

verge of collapse, when by accident they were found. The committee brought a report condemning the man for fraud. Days passed and finally a warrant was issued for his arrest. The man was now supposed to be resting in a nearby health resort. A provincial detective went after him only to find him gone. Feeble mention of a reward was made. Circulars were ultimately sent to other police bodies in America, but that was all. The man escaped. Months later, by an unfortunate fluke, he was seen in an American city by a citizen of his native place, and the police were forced to make another search. This time they found him, brought the man home, committed him for trial, allowed him out on bail and allowed the case to drag on and on, from postponement to postponement, until the man died. The authorities seemed to breathe a sigh of relief when he died.

The curious thing is that this man had scarcely a friend among the powers that be, and although the newspapers, too, seemed in the conspiracy to let him go, he was not related in any way to that fraternity. The mystery of his case was simply ex-

carry that sense of obligation to strange extremes just to "oblige" someone. The great ambition of this type of man is to be considered "a good scout." A "good scout" apparently means a man who never tells, who abhors meanness, or anything that is not straightforward, but who, when another "good scout" departs from the paths of righteousness, prefers to turn his back and forget the man's existence, hoping in the meantime he will have sense enough to get out of town and not force the police to arrest him.

This streak of generosity, and this attitude of, "Oh well, what's the use of hounding the poor devil after he's made a mistake?—consider his poor wife," is in many respects admirable. There is something big, and broad and generous about it, when you look at it all by itself. But it, like many other good things, collapses when viewed in proper perspective. Not long ago a very clever man who had worked himself up in the financial world by sheer ability, was sent to penitentiary because the loan and building concern which he had created collapsed and it was shown that he had kept certain facts from the government inspectors. Of course it was a crime and of course he deserved the punishment he was given. But it was curious to note that because this man was not of the same "set" as that in which court officials and their friends moved no effort was made to protect him. Later, when a club man—and a member

of a certain political party—did precisely the same thing, with the books of another concern, every possible means was taken to screen him, and though he had to stand trial and was found guilty, he received a very much lighter sentence than the other.

The offenders who thus are sheltered or who are allowed to escape are chiefly financial men, men who have gathered in the savings of less gifted people and have squandered them on themselves or on foolish enterprises. The class of criminal whose sin against society is much less far-reaching in its effect, gets short shift. There is no pull working on his behalf. If he offered money to a police officer, he would be tarred and feathered. Money to a Canadian policeman, attorney or judge? Never. But let the "quid pro quo" be, in place of a coin, friendship with old Tom So-and-so, or let him have some political party in his debt for campaign funds, or services rendered in the past, and there is hope for him. Pull is a great thing, sometimes a good thing, but always a dangerous thing, and when it affects the operation of the legal machinery in our communities it is especially mischievous, for it breaks down the respect in which the law is held, and when the present generation of "good scouts" is dead, and a bigger city and newer population arrives, worse forms of corruption might just possibly creep in.

## Home Rule and Federalism

By SCRUTATOR

SIR EDWARD GREY'S suggestion, some months ago, that the way to peace, as between Home Rulers and their opponents, might be found in the establishment of a federal system for the United Kingdom—such establishment to be completed during the six years for which, under Mr. Asquith's amending bill, such Irish counties as desire to do so are to be permitted to vote themselves out of the operation of the Home Rule measure—may even yet be fertile in result. Especially is this possible if all parties could be brought to agree, as the basis of compromise, to the exclusion of a defined area of Ulster, pending the arrangement of such a federal system, during the next six years, and the immediate establishment of a statutory commission to report as to the best means of arranging the same.

Much, of course, must depend on what Sir Edward Grey, as the government spokesman on this head, means by "federalism." And, happily, his election address tells us that the kind of Home Rule he desired, three years ago, to see established in Ireland resolved itself into "local powers similar to those enjoyed by the Provinces of Canada." And such a form of Home Rule would assuredly not be incompatible with a "federal system," as that expression is understood throughout the British Empire. But it is equally certain that the present Home Rule Bill proposes to confer on an Irish Parliament far wider powers than that. Hence, the Liberal contention that the measure in question is but a first step applied to Ireland, as "prior in point of time and urgency," towards the establishment of a complete "federal system" for all the countries of the United Kingdom, is, to the non-biased observer, a little difficult of comprehension.

