The Commoner.

foundations appeared to be unshakable, scattering the members of such to all four points of the compass, some carrying mental wounds that will not heal short of several years of steady employment under most favorable conditions. I would be guilty of reckless assertion and unfaithful to my trust were I to hold out to you surcease from these troubles in the very near future. The opposition to licensed cafes and saloons, which affects every man and woman in this international union has, according to the best authorities, but started seriously to impose restrictive legislation; they have just begun, and if what has been accomplished is any criterion to go by, when they get started there is no telling where they will finally stop. Originally the prohibition agitators were regarded with little or no concern. That has changed within the last six years to such an extent that their campaign for 'dry legislation' has actually become the greatest movement this country has ever witnessed. compelling attention but very little positive, tangible, aggressiveness on the part of those whose interests were at stake. In fact we make bold to assert that our international union has done more campaigning in opposition to the antisaloon agitators than all of the other allied organizations directly and indirectly connected with the traffic. It seems but a few short years since the opposition could only boast of two 'dry' states, Maine and Kansas, aggregating a total of something like 115,120 square miles of territory; today they can boast of 407,602 square miles under state prohibition, and 1,-836,895 square miles under local option laws. while there remains to us and those like us, that depend on the traffic for a livelihood, exactly 1,303,249 square miles undisturbed by restrictive legislation. That means more than two thirds of the United States where the saloons and cafes where intoxicating beverages were formerly sold have gone out of business and those who were employed swallowed up in that fearfully and ever increasing national problem, the army of the unemployed."

N THE SENATE Mr. Burrows of Michigan, spoke in favor of the duty on iron ore. Mr. Rayner of Maryland discussed the iron ore industry, saying that if the senate should reject the amendment placing a duty of 25 cents a ton on iron ore he would later move to put the article on the free list. The Associated Press "Mr. Rayner read extracts from newspapers to the effect that if the duty on iron ore should be retained the act would redound to the benefit of the United States Steel corporation as the owner of the ore lands and would injure the independent steel companies, as those companies must buy their iron ore from the steel companies if they could not import it free of duty. Mr. Rayner read from a statement of Representative Payne in the house in defense of the action of the ways and means committee in placing iron ore on the free list, and remarked to the republican side of the chamber: I am here protecting Mr. Payne from the republicans of the senate.' Mr. Smith of Michigan quoted Charles Schwab as stating that to put fron ore on the free list would not reduce the price of the manufactured product. 'I don't believe a word he says,' retorted Mr. Rayner with energy. 'I don't believe some things either,' replied Mr. Smith. 'There seems to be something about the tariff,' said Mr. Rayner, 'that perverts the human mind and aspirations and longing of the soul for truth.' 'Is that true of importers as well as of manufacturers?' inquired Mr. Dick. 'The situation in Washington here today,' replied Mr. Rayner, 'is such that you can not get the truth out of anybody. I am very fond of liars, I have studied them by day and by night, but I never in my life saw such an aggregation of them as are assembled in the capitol, and they can lie with equal facility upon one side or the other of the same question.' "

PRACTICAL suggestions for Mothers' Day sermons were made to the clergy in an open letter by Nathan Straus, the New York philanthropist, whose demonstrations on two continents of how the lives of babies may be saved have resulted in the United States public health service indorsing his method, and in Chicago putting it into practical operation by requiring the pasteurization of all milk that does not come from cows that have been tested for tuberculosis. Mr. Straus writes: "To the Reverend Clergy: On Mothers Day, May 9, I understand that many

of the clergy will preach on filial duty, while hundreds of thousands will wear the white flower in token of their reverent honor of their mothers. This beautiful observance, suggested by Miss Anna Jarvis, of Philadelphia, ought to have an uplifting effect upon humanity, for it must be apparent to all thoughtful observers of modern conditions that many of the things that are amiss in our twentieth century life spring from the unhappy failure to adequately estimate and appropriately honor motherhood. It seems to me, too, that the occasion should suggest to the clergy the opportunity to exert their powerful influence toward the lifting of the burdens that too often bruise and crush the hearts of mothers-the burdens of unnecessary sickness and preventable deaths. My eighteen years' experience in fighting the milk-borne sicknesses have proved that tuberculosis, typhoid and scarlet fevers, diphtheria and summer complaint frequently have their origin in milk that contains the germs of these diseases; that these infections from raw milk can be prevented by pasteurizing the milk, namely, by heating it for at least twenty minutes to at least 150 degrees; that such pasteurization invariably reduces the death rate among children at least one-half where the mortality has been excessive. It is particularly the mother who is weighed down with care and torn by grief when these preventable sicknesses strike her little ones, and a most fitting practical good would result to the mothers of the land if the day set apart in their honor should be used to spread abroad the knowledge that they can deliver their children from these maladies and to stir up the health authorities to follow the examples of Chicago in adopting the life-saving methods of pasteurization. The function of the pulpit is to attack evil, and there is no greater crime perpetrated in civilized lands than the slaying of defenseless children. But few people realize that this atrocity is being committed on a wholesale scale that is appalling. In 1895 I called it criminal carelessness to give a child raw milk. In the light of the disclosures of science, verifying my teachings of those days, in the light of the urgent advice of the United States public health service to pastuerize milk, it can be described only as a monstrous crime to permit thousands of children to be slain annually by infected milk. Surely this is something for the pulpit to denounce."

