author of 'Political Americanisms,' defines a Mugwump as 'one who sets himself up as better than his fellows; a Pharisee,' the political bias of which is clear."

The writer with a clear political bias, mentioned in the foregoing definition, gives the subjoined account of the introduction to common parlance of a venerable Indian word which had previously enjoyed a limited and rather esoteric usage:

"On the nomination of the Hon. JAMES G. BLAINE for the Presidency (June 6, 1884) a strong opposition developed among disaffected Republicans, calling themselves Independents. The movement originated at a meeting in Boston (June 7) and was promptly taken up in New York and elsewhere.

"The supporters of the regular nomination affected to believe that these Independents set themselves up as the superiors of their former associates. They were called dudes, pharisees and hypocrites, and on June 15, 1884, THE NEW YORK SUN called them Mugwumps. The word was forthwith adopted by the public as curiously appropriate, though for a time its meaning was problematical."

When THE SUN suggested this definitive application of a term not unknown to previous colloquial use in New England, and even appearing sporadically elsewhere, it started the Political Mugwump rolling down the ages. The popular recognition of the fitness of the label was immediate and its acceptance universal. The Blaine - Cleveland campaign was scarcely half over before the learned in American philology were discussing questions of origin and significance, sometimes with an energy that was almost passionate.

On September 6, 1884, Dr. J. HAMMOND TRUMBULL of Hartford—than whom no person then on earth was qualified to speak with higher authority—contributed to the late Miss GILDER's *Critic* a note explaining that the word was Algonquin, that it occurred several times in ELIOT's Indian translation of the Holy Bible, where it appears as Mukquomp, representing such titles as lord, high captain, chief, great man, leader or duke. For example:

In Genesis, xxxvi.: 40-43, Mukquomp or Mugwump is ELIOT's Indian translation of the "dukes that came of ESAU," in the King James version;

In II. Samuel, xxiii., ELIOT's Mukquomp represents several of "the mighty men whom DAVID had," such as ADINO the Eznite and DODO the Ahohite and SHAMMAH, the son of AGEE the Hararite.

In Matthew, vi.: 24, the two masters whom no man can serve, namely, God and Mammon, are each Mukquomp in the Indian text.

Those of our readers who were not born yesterday or day before yesterday will recall the eager pride with which the Mugwumps of the Cleveland-Blaine period, the Mugwumps of the civil service reform period, and the Mugwumps of the tariff reform period accepted and adopted a designation so complimentary to their mental and moral dimensions. Yet as the good old Algonquin word fastened itself upon them and upon the language another fact was to be noted with regard to its evolution in significance. With awful and irresistible momentum Mugwump came in the course of time to convey to the general mind not only the idea of political importance but also the very different idea of self-importance. The distinction need not be dwelt upon here. If it never fairly reached the sensitive inwards of the Mugwump himself it was because his type, as a rule, is not overprovided with the sense of humor.

All the same, the great American public does not lack that blessed and antiseptic ingredient. So there grew steadily in the popular comprehension a secondary and half humorous and even derisory meaning of Mugwumpery. The word Mugwump came to denote not only the respectability of personal independence of partisan dictation and the willingness to go to the stake for this or that detail, however insignificant, of policy prompted by a high concept of duty, as Mr. BAINBRIDGE COLBY would say. It came to denote a more or less irritating assumption of moral and mental superiority; a superciliousness of attitude toward those who held different opinions on the particular subject then uppermost in the Mugwump mind; an intellectual pharisaism, if we may be forgiven the unpleasant word. This development was by no means the fault of the non-Mugwump community.

So it happens that if we take up at random the contemporary lexicon nearest at hand we not only find Mugwump in the dictionary in the original political sense but we also find imbedded in the English language the secondary signification of which we have been speaking; thus:

"3. [Local, U. S.] a conceited or self-consequential person."

This dictionary definition would do injustice to a great many of our excellent friends who are now getting ready to go to the stake for Article X. and the Wilson Covenant. Nevertheless, it expresses with almost brutal directness a quality or tendency of mind which has characterized various earlier divagations and excursions of the Republican Mugwump and which promises to be equally conspicuous in his latest enterprise.

We say Republican Mugwump because the Republican party has always been the principal breeding place of Mugwumpery. There have been Democratic Mugwumps, no doubt, but their census is relatively unimportant. The bitter end Leaguers, the irreconcilable Covenanters, the Mugwump defiers of the verdict of the solemn referendum by themselves invoked, come chiefly from the party whose fortune it has been to be foremost in the glorious work of preserving American independence and sovereignty from foreign entanglements.