It seems unlikely that the Parliament at Westminster, under any such "federal system," would be content with powers substantially less than those reserved to the federal government in any of the three greatest British self-governing Dominions overseas. And yet the present Home Rule Bill proposes to confer on an Irish Parliament powers which are substantially greater than those enjoyed by provincial legislatures in any of the three. For instance, the Irish Parliament is to be allowed to vary customs duties. This is bound to hamper the free circulation of commodities as betwixt Great Britain and Ireland. Whether in the American, the Canadian, the Australian, or the South African federations, it has been recognized that such free circulation is an essential of union. Again, and still in the realm of commerce, whereas, in Canada, legislation as to banking, bills of exchange, and bankruptcy, has been exclusively and specifically reserved to the federal parliament, legislation on such matters is to be handed over to the Parliament at Dublin, instead of being reserved to that at Westminster.

The post office, the census, fisheries—these are all matters which it is desirable, as has been recognized in Canada, should be reserved to the federal government to secure uniformity throughout the union, if for no other reason. And yet these are all matters over which it is proposed that the Dublin Parliament shall have jurisdiction. A more serious deviation yet from the true federal idea is to be found in the fact that the Home Rule Bill contains no reservation of any kind with regard to the criminal law. That is to be a subject as regards which the Dublin Parliament is to have unfettered power, whether as regards the execution, or the enforcement, of the laws against crime. Under the Canadian constitution, the subject of criminal law has been specifically reserved to the federal parliament. Moreover, the judges, under the Home Rule Bill, are to be appointed by the Dublin Parliament,

and they will be entirely independent of the central authority. There will be no federal court at all with original jurisdiction as there is in Canada. There is to be an appeal, in civil cases, to the Privy Council. And this last provision, in itself, goes to show that the Bill does not seriously contemplate preserving the United Kingdom as a federal entity, for the House of Lords, and not the Privy Council, is the historic ultimate appeal court for the United Kingdom.

Far be it from me to contend that all federal systems must be cast in the same iron mould. But the cumulative effect of the few deviations—and it would be possible to tabulate many more—I have indicated from any known system of federalism in the Empire, is enormous. It is especially significant when one remembers that the Home Rule Bill is declared by the Unionists to be the antithesis of federalism, and is asserted by the Liberals to be the first step towards it. If anything like a federal system for the United Kingdom comes into being, it must either be a gift to all parts of the Kingdom simultaneously, or many of the powers conferred by the Home Rule Bill on the Dublin Parliament must subsequently be withdrawn, unless the Parliament at Westminster is to be turned into the weakest central legislative body of which the Empire holds record. On the question as to how many separate component parts of the suggested federation there should be, the differences of opinion are acute. Many Unionists dislike the federal idea altogether, nor is there any liking for it among the Nationalists, who foresee that, as I have pointed out, it must almost necessarily derogate from the powers the present Home Rule Bill confers on Ireland. Such Unionists as favour federalism (and many Liberals, too) think that Ulster, by herself, should form one of the separate component units of the federation. But the Nationalists, and the majority of Liberals, view this idea with much aversion.

