

Evening Ledger PUBLIC LEDGER COMPANY. CHARLES H. ELLIOTT, Vice President; John G. Martin, Secretary and Treasurer; Philip M. ...

By carrier, six cents per week. By mail, ...

Philadelphia, Wednesday, July 26, 1916.

What's the use telling everybody there is so much gold aboard the Deutschland? It's enough to tempt a pirate.

Naval progress appears to consist in devising armor which will withstand the fire of the biggest guns, and then inventing guns which will pierce that armor.

The woman on the hotel piazza in the Poconos who said that the American eagle was really an ostrich had been reading the proceedings of Congress to some purpose.

According to the New York Times, the second Progressive convention, which is to meet in Chicago August 5, may nominate Woodrow Wilson. Isn't he handicapped enough already?

Lloyd George expresses the opinion that the end of the war is not very far distant. It seems, however, that the settlement of the Irish question is just as distant as it ever was, if not a little more so.

While the Danish West Indies affair is being settled, it is interesting to learn that Alaska sold more than fifty million dollars' worth of products to the States last year. A good investment, that, and cheap.

There is some reason to believe that more than one submarine is on the way across the Atlantic. However, the failure of the Bremen to arrive is the occasion of much anxiety, and pending her appearance there will not be much public confidence in submarines as transatlantic carriers.

Perhaps the date set for the execution of Sir Roger Casement is intentionally near at hand. Not even England, with all her muddling, can seriously intend making another blunder so tragic. August 3 must be intended as the date of reprieve or commutation of sentence, not as the date of execution.

New York has its police scandal no less ugly than the one Philadelphia is now enjoying. The disposition of the New York authorities to expose everything is that of the Grand Jury here, which has already brought in several true bills. Unfortunately, the city is not entirely persuaded that justice is proceeding with equal hands to her task. The Grand Jury is beyond suspicion. The amount of help which it will get is questionable.

Because navigable waters are under the jurisdiction of the United States and not of the individual States is no reason why vessels should become the scenes of revelry and debauchery on Sunday or any other day. Even a boatload of "drunks" must be loaded, and a "wet" on dry land is not in sanctuary. Funny, isn't it, that a great musical orchestra should find it difficult to give a concert on Sunday afternoon, or a clergyman to offer the city-tired children relaxation in the country, but a thousand or more revelers can go on a boat and do what they please? Enforcement of the law is not always so foolhardy in its differentiations.

The British blacklist is not a question of legal right or of necessity so far as the United States is concerned. It is simply a question of having a sufficient American merchant marine. For months now England has exercised the right of denying a sailing charter to any vessel, and shipowners have been instructed to boycott certain firms dealing with other neutral countries. Is that way it becomes very easy for a British competitor for South American trade, which has nothing whatever to do with the enemy, to cut out his American rival. If the United States were possessed of enough ships to carry its own trade with neutral countries the blacklist and the other outrages of the supreme naval power would be of no effect.

The favorable financial condition of the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company continues the wisdom of the people in voting so overwhelmingly in favor of the rapid transit program. The company is making money, and it is to be protected against the straggle of business from the ...

It would be a terrible thing for England if the sins of centuries should take this opportunity to tumble all the ends of the world on her head. Rumors of disaster have at last reached the stage where Lloyd George and Asquith both are reported ready to resign, not on the conduct of the war, but on the Irish question. Apparently there are "last ditchers" in both England and Ireland who are ready to fight at home when the last ditch ought to be a truce in France. It is, fortunately, incredible that the two resignations should be proffered and accepted, but there is little consolation in the alternative. Parliament, compelled to go before the country on the Irish question, would have done nothing to solve its difficulties, even if returned in ...