Mr. Street's Liquor.

"If we had some ham we'd have some ham and eggs—if we had some eggs." To most persons who still hanker for the rum pots of Egypt the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in the case of STREET is a mockery. They haven't any liquor in storage and they don't know anybody who has.

Talk about the decision setting free the 46,000,000 gallons of whiskey now in bonded warehouses is little more than talk. The opinion of the court is in effect that a man may have access to whatever liquor he bought for his personal use before the passage of the Volstead act, whether the stuff is in his home or in storage.

The ocean of intoxicants in the bonded warehouses might be released by a decision based on the unconstitutionality of any confiscation. But the decision in the Street case seems to apply only to liquor stored for the personal consumption of the owner and his household.

To the Unknown Dead.

With stately ceremony on Armistice Day France will lay at rest beneath the Arc de Triomphe the body of a soldier of the republic.

To his last narrow bed men and women and children will make pilgrimage, speaking words of gratitude, of respect, of grief.

Where his spent bones repose generations yet to come will revive their patriotic spirit and strengthen their love of justice and the right.

The magnificent structure consecrated to a nation's valor and might in arms will be supported by the body of one of those without whose suffering and sacrifice it might not have been.

Nourished and sustained by the flesh of one who died to preserve it, this monument to courage, devotion and ambition will be possessed by a new spirit, infusing in the beholder not alone thought of victory won but reverence for those who by fidelity even unto death achieve victory.

For this splendid sepulchre France has chosen, not a Marshal rich in well earned honors, not a leader whose name echoes on the lips of all his countrymen, not a hero decorated with medals bought with gallantry, but a private of the line who in the way of duty fell in battle and, falling, was shorn by Fate even of his name.

To him, representative of those whose immolations have seemed to mankind to end in obliteration, whose virtues and whose sins, whose successes and whose failures have appeared to be engulfed in inscrutable obscurity with the tragedy of death, whose record for their fellows has been rendered void, this supreme entombment will be given.

Thus to that innumerable company recorded before the world as The Unknown Dead a mighty nation sensible of the eternal verities will pay solemn and enduring tribute.

That solitary grave will attest the sorrow and the love felt by their fellows for the thousands who, though their names be but traced in water on the parchments of history, survive in deeds written in letters of fire on the hearts of grateful humanity.

To him who sleeps in a splendid isolation there we may say:

Common man, common soldier, mere unit in a vast aggregation of common men and common soldiers, thou art the firm foundation of all human States and Powers, the creator, guardian, defender of Civilization. Little regarded and little regarding in life, at death but an entry among The Unknown Dead, to you human understanding, heir of Learning, Insight, Experience and Divine Inspiration, proudly dedicates the lasting memorial of all its glory.

President Eliot's Censure of Boston Women.

Unlike a good many censors of feminine dress and deportment, President ELIOT of Harvard does not charge the women of to-day with a deliberate intention to clothe themselves in an improper manner; he holds them to be victims of the autocratic authority of fashion. The result shocks President ELIOT. He told the Unitarian women of Boston the other day that:

"We can see the way women dress on any Boston street.

"Our mothers would call it an indecent way.

"These young women don't want to be indecent.

"They merely want to be fashionable and pretty.

"But the clothes are immodest. And they have a psychological effect. They tend toward immodesty in manner."

Undoubtedly the women of Boston clothe themselves about as other American women do. In the past the feminine population of the Massachusetts capital was composed of women, young and old, of good sense, good appearance and good manners; a population fully entitled to classification on the same plane with New York's in wholesome and attractive qualities. We never encountered the jokesmith's favorite bluestocking Boston girl; we don't believe she ever existed. Dr. ELIOT's assertion that these women and their daughters have come to dress in a manner which might be described as "indecent," and that their dress makes for "loose morals," is hard to credit.

If Boston morals are loose it is a mighty serious thing. It is not a thing to jest about. We are thankful to say that New York morals are not loose; the men and women of this city maintain themselves in self-respect and mutual respect, following the fashion when it suits them, disregarding it when it doesn't suit them. On Fifth avenue and on what Mr. DEVERY called double Fifth avenue, and on all the cross streets and other avenues, the good taste of New York women is disclosed in their dress, their independence is revealed in their demeanor, and their virtues are discovered in their bearing. Some of them wear long skirts and waists cut high; others wear short skirts and expose their chests like athletes; but all of them carry themselves modestly and properly.