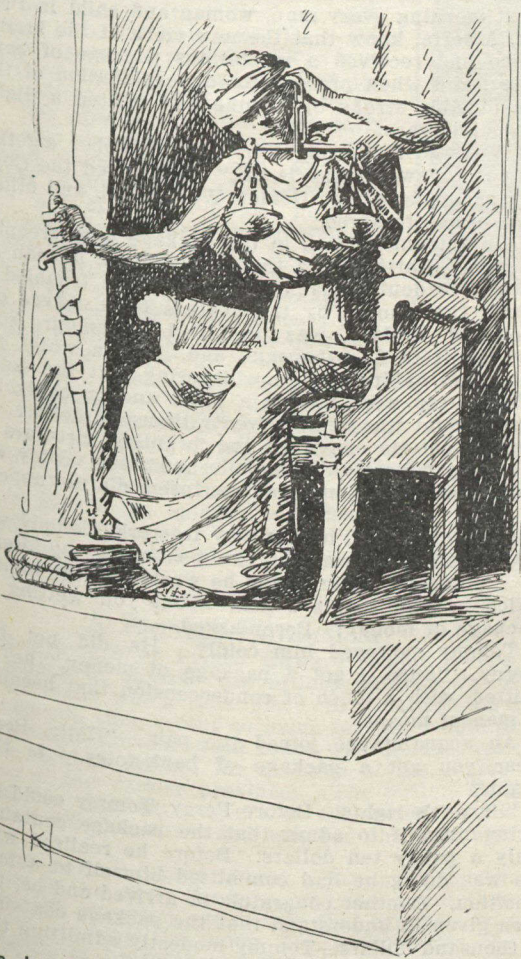
## The God of War

"TO safeguard peace we must prepare for war"—I know that maxim; it was forged in hell. This wealth of ships and guns inflames the vulgar

And makes the very war it guards against. The God of War is now a man of business, With vested interests. So much sunk Capital, such countless callings, The Army, Navy, Medicine, the Church—To bless and bury—Music, Engineering, Red-tape, Departments, Commissariats, Stores, Transports, Ammunition, Coaling-stations, Fortifications, Cannon-foundries, Shipyards, Arsenals, Ranges, Drill-halls, Floating Docks, War-loan Promoters, Military Tailors, Camp-followers, Canteens, War Correspondents, Horse-breeders, Armourers, Torpedo-builders, Pipeclay and Medal Vendors, Big Drum Makers, Gold Lace Embroiderers, Opticians, Buglers, Tent-makers, Banner-weavers, Powder-mixers, Crutches and Cork Limb Manufacturers, Balloonists, Mappists, Heliographers, Inventors, Flying Men, and Diving Demons, Beelzebub and all his hosts, who, whether In Water, Earth, or Air, among them pocket When Trade is brisk ten million pounds a day.

—Israel Zangwill.

[Editor's Note: Mr. Zangwill's last line said "ten million pounds a week." A recent conservative estimate is ten million pounds a day.]



Does Justice, in your city, peek, as it were, from under the bandage which you suppose covers her eyes?

plained by the fact that his crookedness had been shared in by one of the best-liked men in a certain club in that city. His trial would have dragged in this man, and others. By a curious net-work of business, social, political, religious and other connections, this case was related to too many interests. It would have hurt too many people, and, as the Attorney General himself put it to a colleague—"What the devil good would it have done? It wouldn't have recovered the stolen money." One last interesting phase of the matter was the way in which postponement after postponement had been obtained after the man had been committed to trial. The reason lay in the fact that the partner of the lawyer representing the people who had been swindled was under social obligation to one of the other men who had been mixed in the deal, and thus was forced to take advantage of his partnership to secure the co-operation of his partner in letting the man die before coming to trial.

There have been cases, in other cities, where vital documents in a case were unaccountably lost, or where men who were "wanted" were suddenly "tipped-off" to the advisability of getting out of town. Detectives, on their way to make arrests, have been mysteriously delayed. Doctors, making post-mortem examination reports, before coroners' juries, have seen fit to bury important evidence in technical verbiage and explain it with a shrug of the shoulders. This is said to have happened recently in the case of a prominent man in a small town who, while drunk, had run over and killed a girl with his automobile.

Men who belong to clubs in any of the cities which I have in mind, or who know high police officials, are. They know that amongst many of the most intelligent men of the city, men who are themselves unimpeachable in their private affairs, the custom is to consider duty to a friend's friend before duty to the abstract principle of Justice. They sometimes