Explicit Directions "MY WIFE and I," said the little man to the subscription clerk, "are going to spend a few weeks with her people at Blank's Corners and I want you to mail your paper to the address 'Mary Blank's husband, Blank's Corners, Pennsylvania.'" "Well—so—to make sure of my getting it I guess you had better address it 'Mary Blank's husband, Blank's Corners, Pennsylvania.'" "Yes, sir," said the clerk. "What name, please?" "A Clear Dealer on North 8th street recently moved to a store a block or two below his old location. In the window of the premises vacated is displayed this sign: HAVE GONE TO A BETTER PLACE BELOW

TOO MUCH FOR LLOYD GEORGE

Explicit Directions "MY WIFE and I," said the little man to the subscription clerk, "are going to spend a few weeks with her people at Blank's Corners and I want you to mail your paper to the address 'Mary Blank's husband, Blank's Corners, Pennsylvania.'" "Well—so—to make sure of my getting it I guess you had better address it 'Mary Blank's husband, Blank's Corners, Pennsylvania.'" "Yes, sir," said the clerk. "What name, please?" "A Clear Dealer on North 8th street recently moved to a store a block or two below his old location. In the window of the premises vacated is displayed this sign: HAVE GONE TO A BETTER PLACE BELOW

Explicit Directions "MY WIFE and I," said the little man to the subscription clerk, "are going to spend a few weeks with her people at Blank's Corners and I want you to mail your paper to the address 'Mary Blank's husband, Blank's Corners, Pennsylvania.'" "Well—so—to make sure of my getting it I guess you had better address it 'Mary Blank's husband, Blank's Corners, Pennsylvania.'" "Yes, sir," said the clerk. "What name, please?" "A Clear Dealer on North 8th street recently moved to a store a block or two below his old location. In the window of the premises vacated is displayed this sign: HAVE GONE TO A BETTER PLACE BELOW

Explicit Directions "MY WIFE and I," said the little man to the subscription clerk, "are going to spend a few weeks with her people at Blank's Corners and I want you to mail your paper to the address 'Mary Blank's husband, Blank's Corners, Pennsylvania.'" "Well—so—to make sure of my getting it I guess you had better address it 'Mary Blank's husband, Blank's Corners, Pennsylvania.'" "Yes, sir," said the clerk. "What name, please?" "A Clear Dealer on North 8th street recently moved to a store a block or two below his old location. In the window of the premises vacated is displayed this sign: HAVE GONE TO A BETTER PLACE BELOW

Explicit Directions "MY WIFE and I," said the little man to the subscription clerk, "are going to spend a few weeks with her people at Blank's Corners and I want you to mail your paper to the address 'Mary Blank's husband, Blank's Corners, Pennsylvania.'" "Well—so—to make sure of my getting it I guess you had better address it 'Mary Blank's husband, Blank's Corners, Pennsylvania.'" "Yes, sir," said the clerk. "What name, please?" "A Clear Dealer on North 8th street recently moved to a store a block or two below his old location. In the window of the premises vacated is displayed this sign: HAVE GONE TO A BETTER PLACE BELOW

Tom Daly's Column

FRANCIS kept a baker shop on Fitzwater street between 8th and 9th and his daughter Francesca kept books for him. Francesca had attended school just long enough to learn a few alphabetical characters and the numbers from one to seven. She had no reading or writing. But she never made a mistake in her bookkeeping. This is the way she went about it: The man who was in the habit of bringing the barrels of flour from which the bread was made looked to Francesca like a pig, so when it happened to be bringing seven barrels of flour she would draw his picture and put seven tally strokes inside of him. The man who brought the yeast happened to be a long individual, and when his goods were left upon the counter she took down her book and made a drawing of him with tally marks alongside to show what she had received. In another part of her books she kept a record of charge accounts for those customers who were not in the habit of bringing cash. For instance, since she was not able to write names and addresses, it was her habit to hit upon the customer's chief peculiarity and make a record of her in accordance with that. One woman, let us say, looked to her like a cat. If she should come in and call for three loaves of bread the charge against her would appear somewhat as shown in the margin here. When the woman afterward paid her account Francesca would simply run her pencil through the tally.

FORGOTTEN DYNAMITE A MAN does not become a successful politician until he has learned to act consistently upon a great and infamous maxim, "The people forget." The first pages of all the newspapers of a State will be filled for a week with accounts of a notorious deal or ripper bill. All the politicians sit tight, calm and unmoved, as if they were being praised instead of denounced. Time proves their cleverness. The "big story" dwindles, public curiosity wanes, presently the unblinking coup d'etat is accomplished without difficulty.

The biggest thing that Philadelphia has ever done was done this year, and it is already forgotten. The city authorized the \$114,525,000 loan, put a greater sum of money at the disposal of one man—Mayor Smith—than any public official in America has ever been personally responsible for, and then dropped the matter. It was a nine days' wonder. The people forget.