A great deal of nonsense is talked about women's dress and women's manners and women's morals. The facts are spread before everybody who cares to examine them. The standards of American women have always been high, and they are as high to-day as they ever were. Changes in industrial conditions have brought changes in women's environment, have thrown them into daily contact with men in a manner not known to their mothers and grandmothers, but these changes have not impaired their ideals or lowered the excellence of their habitual good conduct.

The Appeal of the Hospitals.

The annual collection for the United Hospital Fund begins next Monday, November 15. One thing about it which will appeal specially to New Yorkers is its purpose to make sure of the $1,500,000 needed to provide for the sick poor in the hospitals.

Of the 178,302 patients cared for last year in the fifty-five hospitals which will benefit by the collection 49 per cent. were treated free of charge. Then there is another aspect of the work of the hospitals which deserves consideration. Authorities declare that the average length of human life can be extended fifteen years in a single generation by adequate application of curative and preventive measures. The hospitals represent the scientific knowledge and the practical application of its teachings by which better health and added years may be given to mankind.

These reasons and others equally convincing have induced New Yorkers in past years to make the United Hospital Fund the recognized institution it is, and the same generous support of the fund will doubtless be continued this year.

Milady's Stole for Next Year May Be Trapped To-day.

To-day is the opening of the season in New York State for mink, sable, skunk and raccoon. There is no open season for beaver. The last Legislature, trappers should know, shortened the season twenty days on muskrat in the northern counties of the Adirondack region by making it open December 1 instead of November 10. It also shortened the season forty days in the rest of the State by prescribing an open season from December 1 to March 31.

Recently the supply of peltries has been decreasing at an alarming rate. Buyers of raw fur estimate the decrease at from 25 to 50 per cent. during the last ten years. There are no virgin trapping grounds. Even in Alaska the beaver and the marten have become so nearly exterminated that they are now being protected.

In recent years the value of fur has gone to surprising heights. Comparisons of the prices paid in the sales in St. Louis in 1915 with those in 1919 show that beaver advanced in four years from $17 to $38.50; otter from $14 to $101; muskrat from 36½ cents to $5.10; red fox from $15.20 to $64; fisher from $25.50 to $205; skunk from $3.36 to $10.60, and marten from $15.20 to $145.

Legislators and conservation commissions should bend their efforts to save fur animals now that so conservative a branch of the Federal Government as the Biological Survey declares that the fur supply of the country will be exhausted at a "time not far away" unless adequate protection can be given to the fur bearers.

Devil Wagons in the Desert.

The esteemed *Sun* of San Bernardino, Cal., copies and comments upon an editorial article recently printed in this newspaper under the heading "Desert Touring, a New Sport," and thereby we rejoice to learn that our prophecy that crossing the southeastern desert would become popular as an adventurous sport is already fulfilled. "Desert touring," says our contemporary, "is a new sport, but not because of the dangers involved. Rather because of the beauties it reveals, the charm of its pictures, the spell of its sometime silences, the mystery of its creation."

The *Sun* declares that "the records at Needles and at Camp Cajon show that at this present time an average of 150 motor cars are passing westward over the Columbia River bridge at Topock into Needles every day." For these tourists and nature lovers the desert roads are "as definitely marked as Broadway and as impossible to miss as the route up Fifth avenue."

We are pleased to hear this, although Director SMITH of the Geological Survey may be disturbed over the necessity for soon sending out some of his bright young men from Washington to establish traffic cop signal stations; not to direct motorists to water holes, but to regulate the threatened congestion of motor cars with chauffeurs who under the desert spells of silences and mystery are like as not to become heedless of steering gears and brakes.

"Gasolene," as the *Sun* boasts, "banished most of the terrors of the desert." With good roads and places of refreshment the desert will blossom with tourists and its winter resorts make Los Angeles envious and San Diego despairing.

The Outlaw in the Cellar.

"The man who makes home brew in his Northern home," says the Prohibition Commissioner, Mr. KRAMER, "is just as much a lawbreaker as the illicit distiller who makes his moonshine in the mountain fastnesses of the South."

Solemn words for sinners, JOHN, but we fear they will not turn the hearts of the wicked.