N A LETTER written to the Kansas City Journal, Former Governor John P. St. John says: "In the speech delivered to the Men's club of St. Paul's Episcopal church by Walter C. Root, which appeared in this morning's Journal, he is reported as saying: 'We have not a place which can take the place of the saloon for the working man. The secret of life is brotherhood, and no place, other than in the saloons, is companionship, human society and cheer, offered to the working man.' It seems to me that if Mr. Root is reported correctly his statement is equivalent to saying that the laboring man's home is not, from the standpoint of companionship, sociability and cheer, equal to the saloon. Every laboring man, and every laboring man's family, ought to resent Mr. Root's statement as an inexcusable insult. To put a stop to this, we must either blot out the family or blot out the saloon. The two can not permanently endure. Which shall it be? In speaking of the deplorable condition of the tenement districts in London, Mr. Root said: 'And we have 10,000 families in Kansas City who are living in just the same conditions as those in London. Families living in one room and doing all of the housework there. A great many whole families are living on from \$7 to \$10 a week.' The saloon is the hotbed in which the seed is sown which eventually ripens into a harvest of this awful degradation, poverty and starvation. If these are the conditions, under the administration of a statesman like President Taft, backed up by a high protective tariff made expressly to protect the laboring man, with the saloon to give him comfort and cheer, what an awful calamity it would have been had Bryan won! It makes me shudder to think of it."

IN AN EDITORIAL entitled "Injustice to Mr. Roosevelt," the Chicago Inter Ocean, a republican paper, prints the following: "Senator Tillman introduced a resolution on Friday instructing the postoffice committee to inquire whether the president's recent message and report on the 'homes commission' should not be

excluded from the mails as matter improper for transmission. We presume that what Senator Tillman objects to is that section of the president's message and appendix which runs from page 157 to page 284. This section follows what may be regarded as 'The Federal Cook Book,' and may itself be described as 'The Federal Family Doctor Book.' The first chapter of this comprehensive monograph treats of 'The Causation and Prevention of Disease' in general, with special consideration of tuberculosis, pneumonia, typhoid fever, dysentery and remarks on sickroom care. The next chapter takes up the subject of 'Infantile Mortality,' with special reference to nursing, weaning and milk. Then comes a brief chapter on 'The Prevention of Permanent Disabilities in Childhood,' and then a long one on 'The Health of Wathington,' and why it is not better. The next clapter is headed 'Social and Moral Prophylaxis,' and treats of what are called 'vice diseases,' with elaborate tables of statistics. Of the further contents of this chapter, in which Dr. Roosevelt, by deputy, has spoken with plainness, it is not possible for a family newspaper to say more than that in the average well-conducted family only the adult members would be permitted to read them. There follow chapters on 'The Tobacco Habit,' 'The Alcohol Question,' with much interesting information on the manufacture of various beverages, and on 'The Drug Habit,' with extensive lists of nostrums which may be welcomed by different people from good or bad motives. Probably the chapter on 'vice diseases' is what has especially attracted the senatorial attention, since it bears a close resemblance to certain publications usually sent through the mails at first-class rates by 'specialists,' or, for greater safety, circulated only by express. However, and in justice to the president, it must be suggested-that he is less blamable for having 'Jimmy' Reynolds and his associate 'socioligists' write 'The Federal Family Doctor Book' than is the senate for its complacent inattention until after the mischief was started, in having the treatise printed as public document No. 644. If the president's message and report on the homes commission had been permitted to slumber peacefully in the files of congress the \$10,000 cost of printing would have been saved to the treasury and it would not have been possible for Senator Tillman to raise such indelicate questions."

C APTAIN JAMES MURRAY, a Nebraska pioneer, died recently at his home in Fremont. He was a member of the Twenty-eighth Wisconsin Infantry during the civil war. Captain Murray was a staunch democrat and his energies were ever devoted for the uplifting of mankind through the purest of democratic principles. Captain Murray was the father of Mark W. Murray, editor of the Pender (Neb.) Times. Editor Murray pays to his fine old father this beautiful and deserved tribute: "It is with sorrowing heart the Times editor announces the death of his father, Captain James Murray at the family home in Fremont, on Sunday last, when the immortal soul of a loving and beloved father passed to his Maker. His age was 75 years-every one of them honorable yearsand we believe no man ever left this world to meet his God with a clearer conscience or more deserving of heavenly reward than James Murray. There are and have been men just as good, but I have never met a more scrupulously conscientious, honest and upright man than he whom we had the proud destinction to call father. In all the years of association with him -in boyhood or manhood-I never heard him suggest, or advise one act that savored of trickery, dishonesty or unfairness-no matter whether the transaction was great or small. I firmly believe that he left this world without having knowingly wronged a fellow-being. He had a bright mind, he was a clear thinker, he was a stranger to deceit and his ideals were the highest. He was a man who faithfully met every requirement of life, whether it was in defense of his country when she called her sons to arms, or as a Christian citizen, or as a husband or father. He considered the gathering of dollars as the least of the purposes for which God created man. I have always been proud of him, and his memory and example will be a guiding star in the pathway of every member of the family he has left behind. We know the world is better for his having lived in it. During the last hours of his life, he was surrounded as he had wished to be by every member of his family, and thus he passed quietly and peacefully from our midst."