It is as if a vast amount of dynamite had been stored in a basement. The first few days every one goes about on tip-toe and scrupulously obeys the most far-fetched rules for precaution. Presently a rule is disobeyed, but nothing happens; later all rules go by the board, and still nothing happens. And one day somebody drops something, and then everything happens at once.

Who is the gentleman whom we are trusting so blindly? A renowned captain of industry and born leader of men, schooled to the constructive wielding of millions like a J. J. Hill or an H. H. Rogers, tried in the fires of disciplined organization like a Goethals or an Edison? No, Mr. Smith is just one of us. His very average human feebleness and foibles, as well as his better traits, are intimately known to every one who can read. He has confessed, as much as any politician is capable of confessing, to having given to his political friends, the Vares, every gift in his power to give—he has even naively handed out a half-dozen plums to members of his immediate family, less closely related kinsmen and dear friends, not one of whom had been obviously destined to rise save by the stars of luck. This urbanity, this docility, this generosity, spring, perhaps, from the goodness of heart of the man. He is not unkindly, his compassion for the unfortunate, as, for example, the inmates of Blockley, is transparently sincere. But if there is to be no sharp drawing of the line between the soft heart and the soft head, if there is to be no distinction between the payment of shabby political debts and the payment of conscientious service to the city in its gigantic constructive effort, now already under way, what guaranty have the people of the city that a great part of the money which the law puts under the hand and seal of one man will not be squandered, that the debt will not turn out merely a burden for posterity?

It is no criticism of Mayor Smith to say that more than any other Mayor we have ever had he should be watched like a hawk. A Lincoln should be watched. The Mayor should invite all good counsel at every step of the letting of the contracts and the floating of the loans. For, look you, he stands between those two contracting firms which for long-standing clutch upon a city's resources have no rivals in American municipal history. They are a tiptoe at his elbows, fanned for a guzzle at the public crib after the four lean years of Blankenburg. If the past history of contracts hereabouts means anything, it means that our \$114,000,000 looks to them like a juicy peach to a thiefing boy, and the peach is ready to drop. And now, on the eve of the partition of the spoils, has come a "harmony" announcement of most sinister aspect.

Will the people forget once more? Will they wake up some day to find themselves bitted and saddled for the supreme Organization joy-ride of all time? Or will they remember to watch, step by step, day by day, the building of their future and of the future of their children's children?

Very Well, Enjoy Yourself My first attempt. Though it be set In star type this also, The little thing will look, you bet, THIS BIG TO MY PROUD EYES. Kiddo.

IN A window on Somerset street, near 23d: THIS IS M. CARUBO FROM T. A. M. TO 10 P. M. SHOES LACES 3c A PAIR RUBBER HEELS ATTACHED 15c EXTRA.

Elegy in a Country Churchyard Oldtimers here were greatly shocked to hear of the death at Stratford of Gerrit Bogart, the bull of the Jackawanna Railroad. He was unpopular at Stratford in the good old days. From Henryville Mr. Bogart was transferred to Bridgeton, N. J., where he was to be married to his wife, Miss Margaret Van ...

Explicit Directions "MY WIFE and I," said the little man to the subscription clerk, "are going to spend a few weeks with her people at Blank's Corners and I want you to mail your paper to the address 'Mary Blank's husband, Blank's Corners, Pennsylvania.'" "Well—so—to make sure of my getting it I guess you had better address it 'Mary Blank's husband, Blank's Corners, Pennsylvania.'" "Yes, sir," said the clerk. "What name, please?" "A Clear Dealer on North 8th street recently moved to a store a block or two below his old location. In the window of the premises vacated is displayed this sign: HAVE GONE TO A BETTER PLACE BELOW

Explicit Directions "MY WIFE and I," said the little man to the subscription clerk, "are going to spend a few weeks with her people at Blank's Corners and I want you to mail your paper to the address 'Mary Blank's husband, Blank's Corners, Pennsylvania.'" "Well—so—to make sure of my getting it I guess you had better address it 'Mary Blank's husband, Blank's Corners, Pennsylvania.'" "Yes, sir," said the clerk. "What name, please?" "A Clear Dealer on North 8th street recently moved to a store a block or two below his old location. In the window of the premises vacated is displayed this sign: HAVE GONE TO A BETTER PLACE BELOW