More than a quarter century ago it was written into the Constitution of the State of New York that gambling was neither authorized nor allowed and that the Legislature must pass laws to prevent gambling.

There probably has not been one single second since gambling was prohibited that gambling has not gone on. Every night there are more poker and bridge games in this city than there are trees in Central Park.

There have been professional gamblers who have been punished for making a living out of gaming, just as the moonshiners are locked up for making a living out of their stills. But the man who makes beer in his cellar has no more compunction about it than his wife has about the poker game she is playing in the dining room.

The Y. M. C. A. members who heard Commissioner KRAMER warn against the wickedness of home brew must have grinned as they thought of the booze graft.

A passing glance at the decision in the Street case suggests that a man's safe deposit vault is his whisky's castle and that the tenant cannot be evicted merely because the landlord doesn't like its character.

Whether or not LENINE was recently put on trial by the Central Committee, as reported, he has long been on trial before the world, and emphatically found wanting.

In most of the stories of mortal conflict between prohibition agent and bootlegger it is the lawbreaker that is killed. There is a good deal to be said for a steady hand.

The Task of Texas.

He has arrived all safe and sound,
Despite the troubles that be found
Regarding transportation.
The train almost broke down with fruit,
And flowers, jellies, cane—yes, loot
Enough to feed a nation.

From Texarkana down the line
They did it up quite brown. The shine
He took is not surprising;
The Lone Star State is hard to beat
And hospitality's its meat—
And drink—before excising.

Point Isabel now points with pride,
And Brownsville's stepping high and wide—
The whole Gulf's on a bender.
May all the tarron seek his hook,
And golf balls hole out by the book,
And all the quail be tender.

But, Texas, there is something still
To put across and start a thrill
Through all us timid squeakers.
Just send some boys to ride the line,
Good two-gun men with lots of spine,
To shoot all office seekers.

MAURICE MORRIS.

IS HOME BREW CRIMINAL?

If It Is, There Is No Way for the Law to Reach the Malefactor.

To THE NEW YORK HERALD: When the Prohibition Commissioner calls home brewing criminal he reflects on the Volstead act. That law specifically prohibits the issue of warrants for residences except on information that liquor is being made to sell. The inference from that is that home brewing carried on for the householder's own thirst is not criminal.

Perhaps Mr. Kramer, like many of his temperament, confuses words. Maybe he meant that home brewing is immoral. Of course it is. So are coffee and tea drinking, smoking, unnecessary talking and reading of light novels. All pleasures—except minding other people's business—are wicked.

BASIL JAGMORE.

DUNELLEN, N. J., November 9.

OLD STEAMBOAT BELLS.

Many Were Scrapped During the Civil War.

J. H. Curtis in Memphis Commercial-Appeal.

Owners of steamboats fifty years ago had great pride in having fine bells that were used in announcing the time of departure of the steamers. The captains generally rang the big bells half an hour before leaving time, and their deep tones could easily be heard for two miles and further on quiet, clear days or nights.

In old days to have a fine boat minus a special bell was like attempting to operate a circus without an elephant. Some of the famous bells of the Mississippi River boats were on the J. M. White, Robert E. Lee, Natchez, James Lee the First, Imperial, Pennsylvania, T. P. Leathers, Belle of the Coast, and after the civil war there were fine ones on all the Anchor Line steamers.

The Lee Line followed this custom. On their steamers in the early days and until recent years they had some of the finest bells. Many of them are said to have had a finer and deeper tone than some of the older ones. The Kate Adams, now operating in the Memphis and Rosedale trade, possesses a very fine toned bell; so does the Harry Lee.

Practically all the bells used on the big steamers prior to the civil war were taken from the boats and scrapped by the Governments. The North as well as the South needed the copper in them.

For many years there was a small bell foundry in Louisville, operated by a man named Kay. In it were moulded the most famous bells heard along the Ohio and Mississippi rivers.

Kay is said to have come to the United States from Scotland. He had some experience in casting bells in his home country and established his little place in Louisville before the civil war. He designed all the big boat bells and charged about a dollar a pound to mould one. He used a mixture of material that gave them a splendid tone, but the owner of the bell usually put in several ounces of silver, often dumping into the melting pot so many ounces of silver bullion.

The weight of these bells averaged from 1,500 to 2,000 pounds. They were placed on the hurricane roofs of the boats with a cord extending to the pilot house and another dropping down to the lower deck, so that the crews could ring them when necessary.

