

Evening Public Ledger

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A ONE-MAN PEACE DELEGATION

SINCE it was first announced officially that the President himself would attend the peace conference, not a great deal of importance has been attached to the personnel of the delegation he would select to accompany him, because it was apparent that the delegates would not be chosen for individual ability as thinkers or as outstanding representatives of the public so much as for the likelihood of their being completely acquiescent in the views and opinions of the chief delegate.

In appointing Messrs. Lansing, House, White and Bliss, Mr. Wilson has fulfilled these expectations and justified them. Not one of them may be said to represent the public at large. None has ever been elevated to high office by the suffrage of their fellow countrymen. None is really intimately well known to the public.

For example, Secretary Lansing has come to be regarded largely as a clerical assistant to the President—a secretary in fact as well as name. He has had long experience in the technical side of State Department work, but the cool manner in which the President set him aside and sent Colonel House instead to the Versailles War Council was a commentary upon the importance of the place he holds in the Administration.

Colonel House, of course, is well known by name, but the public knows almost nothing about him personally. He is a kind of mystery to the people. All they know is that he has the ear of the President, who frequently calls upon him for advice. That in itself may be regarded as a distinction, since it is almost unique. But he is not truly a representative of the public at large or any segment of it.

Mr. White's selection is supposed to be the necessary concession to the Republicans. But is it? It is true that he was an ambassador under a Republican administration, but for nearly a decade he has not appeared as an active member of the party, and, in fact, has been so much out of public view that the newspapers this morning find it desirable to print his biography in detail to remind their readers of who he is—or was.

The P. R. T.'s humanity seems to be regulated on the skip-stop system.

TIPS AND TAXICABS

HIGH above the awful clamor of a world being reared the voice of a Philadelphia citizen soars in passionate complaint because he was charged fifty cents to voyage from Broad Street Station to Juniper and Chestnut streets in a taxicab. In a moment of rage he withheld a tip from the driver and was loudly abused. He has addressed himself to Director McAdoo. He wants rules made. And it is for new rules and legislation that they are clamoring in New York in the periodical uproar about theatre ticket graft. No one seems ever to realize that laws can never estimate the tip habit or the graft habit. You will have to look deep into the American psychology for causes and cures.

his clothes. He moves in awful dread of three vivid words in his own vernacular. These are "piker," "fourflusher" and "lightwad." It is upon these three terms that the hat-check boy and the waiter and all other night-blooming banditti have founded their kultur.

The American feels his blood chill at the thought of being listed under one or more of these definitions. He consents to a system by which he must buy his hat back from the management every time he visits a fashionable restaurant. He submits to organized plunder in all his festal hours and will endure even the insolence of waiters and chauffeurs rather than seem, by resistance, to belong to the despised class that "doesn't know how to spend."

MR. GILBERT TO REPORT THE PEACE CONFERENCE

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Although non-European nations were not engaged in the Vienna sessions—the United States at the time being involved in an inconclusive war with England—the Congress, broadly speaking, was international in composition. It was the first powerful assembly of that character in world annals.

It is the making of a new world which the Paris commissioners will consider. Conflicting claims among the various nations will be inevitable. The very existence of divergent views is, of course, one of the foremost reasons for the meeting, but the tie before which all others are secondary is that of liberty and humane justice to the peoples of the earth. It is the first of international democratic congresses unmarred in that regard by pessimistic precedent.

THE insincerity of the Vienna conference is thoroughly well exemplified in the spectacular presence of six reigning European monarchs, who attended none of the official deliberations yet all the time piled the trade of unscrupulous intrigues with characteristic zeal.

THE rest of the royal crew, however, were constantly pompous encumbrances to the practical proceedings, and with their elaborate entourages they attended a kind of spring disreputable which augurs triumph. The Vienna Congress sought to bring back an ancient, discredited dynastic world. Despite the representation of free-minded Englishmen, involved with strange political bedfellows, it was a veritable orgy of autocracy.

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ONLY GERMANY CAN OBJECT TO THIS DELEGATE TO VERSAILLES



CONGRESSMAN MOORE'S LETTER

Disappearance of Uniforms From Washington—A Long List of Pennsylvanians Who Tried to Get Into the Army but Were Turned Down. Gossip About People You Know

Washington, Nov. 30. THE exodus of uniforms from Washington has been a marked result of the cessation of activities on the other side of the water. From many points of view this is a good thing. It relieves the pressure at hotels and apartment houses; it enables the departments to get down to work with less interruption, and it sends back to other occupations a good many men who probably should not have received commissions. Say what one will, there has been some justification for complaints of influence and favoritism in the making of appointments. Hundreds of young men who would have gone into the service through the draft and who could have gotten over to France in that way were given comparatively easy berths here, with rank from lieutenant colonel down, to perform work of a nonfighting character that could just as well have been performed by civilians. At the same time a good many older men, who had seen service were shoved aside when offering themselves for service in the field. The experience of many of the National Guard officers who endured the hardships of the seven months' campaign in Mexico before we entered the European war is in point.