Explicit Directions "MY WIFE and I," said the little man to the subscription clerk, "are going to spend a few weeks with her people at Blank's Corners and I want you to mail your paper to the address 'Mary Blank's husband, Blank's Corners, Pennsylvania.'" "Well—so—to make sure of my getting it I guess you had better address it 'Mary Blank's husband, Blank's Corners, Pennsylvania.'" "Yes, sir," said the clerk. "What name, please?" "A Clear Dealer on North 8th street recently moved to a store a block or two below his old location. In the window of the premises vacated is displayed this sign: HAVE GONE TO A BETTER PLACE BELOW

Explicit Directions "MY WIFE and I," said the little man to the subscription clerk, "are going to spend a few weeks with her people at Blank's Corners and I want you to mail your paper to the address 'Mary Blank's husband, Blank's Corners, Pennsylvania.'" "Well—so—to make sure of my getting it I guess you had better address it 'Mary Blank's husband, Blank's Corners, Pennsylvania.'" "Yes, sir," said the clerk. "What name, please?" "A Clear Dealer on North 8th street recently moved to a store a block or two below his old location. In the window of the premises vacated is displayed this sign: HAVE GONE TO A BETTER PLACE BELOW

Explicit Directions "MY WIFE and I," said the little man to the subscription clerk, "are going to spend a few weeks with her people at Blank's Corners and I want you to mail your paper to the address 'Mary Blank's husband, Blank's Corners, Pennsylvania.'" "Well—so—to make sure of my getting it I guess you had better address it 'Mary Blank's husband, Blank's Corners, Pennsylvania.'" "Yes, sir," said the clerk. "What name, please?" "A Clear Dealer on North 8th street recently moved to a store a block or two below his old location. In the window of the premises vacated is displayed this sign: HAVE GONE TO A BETTER PLACE BELOW

Explicit Directions "MY WIFE and I," said the little man to the subscription clerk, "are going to spend a few weeks with her people at Blank's Corners and I want you to mail your paper to the address 'Mary Blank's husband, Blank's Corners, Pennsylvania.'" "Well—so—to make sure of my getting it I guess you had better address it 'Mary Blank's husband, Blank's Corners, Pennsylvania.'" "Yes, sir," said the clerk. "What name, please?" "A Clear Dealer on North 8th street recently moved to a store a block or two below his old location. In the window of the premises vacated is displayed this sign: HAVE GONE TO A BETTER PLACE BELOW

Explicit Directions "MY WIFE and I," said the little man to the subscription clerk, "are going to spend a few weeks with her people at Blank's Corners and I want you to mail your paper to the address 'Mary Blank's husband, Blank's Corners, Pennsylvania.'" "Well—so—to make sure of my getting it I guess you had better address it 'Mary Blank's husband, Blank's Corners, Pennsylvania.'" "Yes, sir," said the clerk. "What name, please?" "A Clear Dealer on North 8th street recently moved to a store a block or two below his old location. In the window of the premises vacated is displayed this sign: HAVE GONE TO A BETTER PLACE BELOW