A few of the bells were removed from the boats and used after the war. Several fell into the hands of wealthy planters and were installed on plantations. It is said the bell of the J. M. White, until a few years ago, was used on a Louisiana plantation.

In days when steamboating was good at Memphis it was a great sight to visit the levee at a time when the boats were getting ready to depart. The captain began tolling the bell in time to notify shippers and passengers that the steamer was getting ready to leave. The deep tones were easily heard up town. If a passenger was late, or if there was a late dray load of freight for the wharf, both went helter skelter down the levee. Some shippers knew the tones of different boat bells. They could distinguish them as easily as they could whistles. All steamers use big bells today. It is necessary when the pilot desires to have the channel sounded or when he wants to call the captain from his room in the texas to the forward deck.

MR. WHALEN EXPLAINS.

Reasons for the Removal of an Elevated Railroad Stairway.

To THE NEW YORK HERALD: On the editorial page of THE NEW YORK HERALD of November 5 appears the following paragraph:

The city has removed one of the stairways at the uptown Canal street station of the Third avenue elevated railroad as a development of a dispute with the operating company. It is characteristic of rows between city officials and public utility corporations that the dear people always get the worst of it.

The reason for the removal of the stairway was to relieve traffic conditions at the Manhattan entrance of the Manhattan Bridge. The number of vehicles crossing the Manhattan Bridge each day of twenty-four hours has doubled in the last four years, the number having increased from approximately 11,000 in 1916 to over 22,000 at the present time.

This great increase has resulted in congestion of vehicles at the Manhattan entrance of the bridge, and I had plans prepared to widen the roadway about fifteen feet at the bridge entrance on Canal street and about twenty-five feet on the Bowery.

The foot of the stairway which was removed was located in the part of the street where the roadway was widened. A count of the number of people using the two stairways to the elevated station on the east side of the Bowery at Canal street showed that the stairway which was removed accommodated only one-fourth as many people as were using the stairway on the north side of Canal street. There are three stairways remaining which lead to the elevated station at Canal street, two on the west side of the Bowery and one on the east side.

In view of the great need of the widening of the roadway to relieve vehicular traffic conditions the removal of this stairway was absolutely necessary, and was for the benefit of the public in general by improving traffic conditions in that vicinity.

GROVER A. WHALEN, Commissioner.

NEW YORK, November 9.

A Disappearing Native Race.

From Popular Mechanics Magazine.

Native Hawaiians are facing extinction, and if the present ratio of births and deaths is maintained the remaining life of the race will be only about seventy-five years. At present there are approximately 25,000 natives of pure blood in the islands, and reports for past years show their number to be rapidly decreasing.

ADVICE TO CONTRACTORS.

Benefit of Taking the Witness Stand in the Lockwood Inquiry.

To THE NEW YORK HERALD: Confession is good for the soul; especially is this likely to be true where the confessor thereby becomes immune from criminal prosecution.

The contractors who paid money to Brindell or his agents to influence them in the award of contracts are immune from indictment, prosecution or punishment for so doing if they confess. And their testimony cannot be used against them. There ought, therefore, to be a scramble by contractors to take the witness stand in the Lockwood investigation and tell the whole truth about their payments to Brindell and others to call off strikes and get contracting jobs.

Why, then, was one contractor willing to risk an indictment for perjury? Did he want to save some one else, and if so what was he trying to save him from?

"The truth shall set you free" is the motto which ought to hang in every contractor's and labor leader's office. How the members of the labor unions will feel about their delegates, walking or otherwise, when they find how these men have been cashing in labor is another matter.

LAWRENCE GODKIN.

NEW YORK, November 9.

HOW NEW YORK CAN SAVE.

A Proposal to Unite the Engineering and Highway Departments.

To THE NEW YORK HERALD: In an editorial article on November 6 you say that a consolidation of the Highway Department of the State with the Engineering Department can only be brought about by an amendment to the Constitution. I think that you are mistaken. The Highway Commission is not recognized in the Constitution. It is rather a creature of the Legislature. What the Legislature has created it may destroy.

The State Engineer is a constitutional officer. For many years his department has been engaged in the improvement of the canals of the State. This work is now substantially completed. Undoubtedly he has a large and efficient organization, an organization greater than will be required and one which will necessarily be reduced unless work can be provided for it to perform.