GENERAL WENDELL P. BOWMAN, the commander of the First Pennsylvania Regiment, which performed so admirably at Chateau-Thierry, and afterwards head of the National Guard of the State, was of the type who might have been called. He was a trained soldier of wide experience, and in excellent health, but when he called upon the Washington authorities he found there was "no place for retired major generals." Colonel J. Warner Hutchins, who sought to bring his Pennsylvania National Guard knowledge into play in the ordnance or quartermaster's departments, met with a similar experience. So it was with Charles J. Harrah, former president of the Midvale Steel Works, and Assistant Director Hasselard, of the Department of Wharves, Docks and Ferries. Harrah's old friend and associate, Vice President W. P. Barba, of the Midvale, was taken in as a major and advanced to lieutenant colonel, but the millionaire ex-president was left out. Hasselard wanted to be a major of engineers, and his long experience on Delaware River work qualified him, but such places went to younger and sometimes to less experienced men. One of the most persistent efforts to get "over there" for real service was made by Murdoch Kendrick, still recently president of the Five O'Clock Club. He took private lessons in French for several months, attended drills and setting-up exercises, made arrangements for the transfer of his law business, and on receipt of word from General Crowder that a captain's commission would be tendered him, prepared to take leave of his dazed family. To properly qualify he was inducted into the service as a private and under orders proceeded to Washington. While there news of the armistice was proclaimed. "Private" Kendrick was then ordered to remain in Washington, which he did for several days, until sent home on furlough. Another Philadelphiaer who was all ready to go was Colonel Lewis E. Beller, who expected to be attached to the military police in France under command of Colonel John C. Grooms, the former head of our Pennsylvania constabulary.

of folks along the Main Lane. The Doctor graduated from Hahnemann, but rounded out a general medical education at Vienna and London, and finally threw his shingle at the capital, where he is highly respected. He inquires occasionally about Fred Stites, the Montgomery County statesman, whose eloquence electrified the Pennsylvania Legislature at the opening of the last session at Harrisburg, and is gratified at the record his brother, Frederick Warner, the architect, is making in ship construction on the Delaware.

MANY German-born citizens prevented from corresponding with their relatives in Germany during the war are writing to Washington to learn when it may be possible for them to communicate with their relatives with the view of extending individual assistance if needed.

Acting for the Postmaster General, Second Assistant Postmaster General Otto Praeger advises that the department is now using "every means at its command to learn when mail may be dispatched and received, conditions in the country concerned being of such a nature as to prevent the resumption of service as early as expected."

Mr. Praeger states that announcement will be made through the press and will be posted at the various postoffices and that information should be looked for from day to day.

There are thousands of loyal Americans in Philadelphia who have been unable to obtain any information about relatives and friends in Germany for more than a year past and it is believed that they will aid the Government in extending individual relief in many cases of distress as soon as the avenues of communication are open. This is a matter of interest to the Junger Maennerchor, the Turngemeinde and other Philadelphia organizations, whose loyalty during the war has been unquestioned, and whose assistance in the matter of Liberty Bonds has been considerable.

The freedom of the high "c's" has done Enrico Caruso many a good and lucrative turn when pay day at the Metropolitan Opera House came around.

If Governor Brumbaugh had been a shade more imaginative he might have waited until he was out of office before issuing an appeal for a state-wide thanksgiving.

What Do You Know?

QUIZ
1. Who are the Spartacides in Germany?
2. What is the meaning of 'al fresco'?
3. Who was David Ricardo?
4. What is the classical name of Switzerland?
5. Who called Shakespeare "Fancy's Child"?
6. What country is called the "Sunrise Kingdom"?
7. Who wrote the modern story of musical life, "Jean Christophe"?
8. Where is Boston Bay?
9. What is a tessellated pavement?
10. What American President refused to greet his successor at the capital?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz
1. Henry White, formerly American ambassador to France, and Ellis Root were mentioned as the Republican envoys on the American peace commission. Mr. White has been selected.
2. President Wilson is expected to land in Brazil, France.
3. The Catalan language, as well as Spanish, is spoken in Barcelona, Spain.
4. Jean-Francois Millet painted "The Anguish."
5. The peace conference after the Spanish-American War was held in Paris.
6. Lindler M. Garrison was Mr. Baker's immediate predecessor as Secretary of War.
7. A hearse is a cushion for kneeling on a sort of matted grass.
8. The Newport Calendar was a publication with accounts of the prisoners of Newport Jail, London.
9. A tessellated pavement is a cubical pavement.
10. A mandarin is a high official in a despotic government.

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