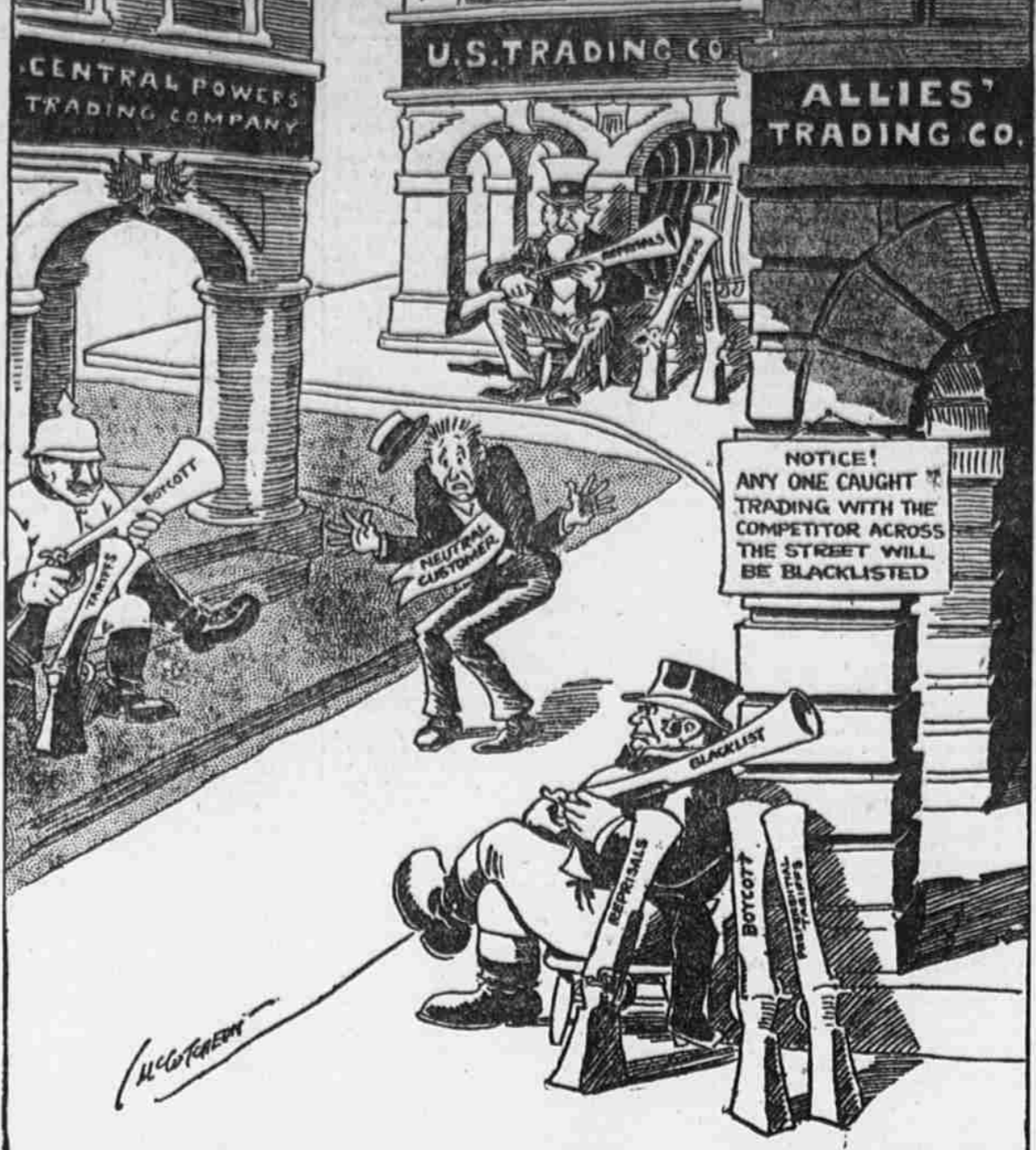
Explicit Directions "MY WIFE and I," said the little man to the subscription clerk, "are going to spend a few weeks with her people at Blank's Corners and I want you to mail your paper to the address 'Mary Blank's husband, Blank's Corners, Pennsylvania.'" "Well—so—to make sure of my getting it I guess you had better address it 'Mary Blank's husband, Blank's Corners, Pennsylvania.'" "Yes, sir," said the clerk. "What name, please?" "A Clear Dealer on North 8th street recently moved to a store a block or two below his old location. In the window of the premises vacated is displayed this sign: HAVE GONE TO A BETTER PLACE BELOW

Explicit Directions "MY WIFE and I," said the little man to the subscription clerk, "are going to spend a few weeks with her people at Blank's Corners and I want you to mail your paper to the address 'Mary Blank's husband, Blank's Corners, Pennsylvania.'" "Well—so—to make sure of my getting it I guess you had better address it 'Mary Blank's husband, Blank's Corners, Pennsylvania.'" "Yes, sir," said the clerk. "What name, please?" "A Clear Dealer on North 8th street recently moved to a store a block or two below his old location. In the window of the premises vacated is displayed this sign: HAVE GONE TO A BETTER PLACE BELOW