The Highway Commission also has an organization of engineers and draftsmen perhaps as large as the organization of the State Engineer. The Legislature has the power to abolish the Highway Commission, and the power to impose upon the State Engineer the duty of planning, constructing and repairing highways. My understanding is that the legislative leaders proposed two years ago to consolidate the two departments and only refrained from doing so at the request of Governor Smith.

Legislation to accomplish such consolidation should be enacted promptly by the incoming Legislature. It is safe to say that Governor Miller will welcome an opportunity to approve such a legislative bill. There is no reason why such consolidation cannot be accomplished before the first day of next February.

MERTON E. LEWIS.

NEW YORK, November 9.

The article referred to said a constitutional amendment would be necessary to consolidate the Department of Public Works, the Highway Department and the Engineering Department. This statement is correct. Mr. Lewis proposes only the consolidation of the Engineering Department and the Highway Department, which is another matter.

A LITTLE ECLIPSE TO-DAY.

The Moon Will Step in Front of the Sun This Morning.

To THE NEW YORK HERALD: On Wednesday, November 10, our sun will be partially eclipsed by our moon. Around New York city this partial eclipse will begin about 9 A. M., reach its maximum, about one-third of the sun's diameter, shortly after 10, and end at 11:22 A. M. And not only will this eclipse be visible from New York city but also from a large part of the United States and Canada, as well as the western portion of Europe and the northwestern part of Africa.

The diameter of our sun approximates 866,000 miles, whereas that of our moon only 2,163 miles, and were the moon as far distant from us as the sun, an average distance of 93,000,000 miles, there would, of course, be no noticeable solar eclipse. However, since the moon is at an average distance of only 239,000 miles her diameter appears to be about the same size as the sun's, and accordingly our moon can totally or partially eclipse or cover the sun's surface.

What we speak of as an eclipse is really a shadow, cast upon certain parts of our earth by the moon coming between us and the sun. When this lunar shadow falls upon any of us we see our sun more or less eclipsed. Owing to the movements of both moon and earth this shadow travels rapidly across the terrestrial surface; if at the equator about 1,000 miles an hour.

The year of 1920 exhibits the "most usual" number of eclipses, four in all, two of the sun and two of the moon, the least possible number being two, both of the sun, and the largest number being seven, five solar and two lunar eclipses, or four solar and three lunar eclipses.

CHARLES NEVERS HOLMES.

NEWTON, Mass., November 9.

Relief Urged for Irish Sufferers.

To THE NEW YORK HERALD: I want to thank Miss Margaret Kirwan for her letter in regard to the Red Cross helping the Irish, who are suffering just as our forefathers suffered in 1776. Miss Kirwan says the Irish here always give a helping hand to all in need and are the first to enlist when we are in trouble, and we should give a helping hand now.

WILLIAM C. HENNESSY.

NEW YORK, November 9.

Extra Hour of Daylight a Benefit.

To THE NEW YORK HERALD: Daylight saving should continue. Millions of people have used the extra hour of daylight after the day's work in stuffy factories and offices to build up and benefit their health as well as in useful occupations.

If our politicians think these millions will tamely submit to being deprived of this great benefit they will have a rude awakening.

G. E. NORTHRUP.

NEW YORK, November 9.

Penalty of Nature Faking.

From the Union City Times-Enterprise.

Over near Athens, Ohio, Edward Seiple thought he would fool the hunters by sitting on a log in the woods and barking like a squirrel. The ruse worked so well that Clyde Mansfield slipped up and shot Seiple in the head.

COAL INDUSTRY BUSY CLEARING OUT GRAFT

Threat of Nationalization of Mines Arouses Owners to Drastic Action.

PRICES BEGIN TO DROP

High Grade Bituminous Coal From Pennsylvania Fields Selling at $6 and $7.

The coal industry, both bituminous and anthracite, is aroused thoroughly to the importance of making its autumn house-cleaning so drastic that by the time Congress reconvenes next month there will be no excuse for further talk of Federal control.

Crusades for the extermination of the profiteering grafter and for the restoration of reasonable prices are under way in a dozen different quarters within and without the ranks of the industry and trade. As told exclusively by THE NEW YORK HERALD yesterday, the anthracite producers of the country have come into line for cooperation to realize those ends. Similar action already has been taken by the soft coal operators of many districts and, first of all, by the Wholesale Coal Trade Association of New York. The pledges and commitments first made by that organization at the solicitation of the Attorney-General, in fact, have served to a great extent as models for those influential associations which have taken like action since.

