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pieces. The natural recuperative forces of the body are thus allowed to work in conjunction with the surgeon for the healing of injuries. If this antiseptic proves to possess all the qualities claimed for it by its discoverers, it will simplify operative surgery and result in saving the lives of thousands injured in the ordinary occupations of peace, so while the ingenuity of men has been occupied in perfecting death-dealing weapons, the ingenuity of other men has been occupied to cheat the implements of war of their prey and the world moves on.

**NOT LAYING TRAPS FOR BOSSES**

**How Local Charter Revision Plans Differ From Those of the Past—Making Good Government Easier**

By GEORGE W. DOUGLAS  
**HUNTING** the snark has been the favorite occupation of city reformers since the memory of man runneth not to the contrary. The snark, for the purposes of this footnote to American municipal history, is the political boss. Charter revision has devoted more time to laying traps for this pestiferous animal than to devising plans for the efficient conduct of public business. They have apparently believed that if they could get the proper form of words printed on a piece of paper, the bosses would be deprived of their power and the cities would flourish without restriction or political plunder. Their efforts have been to embody in the charters the ancient incantation:

Being magic words, they  
 Thine, away, gone, are,  
 Thine, away, gone,  
 Thine, away, gone!

Concluding with the triumphant cry:  
 Done to the bosses.

Our boss has not gone out. They have their superstitions but in doubt among them is not for of above, unless in misery, indeed.

A generation or two since it was the fashion to advocate the concentration of power in the hands of the Mayor. Book B, adopted nearly a quarter century ago, and forty years ago, set the precedent. It appointed the heads of departments and in order to keep control in his hands he had each appointed by his own nomination. The Mayor was to be a permanent department chief without a moment's warning. But Brooklyn elected machine Marcks after Low and Hugh McLaughlin, one of the most notable municipal bosses of the last century, retained the power till his death in 1907. It is an interesting study of the history of the city. When the reformers discovered that their plan was not working as they hoped they tinkered with the Board of Aldermen and tried half a dozen different ways of electing the members. At one time part of the aldermen were chosen by wards and part on a general ticket voted in the whole city. At another time they were all elected on district tickets. But the nominations were made by the McLaughlin machine and the wily old boss smiled an inscrutable smile as he received his nomination in the election room in Willoughby street which he used as headquarters.

**THE BULLIT ACT DIDN'T DO**

The Bullit charter of Philadelphia is one of the pieces of the Law charter of Brooklyn. Its concentration of authority in the hands of the Mayor was hailed as the promise of better things. Yet it was after the adoption of the Bullit charter that this city won for herself the enviable reputation of being corrupt and contented.

When it was discovered that the aid abuse continued in spite of the experiment of placing autocratic powers in the hands of the Mayor, the faddists hailed with the debut of a child at eight of a new boy the success of the Galveston experiment with a commission. Galveston had been wrecked by a tidal wave, and here its measures were needed to put the city on its feet. It pleased the faddists to believe that all other American cities were continually in the condition in which the tidal wave had left the Texas town, and commission government has spread over the little cities like the measles in a primary school. Big men and little men alike ascribed to the commission, President Emeritus Eliot, of Harvard, once defended the plan in an address before the Boston Economic Club, in the course of which he said that it was the application to government of the practice of great business corporations and great armies. The commanding general had staff officers whose advice they took. Military movements were made on the decision of the general and his staff acting together, and the board of directors and the president of a corporation were really commissioners in charge of its affairs. Frederick P. Fish, sometime president of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, who followed the distinguished scholar, reminded him that General Grant asked the advice of his staff at Vicksburg and then acted contrary to the opinion of his officers, and that the president of every large corporation, on whom the responsibility for success or failure rests, usually acts in the same way. And the humble which Doctor Eliot's special pleading for commission government had shown was tickled by the double-pointed pin of fact which a business man jabbed into it.

**FUTILITY OF SNARK HUNTING**

Out of all the discussion of forms of city government has come the belief that if any progress is to be made we must abandon snark hunting and devote ourselves to simplifying the machinery so that which honest men are in charge it will be easy for them to serve the people. We have learned that concentration of authority is desirable, not primarily to give the people an opportunity to punish an unfaithful servant, but because it makes efficiency possible, because it reduces the amount of red tape to be unwound and because it is hoped that the attractions of power to be exercised may induce men of large affairs now and then to consent to serve the cities in the chief office.

The most significant fact which has been developed in the course of the discussion of charter revision here is that no one is talking about laying traps for bosses, but that attention is concentrated on specific changes in the Bullit act to correct specific abuses, just as a business man who has discovered that his office methods have been outgrown or that his trade has expanded so as to justify radical changes without of in smaller days would adopt a new and better system.