Explicit Directions "MY WIFE and I," said the little man to the subscription clerk, "are going to spend a few weeks with her people at Blank's Corners and I want you to mail your paper to the address 'Mary Blank's husband, Blank's Corners, Pennsylvania.'" "Well—so—to make sure of my getting it I guess you had better address it 'Mary Blank's husband, Blank's Corners, Pennsylvania.'" "Yes, sir," said the clerk. "What name, please?" "A Clear Dealer on North 8th street recently moved to a store a block or two below his old location. In the window of the premises vacated is displayed this sign: HAVE GONE TO A BETTER PLACE BELOW

Explicit Directions "MY WIFE and I," said the little man to the subscription clerk, "are going to spend a few weeks with her people at Blank's Corners and I want you to mail your paper to the address 'Mary Blank's husband, Blank's Corners, Pennsylvania.'" "Well—so—to make sure of my getting it I guess you had better address it 'Mary Blank's husband, Blank's Corners, Pennsylvania.'" "Yes, sir," said the clerk. "What name, please?" "A Clear Dealer on North 8th street recently moved to a store a block or two below his old location. In the window of the premises vacated is displayed this sign: HAVE GONE TO A BETTER PLACE BELOW

HATE STREET—AFTER THE WAR



Copyright, 1916, by John T. McCutcheon.

THE MAYOR AND THE MILLIONS

No City Executive in America Has Ever Held a Personal Responsibility Comparable to Mr. Smith's for the Disposal of Vast Sums

IN SIGNING the measures appropriating loan moneys and carrying the enabling clauses which place vast sums at the disposal of municipal heads, Mayor Smith this week put himself in the position of having direct control of \$114,525,000. In addition to this staggering sum the Mayor has or will have control of at least \$15,000,000 of loans authorized in years past but not yet expended or floated. Add to these sums between \$30,000,000 and \$40,000,000 that will be needed for operating expenses each year of the four of his administration, and the Mayor looms up as a financial power second to few this nation has ever known.

Mayor Smith's present position has no parallel in any American city. The present big financial deals only partly tell the story, as plans are already being considered for future loans to include millings for a sewage disposal system, millions more for extensions to the city's water system and at least \$5,000,000 for a new Philadelphia General Hospital. Never before in the history of Philadelphia has any Mayor of any party been entrusted with the expenditure of a loan in excess of \$16,000,000, and a loan of such size, when authorized not many years ago, was considered most unusual. In years past loans ranging from \$4,000,000 to \$11,000,000 were considered big undertakings, and when two or more loans were authorized in any twelvemonth such an action was considered a feat worth many columns of newspaper comment. These operations, in view of the big expenditures planned for the next three years and a half, dwindle into comparative insignificance and will be more or less lost sight of in the future financial history of the city.

In the Mayor's Grip In gauging the power of Mayor Smith with such tremendous resources back of him, it must be remembered that he now has absolute control of the largest sum of money that city financiers ever in their wildest dreams thought of placing at the disposal of one executive. His grip on the situation is best demonstrated by the fact that legislation placing \$37,100,000 in the hands of the Department of Transit, \$19,000,000 credit to the Department of Wharves, Docks and Ferries and millions more at the disposal of other departments, means that not one cent can be spent before the Mayor lends his approval to even the least important terms of the deal. It is true that Councils have, in some instances, notably in the case of Director Twining, of the Department of Transit, lent their power of creating positions and fixing salaries to members of the Mayor's Cabinet. This was done so that present working forces could be greatly augmented and the new places paid for out of the loan moneys; but it must be remembered that every Director invested with appointive power is directly responsible to the Mayor and that before creating new places and fixing salaries the Mayor must be consulted and must give his approval.

At this time no estimate of the moneys to be spent on new positions made necessary by the vast municipal undertakings now under way or about to be started can be made, but of course the money expended in this way is not to be compared with the tremendous sums to be laid out in contract letting. In the letting of contracts the Mayor's great power is again evident, as it is to him that all contracts must be sent after they have been officially approved by departmental heads. He will be the final court of review, and no work will be undertaken until he has approved.

The two great political factions of the Republican Organization are controlled by two of the largest municipal contractors.

What Do You Know?

Quizzes of general interest will be answered in this column. Ten questions, the answers to which every well-informed person should know, are asked daily.