Coal Broker Is Blamed.

Information from West Virginia is to the effect that, following the recent term of the Federal Court in Wheeling, United States District Attorney S. W. Walker made an announcement in which he said in part:

"The spirit with which the great body of coal operators of northern West Virginia have entered into the plan voluntarily to reduce the price of coal is commendable. I have told the operators frankly that in my opinion one of the causes of the high cost of coal has been induced by the coal broker, who became an attractive factor to the operator because he saved the operator the trouble of marketing coal and relieved him of the risk of financially bad customers.

"I have found a number of instances—and I think it had grown to be almost universal in this district—where the consumers of coal, instead of being able to buy it of some operators, as had been the practice heretofore, were only able to get coal from brokers in New York, Baltimore, Pittsburg, and in some instances Lynchburg, Va. The mere statement will show the evil effects of brokerage operating in this way. I have been led to believe that in many instances brokers have made more money than operators.

I. C. C. Orders Investigation.

The Interstate Commerce Commission also is cleaning house. It, too, is embarking upon a rigid investigation of its agents' derelictions. THE NEW YORK HERALD weeks ago stated that special agents of the commission in various parts of the country, like many subsidiary employees of the railroads, had been implicated in the wholesale system of graft and bribery that marked the progress of cars and coal between the mines and tidewater. The Interstate Commerce Commission, now having in its hands definite information substantiating those affirmations, has issued formal notice of investigation.

Trade bulletins yesterday indicated that the greatly reduced soft coal prices at the mine, which were reported last week by this newspaper, not only have been maintained but that they now prevail so much more extensively as to indicate a distinctly softening market.

A report from Fairmont, W. Va., says: "Because of the large tonnage sent to the lakes coal was sold as low as $3.25 a ton."

EXTORTION DENIED BY MINE OWNERS' LEADER

Industry as a Rule Aided Public, Says Wentz.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 9.—Flat denial of certain statements "emanating from the United States Senate committee on construction" regarding the bituminous coal industry was made here to-night by D. B. Wentz, president of the National Coal Association, who resented the broad charge that the entire industry had been practising gross extortion.

"The Senate committee asserts," he said, "that 'wrongdoing has been admitted by D. B. Wentz, representing the National Coal Association; by Commissioner Clyde B. Aitchison of the Interstate Commerce Commission, and Daniel Willard, representing the railroads.' No such admission has been made by me, nor do I understand that any such admission has been made by either of the others.

"The priority orders issued by the Interstate Commerce Commission and the action taken by the railways and coal producers were eminently practical and right, and have been the direct means of averting a very serious shortage of coal during the fall and winter.

"The joint statement of Senators Calder and Edge gives the impression that the National Coal Association and the coal industry have done nothing up to this time to put an end to abuses which the Senators attack. This impression is grossly misleading and unfair. The fact is that the National Coal Association months ago, through special committees, began an effort to eliminate various abuses that had developed during the shortage emergency, with the result that through the cooperation of other branches of the industry they have been generally eradicated.

"The fact is," he continued, "that ever since last spring from 70 to 80 per cent. of the soft coal output has been shipped from the mines at reasonable prices. The remainder of the product was largely that which fell into the hands of the speculators.

"Had it not been for the efforts of the operators," the statement added, "the nation would now be faced with the calamitous prospect of a soft coal famine."

APPEAL FOR HISTORIC ABBEY.

Louis Tracy Asks Restoration Aid for Westminster.

An appeal for funds to restore Westminster Abbey, now crumbling externally, was made last night by Louis Tracy, British author, at a dinner of the British Schools and Universities Club, in the Waldorf.

A million and a quarter dollars is needed for the restoration work, he said. More than half has already been subscribed in England. Subscriptions are to be deposited in accounts with J. P. Morgan & Co. and the Fifth Avenue Bank.

Daily Calendar

THE WEATHER.

For Eastern New York—Fair and much colder to-day; to-morrow fair and continued cold; strong west and northwest winds.

For New Jersey—Fair and much colder to-day; to-morrow fair and continued cold.

For Northern New England—Clearing and much colder, with a cold wave to-day; to-morrow fair, continued cold.

For Southern New England—Fair and much colder to-day; to-morrow fair and continued cold.