**PROGRESS OF PLATITUDINOSITY**

Because a man utters platitudes, that is no sign he is more sincere than the fellow who makes vulgarisms. The maker of platitudes is less likely to be shoved into places of power and prestige by the public. —New York Evening Sun.

**AND ISN'T THERE SOME KICK COMING?**



**THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE**

**England's Turkish Policy Explained and Defended—An Irishman Calls on God to Save Ireland From Its Friends, Soldiering and Voting**

This Department is free to all readers who wish to express their opinions on matters of general interest. It is our aim to present the views of our correspondents on subjects of public interest. Letters sent by mail should be addressed to the Editor, Evening Ledger, Independence Square, Philadelphia. Letters sent by mail should be addressed to the Editor, Evening Ledger, Independence Square, Philadelphia. Letters sent by mail should be addressed to the Editor, Evening Ledger, Independence Square, Philadelphia.

**ENGLAND AND THE TURK**

By J. T. T. says that long before the present war the Turkish Empire was a vast and powerful one. It was a great power in the world, and its influence was felt in many parts of the world. The Turkish Empire was a great power in the world, and its influence was felt in many parts of the world.

**SWISS NEUTRALITY**

By J. T. T. says that long before the present war the Swiss people were a brave and noble one. They were a great power in the world, and their influence was felt in many parts of the world. The Swiss people were a great power in the world, and their influence was felt in many parts of the world.

**AMERICA HAS DONE WELL**

By J. T. T. says that long before the present war the American people were a brave and noble one. They were a great power in the world, and their influence was felt in many parts of the world. The American people were a great power in the world, and their influence was felt in many parts of the world.

**FIT FOR CHILDREN TO READ**

By J. T. T. says that long before the present war the children of America were a brave and noble one. They were a great power in the world, and their influence was felt in many parts of the world. The children of America were a great power in the world, and their influence was felt in many parts of the world.

**VOTERS AT EIGHTEEN**

By J. T. T. says that long before the present war the voters of America were a brave and noble one. They were a great power in the world, and their influence was felt in many parts of the world. The voters of America were a great power in the world, and their influence was felt in many parts of the world.

**IRISHMEN ON IRELAND**

By J. T. T. says that long before the present war the Irishmen of Ireland were a brave and noble one. They were a great power in the world, and their influence was felt in many parts of the world. The Irishmen of Ireland were a great power in the world, and their influence was felt in many parts of the world.

**PEOPLES NOT PROPERTY**

By J. T. T. says that long before the present war the people of America were a brave and noble one. They were a great power in the world, and their influence was felt in many parts of the world. The people of America were a great power in the world, and their influence was felt in many parts of the world.

**TAUSSIG'S QUALIFICATION**

By J. T. T. says that long before the present war the qualifications of Taussig were a brave and noble one. They were a great power in the world, and their influence was felt in many parts of the world. The qualifications of Taussig were a great power in the world, and their influence was felt in many parts of the world.

**SAM LOYD'S PUZZLE**

By J. T. T. says that long before the present war the puzzle of Sam Loyd was a brave and noble one. They were a great power in the world, and their influence was felt in many parts of the world. The puzzle of Sam Loyd was a great power in the world, and their influence was felt in many parts of the world.

**Tom Daly's Column**

**Gripping Adventures**  
 Our nurse was a pretty Mennonite girl. She was also industrious and efficient, methodical and punctual, gentle and strict. When her patient was tucked in for the night the light was dimmed and there was no appeal.

In the wallpaper border on the wall directly in front of our bed there were thirty medallions, on the wall to our left (right in the night) when we became quite well again we meant to count those upon the wall behind us. But the others we had counted over and over so often in daylight that we could see them even now in the dark. We closed our eyes and still we saw them. They began to hop over each other, those medallions, like sheep. It was pleasant to lie and count them. \* \* \* The darkness began to lighten somewhat and we saw presently that it was snowing. We could see the big flakes against the dark bodies of the six horses drawing the coach. The driver beside us cracked his whip. Suddenly a bar of yellow light shot across the road before us. It came from the open door of an inn and disclosed a man standing in the middle of the highway holding aloft a noogie of punch. He cried out:

"Ston and shure our Christmas cheer; Seventen-fifty is the year, And Lancaster town is very near!"

He came over and handed the cup to us. We held it up against the light, but it was opaque, being powdery, and we were denied the joy of gazing upon the brew's rich color. But the delicious reek of it was in our nostrils. It was very powerful and it made us cough. This was our undoing. Nurses have sharp ears for coughs, and although we were some sixty miles and 168 years away, the noogie of punch instantly became a dull and bitter drug, which we swallowed with a sigh.