- QUIZ 1. Which is larger in area, the Danish West Indies or Philadelphia? 2. How is the coast of a school term? W. V. 3. What and where is Golconda? 4. What is meant by a "true bill"? 5. Who is John Redmond? 6. What did mean nowadays by the "golden rule"? 7. What is a "Sabbath day's journey"? 8. What is a sandstone? 9. What was Madame Blavatsky? 10. What day will be the second anniversary of the beginning of the Great War?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz 1. Orange Hook, in which the experiences of Holland against Germany, France and Belgium are related. 2. B'nai B'rith, a Jewish fraternal association. 3. States in the "rain belt": Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, the Dakotas, Nebraska and Kansas. 4. The Latin Union; those countries, like Belgium, France, Greece, Italy and Switzerland, whose currency is interchangeable and is based on the franc, 10-8-10 cents. 5. Camaraderie; good fellowship. 6. To go to Canossa; to humble oneself after penitence, referring to the penitence of Emperor Henry IV. 7. Immortelles; composite flowers of paper texture retaining color after being dried; used to adorn graves. 8. Auroshir Confession; the chief creedal statement of faith in the Lutheran Church. 9. Golden Age; a nation's best age, usually referring to literature. 10. Augustus in Rome and of Elizabeth in England.

Schools of Oratory Editor of "What Do You Know?"—Where is there a school of oratory in Philadelphia? What is the cost of a school term? W. V. If you will look in the classified section of the directory or telephone book under "Elouction" and "Schools" you will be able to compile a list of the schools where oratory is taught. Application there will supply you with the needed information.

Concerning Alabama Editor of "What Do You Know?"—Why has Alabama 13 electoral votes? Is there any place in the United States where there is no thunder and lightning? What is Alabama's State flower? Some say the Peach, some Goldenrod. Where does this quotation come from: Before the deep-mouthed chimney, dimly lit by dying brands, Twenty soldiers sat and waited, with their muskets in their hands. C. A. B.

According to the Congressional Directory of May, 1916, Alabama has 13 electoral votes. In any case, any State has as many electoral votes as it has Senators and Representatives in Congress, which is in accordance with the Constitution. (2) The frequency of occurrence of lightning and thunder storms is published regularly in the United States Monthly Weather Review, and the annual summary shows that the number of days on which thunderstorms were reported varies from 100 at any station in Louisiana and Florida to five or even one per annum at special stations in Arizona, California, Maine, Nevada, North Dakota, Oregon and Washington. Evidently there is no section where thunderstorms do not occur sometimes, however infrequently they may occur at some points. (3) The Goldenrod is the generally accepted State flower of Alabama, but it has not been officially adopted. (4) Possibly one of our readers will be able to supply information as to the authorship of the lines you quote.

Truce of God D. J.—In 1040, in France, the Truce of God was first enacted by the Church. It forbade private combats between sundays, Wednesdays and sunrise Monday, also during Advent and Lent and on ecclesiastical feast and fast days. All Crusaders came under the protection of God's law. The Feast of God was earlier by five years and threatened with excommunication all men who refused to lay down their arms. At the reading of this command, which took place daily, the last words were "may their light be put out as a candle." All lights in the church were then extinguished and the congregation was compelled to work its way out as best it could.

The Peace Treaties Editor of "What Do You Know?"—Has the United States signed peace treaties with other nations? T. W. About 19 countries have signed treaties with the United States allowing time for discussion before hostilities. Exchange of ratifications has made treaties effective with Guatemala, Great Britain, Costa Rica, Norway, Portugal, Paraguay, Spain, Peru, Bolivia, Sweden, Denmark, France, Russia, Uruguay and Italy.

COURAGE Having bluffed Carranza to a standstill with profers of munitions and financial assistance, the Administration fearlessly sent a telegram to Ciplano Castro, exclaiming in the walls, "Who's afraid?"—Omaha Star.

THE CARIBBEAN AN AMERICAN SEA

Uncle Sam Can Guard the Panama Canal Better When He Owns the Danish West Indies

WHEN Uncle Sam acquired the Panama Canal he found himself in the state of the old lady who bought a new pair of andirons. Every one knows that the andirons were so fine they made the mantelpiece look shabby. A new mantle had to be built. Then the old furniture looked out of place in the room. The outcome was that a new house had to be put up around the andirons before the lady was satisfied.