For Western New York—Partly cloudy and much colder, with probably snow flurries, to-day; to-morrow fair and continued cold.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 9.—The disturbance that was central to-night over Minnesota moved rapidly eastward and increased in intensity. Tuesday night its centre was over the St. Lawrence valley. It has been attended by west and northwest gales and rain, turning to snow in the region of the Great Lakes, and rain in the middle Atlantic and New England States, the Ohio valley, Tennessee, Arkansas and northern Texas, and local snows in the upper Mississippi valley.

The weather has become much colder over the upper Mississippi valley, the plains States and the northern Rocky Mountain region, while moderate temperatures continued to-day in the East and Southeast States and on the Pacific coast.

Storm warnings remain displayed on Lakes Huron, Erie and Ontario, and have been ordered for the coast from Delaware Breakwater to Eastport, and cold wave warnings are displayed over the Southern plains States, the central Mississippi and lower Ohio valleys, Tennessee, northern New England and extreme northern New York.

The outlook is for generally fair weather Wednesday and Thursday in the States east of the Mississippi River, but with snow flurries near the Great Lakes. Much lower temperature will overspread the East and Southeast States during Wednesday and Thursday and cold weather will continue over the middle West.

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

Stations.	Temperature High.	Temperature Low.	Rainfall last 24 hrs.	Baro. meter.	hrs. last 24	Weather.
Abilene	70	6[illegible]		30.16	.08	Cloudy
Albany	56	46		29.74	..	Clear
Atlantic City	60	58		29.74	.02	Cloudy
Baltimore	62	58		29.94	.04	Cloudy
Bismarck	16	6		30.54	..	Clear
Boston	60	40		29.80	..	Cloudy
Buffalo	56	52		29.74	..	Pt. Cldy
Cincinnati	62	58		29.66	.01	Clear
Charleston	78	62		30.16	..	Cloudy
Chicago	50	44		30.14	..	Cloudy
Cleveland	64	50		29.94	..	Cloudy
Denver	26	24		30.50	..	Clear
Detroit	60	56		29.96	..	Rain
Galveston	76	68		30.12	..	Clear
Helena	22	16		30.48	..	Clear
Jacksonville	76	66		30.16	..	Pt. Cldy
Kansas City	46	34		30.44	..	Cloudy
Los Angeles	66	54		30.04	..	Clear
Milwaukee	58	36		30.14	..	Cloudy
New Orleans	78	62		30.14	..	Pt. Cldy
Oklahoma	60	46		30.30	..	Clear
Philadelphia	62	56		29.94	..	Cloudy
Pittsburg	60	56		29.90	.02	Cloudy
Portland, Me.	52	40		29.76	.20	Cloudy
Portland, Ore.	56	40		30.32	..	Clear
Salt Lake City	42	34		30.26	..	Pt. Cldy
San Antonio	84	68		30.02	..	Pt. Cldy
San Diego	64	50		30.02	..	Clear
San Francisco	60	48		30.08	..	Clear
Seattle	56	..		30.24	..	Clear
St. Louis	60	58		30.24	..	Cloudy
St. Paul	32	..		30.36	..	.....
Washington	58	56		29.94	.12	Clear

LOCAL WEATHER RECORDS.

	8 A. M.	8 P. M.
Barometer	30.12	29.89
Humidity	83	85
Wind—direction	S.	S. W.
Wind—velocity	24	30
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.	52	1 P. M.	59	6 P. M.	60
9 A. M.	54	2 P. M.	60	7 P. M.	59
10 A. M.	55	3 P. M.	60	8 P. M.	59
11 A. M.	57	4 P. M.	61	9 P. M.	59
12 M.	58	5 P. M.	60	10 P. M.	58

	1920.	1919.		1920.	1919.
9 A. M.	54	58	6 P. M.	60	47
12 M.	58	45	9 P. M.	59	42
3 P. M.	60	50	12 Mid.	57	38

Highest temperatur, 61, at 4 P. M.
Lowest temperature, 46, at 3 A. M.
Average temperature, 54.

EVENTS TO-DAY.

Annual dinner of the Fifth Avenue Association, Inc., Waldorf-Astoria, 7 P. M.

Field day for those interested in farming in all of its branches, State Institute of Applied Agriculture, Farmingdale, L. I., all day.

Board of Education, meeting, Fifty-ninth street and Park avenue, 4 P. M.

Annual meeting of the Woman's Board of Missions, Montclair, 8 P. M.

Monthly meeting and luncheon of the