**THE AUTOCIAT**

When that knave Winter with his snout and alert  
 The roving bands hath bathed and oiled  
 The streets,  
 The Plumber then, as though a lord he were,  
 All drowsy ateth in his office chair,  
 And those who passed him coldly by in spring  
 Now unshined hands with tribulation wring,  
 The Builder, lord of yellow gold in sacks,  
 Pretax hauler of his water pipe, its cracks;  
 The Marchant wails his woes and weeps  
 His beard.

But by no reasoning word is cheered;  
 The Statesman varies rhetoric with penner  
 And tells of his radiator bear.

The Plumber locks his door and yawns  
 And picks his teeth and turns to drive  
 Again. A. A.

**Major Minors**

The word "minor" often takes on the complexion of a term of reproach. No venal cure to be called a minor poet. To be called a minor makes the average youth gnaw his incipient mustache. Let's twine laurel wreaths for a few major minors. Here's one:

Amber Haines, the twenty-year-old son of Newlin Haines, of the St. Charles, Atlantic City, is a shrewd and successful hotel steward.

**Another Triangle**

St. I. was being impressed upon my class of youngsters the three great necessities for man—food, clothing and shelter. The next morning I returned to the subject, "Why, I asked, "are the three things most necessary for man's comfort?" The boy on the front bench shouted, "Wine, woman and snuff!"

**Aftermathers**

It is sweet to glide to violins  
 When Love and Life entice;  
 To slide at teas and midnight press  
 Is really very nice;  
 But it is not sweet with clumsy feet  
 To slide upon the ice!  
 WILL LOU.

**There Are Kuhn and Kuhns!**

One Saturday, shortly before the close of business, Kuhn, Loeb & Co. had occasion to send some bonds to J. Pierpont Morgan. As all the other employees had left, it was necessary to intrust the negro porter with the errand. He received careful instructions to take the valuable package to Mr. Morgan's office, and to insist upon giving it to "Mr. Morgan, of Pierpont Morgan & Co., and to no one else."

By commendable persistence and many repetitions of his instructions he finally succeeded in reaching Mr. Morgan, who was in session with several other gentlemen in his private office.

"Ah, wants to see Mr. Morgan, oh J. Pierpont Morgan an' Company," he doggedly insisted.

Mr. Morgan arose. "Well, I'm Mr. Morgan," he said. "Who are you?" "Who—er—me?" stammered the porter. "Why, I's de con of Kuhn, Loeb an' Company, an' heahs de papers Ah done bring yo."

The Chamber of Commerce election is over and the "Old Guard" won. We have our own notion as to the reason for this victory. It is because the opposition crowd permitted themselves to be known as "Craw Wives." Of all the silly, senseless and outworn appellations—to the bonehead with it!

Just as we had made up our mind that the erstwhile highbrow Atlantic Monthly had grown human and become almost a real feller, Krab calls our attention to this bit of talk and footnots from a story by Hughes Cornell in the December number.

"Make it fifty-fifty, pard!" "Fifty-fifty" is argot for dividing even—the author.

Argot, dear reader, is slang for colloquialism, jargon, vulgarism, cant or lingo.

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz  
 1. What is Sherman's Whiskey? 2. What was Victor Hugo's first book? 3. Bound Pennsylvania geographically. 4. Who is Ernest T. Tige? 5. On what day of the week will Lincoln's birthday fall? 6. What is the State highway speed limit? 7. Who is "El Estudiante Escandalo"? 8. What is Colonia Diliada? 9. What is the distinction between infections and contagious diseases? 10. Which is the leading motorizing nation of the world?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz  
 1. The Rev. Dr. Farrel J. Pettitman is chairman of the United States Senate. 2. Seranton is the "Electric City." 3. The seven so-called wonders of the Middle Ages were the Leaning Tower of Pisa, the Great Wall of China, Mosque of St. Sophia, Constantinople, the Pyramids of Giza, the Hanging Gardens of Babylon, and the Tower of Babel. 4. The "Habanero" is the national flag of Cuba. 5. A "ham" or "bit" of rubber is a lump of crude rubber, weighing about 100 pounds, which is used in the manufacture of white latex or gum of the same tree. The latex is coagulated on a revolving steel over a smoke fire, fresh latex being added for "containing mass until it is of sufficient size." 6. General Bressoff is the Russian commander on the southern frontier of Russia. 7. David P. Fitz is president of the Professional Baseball Players' Fraternity. 8. Mother Shipton is believed to have been a sixteenth century prophetess, famous for her prophecies of the future. 9. The dress-stick is the national emblem of Japan. 10. "A man in French far 'in the fashion'" is a man, "according to the taste of the moment."