Necessity, rather than a desire for artistic harmony, is compelling Uncle Sam. He cannot stop until he has made the Caribbean Sea an American lake. The naval strategists are telling him what he must buy or control or neutralize if he would remain possession of the waterway through the Isthmus in time of war as well as in time of peace.

The purchase of the Danish West Indies, which has long been urged by officers of the navy, became imperative as soon as we got possession of the Canal Zone. It had been desirable before that and an attempt had been made to induce the Danes to sell the small group of islands off the east coast of Porto Rico. When that attempt was made we did not own Porto Rico and Cuba was still Spanish and our protectorate over Haiti and San Domingo had not been established. The Greater and the Lesser Antilles were owned by European Powers, France, Great Britain and Holland, as well as Denmark, were entrenched along the rim of the Caribbean. The Danish islands were small and not worth much. About fifty years ago we offered \$7,500,000 for them, or \$300,000 more than we paid for Alaska. The Danes were willing to sell, but the Senate failed to ratify the treaty of purchase. Under the Roosevelt Administration we offered \$5,000,000. The American Senate agreed to the plan, but the Danish Parliament defeated it by a single vote. Now fourteen years later we are offering \$25,000,000, together with the surrender of whatever rights we may have to the discoveries by American explorers in Greenland.

Menace to the Monroe Doctrine At first blush it might seem as if this was a waste of money. So far as the defense of the Panama Canal is concerned, Cuba is an American island. We control her foreign affairs and no hostile force can use the Cuban harbors as a base of operations against us until it has seized them. We hold Haiti and San Domingo in our fist, and those two negro republics exist by our grace. The island which they occupy is American in all military essentials. Porto Rico, east of San Domingo, came to us after the Spanish War. This group of islands, extending along almost the whole northern length of the Caribbean Sea and separating it from the Atlantic, is no longer a menace to American interests.

The Danish islands east of Porto Rico have been a menace to American peace, for they have contained the possibilities of a challenge to the validity of the Monroe Doctrine. Germany has looked with longing eyes on them, for Germany has needed a naval station on this side of the Atlantic. There were rumors that the defeat of the plan of sale in the Danish Parliament fourteen years ago was due to German intrigue. The reports were denied, of course, but the denials did not necessarily mean that the Germans had been indifferent. The United States could not have consented to the purchase of the islands by Germany or by any other European Power. If they were to be sold we must buy them. There was no question of this in the mind of any American statesman of standing or in the mind of any naval officer who was worth his salt to his country.

A Watch Tower in the Southern Sea The consummation of plans for the purchase is one of the most important steps toward strengthening the national defenses made by the present Administration. When the islands are turned over to us there is likely to be a revision of the plans for the naval protection of the Panama Canal. A strong naval station in Cuba will disappear. There are other routes to Panama than by way of the Windward Passage between Cuba and San Domingo, but this is the principal one. With warships stationed at St. Thomas it will be possible to intercept ships before they reach that passage, for our ships will have a base about seven hundred miles further east than the present unsatisfactory naval station on the eastern end of Cuba. It is difficult to overestimate the value of a purchase which will carry our first line of defense so much further out to sea.

When the title to these islands passes the only serious menace that will remain will be the Dutch islands in the Lesser Antilles. The British own Jamaica and a large number of smaller islands, but it has been the policy of America for a century to maintain friendly relations with the other great English-speaking Power, France, which owns some more of the islands, does not threaten us. But Holland might be induced to transfer some of her islands to another Power. The probability is not great, but our statesmen are not ignoring the possibility of it. So, before the train of consequences following the decision to dig the ditch through the Isthmus of Panama is completed, it is likely that we shall have to enter into much larger expenses than any that have already been incurred. We cannot play the part of a great nation unless we rise to our responsibilities with unflinching courage. G. W. D.

A STAND-UP FIGHT In the meantime the tall-end on the headless Bull Moose ticket, John M. Parker, of Louisiana, Progressive candidate for Vice President, continues to inspire his fellow partisans to stand up and fight. Many of them are doing so, we can tell Mr. Parker. They are standing beside their former Republican associates and are now fighting the Democrats—Bridgport (Conn.) Standard.

(LAUGHTER) The next U-boat that will arrive from Germany is the Bremen, carrying a cargo of drugs. That is the latest dope.—Kansas City Journal.