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a grievous and doubtless fatal mistake to attempt to force upon the convention any cut-and-dried program.

If we are to have a revision worth while it must be made by elected representatives of all the people—Democrats as well as Republicans, reformers as well as machinists, Socialists, Prohibitionists, home-ruled and those who favor control of the cities from Harrisburg. Then let these delegates thresh out the issues until they discover what seems best to the best judgment of the majority. There is nothing like public debate to clarify the thinking of the participants if they enter upon the discussion with a desire to get at the truth instead of with the desire to carry a point.

This newspaper sincerely hopes that the General Assembly will this winter authorize the calling of a convention of elected delegates and will make provision for the representation of all shades of opinion in it. Then it will not matter much whether a commission makes a preliminary draft of a constitution or not. No small group distrustful of the wisdom of elected delegates can force its views upon a large body of elected representatives of the people determined to revise their fundamental law to suit themselves.

CONCORD OF PRINCIPLES MUST BIND THE NATIONS

Agreement on Mr. Wilson's oft-proclaimed Basis of an Enduring Peace Transcends In Import Any Program of Details

EVERY ONE knows that the war was not fought in all quarters of the globe by millions of men and with passionate intensity because Vienna threatened Belgrade or Russia mobilized perhaps too soon or because the Germans marched into Belgium or because they promised security to but one American merchantman a week plying between New York and Falmouth.

General principles—a duel of them respectively representative of democracy and despotism—fanned and sustained the flames of conflict.

General principles—a concord of them, since the foe will play no constructive role in the Paris conference—must therefore logically form the fabric of peace.

Emphasis on this point is manifested today in all nations to be represented at the memorable convention. Conflicting claims on specific issues, antagonistic purposes with regard to numerous highly important details will inevitably be presented. Adjudication of interests, the balancing of practical values are part of the entirely legitimate functions of such a meeting. But the promise of results would be meager indeed without the cardinal tie, the broad concept of orderly freedom which has held the Allies together throughout the war and is the antidote for chaos at the peace table.

The dynamic force of such an ideal gives the clear ring of sincerity to the recorded fervor evoked by President Wilson in Paris and in the French, Italian and British press. Since the landing at Brest the Paris populace, whose cheers for the American chief executive ring through the boulevards, have received no clue to his opinions concerning the discussed eastward expansion of France, the size of the indemnity or the rules for sea rights.

It is not even known that the President himself has definitely formulated any, while there is a weight of significant evidence to suggest that a tabulated program of preconceived "demands" is the last thing with which he would confront our international associates. Even the fourteen points, which served well their purpose in clarifying the German mind, have subtly taken a secondary place. They are meaningless unless informed by the harmonizing principle pervading the thought of statesmen and their constituents in all the Allied nations, and they are even susceptible without inconsistency of radical alteration when sustained by such a spiritual force.

Hence, when Mr. Lloyd George at the climax of a political campaign espouses unlimited expansion of the British navy, that declaration, though prophetic of argument at the session, is overshadowed as a valid augury of results by his affirmation of belief in the general purpose of democracy. The former contention is a subject for judicial inquiry. On the latter the whole existence of the court and its chances of accomplishment depend.

"Our object," said Mr. Wilson in his congressional address of April 2, 1918, asking for the declaration of war against Germany, "is to vindicate the principles of peace and justice in the life of the world as against selfish and autocratic power and to set up amongst the really free and self-governing peoples of the world such a concert of purpose and action as will henceforth insure the observance of these principles."

Since arriving in Europe the President's whole attitude, which has won such favor that the detail-mongers have questioned the authenticity of approval, has simply been in line with those principles. A more specific platform would necessarily undergo revision as the President visited the scenes of devastation, as he gained new light through personal contact with high national spokesmen on innumerable problems of race, boundary and economics.

At this early juncture it is not only wise but honorably so to rely on the passionate desire in all the nations to restore civilization on a reasonable basis of equity. It is that primal motive which makes many discords in the conferences to be sounded in a relatively minor key. Without it the meetings would be anarchic, and this the whole world will never sanction and would eternally resent.

With the unifying principle established it is possible to conceive of a vast amount of quid pro quo claims and sur-

renders in the deliberations. At this prospect it is easy to be cheaply cynical and to storm in panicky style at the mere mention of the word barter. To behave in this way is to ignore the announced concept of justice, which need not be inherently compromised at all if it be given priority in the "program."

The Congress of Vienna from the outset threw overboard this essential factor and it has become a byword in disgraceful diplomacy. But the Constitutional Convention which met in Philadelphia in 1787 opened with a concert of general principles, all looking toward the establishment of order and legitimate freedom in a vast empire which was actually in those days a world in itself.

The nobility of the fathers' achievement, high purposed in essentials, is quite unimpaired by the record of compromises whereby a riddle of conflicting issues was solved. Of the three major ones the most significant and ingenious was the satisfaction accorded the large States by basing representation in the House on population and the concession to the small commonwealths whereby each State was equally represented in the Senate. If this was "barter," in the shady sense of that word, the United States of America has made the most of it.

With this fruitful lesson in mind it is perverse skepticism to be alarmed at the multitude of questions certain to arise before the Paris peace board. Agreement on the main structure has been reached. They echo in every plaud which Mr. Wilson receives as an earnest that his "program" is that of other statesmen and nations. At once in its comprehensiveness and its simplicity it is the only one by which the deliberations which seek to remake the world can bring forth results.

The cold which Mr. Wilson took with him to France seems to have been altogether overwhelmed in his warm reception there.

MEXICO AGAIN

OLD times seem to have returned when a whiff of fresh smoke from the persistent Mexican volcano blows across the front pages of the newspapers to cloud momentarily the glamorous news from France and to remind us that we still have unsettled troubles at our own doors.

It is to be a revolution now, we are told, to unseat Carranza. This suggestion is not novel. Unquestionably Carranza ought to be unseated when a better man can be found to fill his place. But there are intimations, discernible between the lines of recent dispatches, to indicate that the next revolution in Mexico may be as far from motives of righteousness as those that preceded it.

Any one familiar with recent Mexican history must stop automatically in wonder when he is solemnly informed that the powers which threaten existing government represent—or will represent—a union of the "Huerta and Madero adherents." Similarly it might be said that the junkers and conscientious objectors have united to save Germany or that the lion and the lamb have entered into a co-operative plan to bring universal peace to the animal kingdom.

It was deadly enmity between the Huerta and Madero factions that split Mexico wide open a few years ago. The Huerta Government—a bloody, tyrannical, strong-handed regime, dominated by ruthless and cruel self-interest—came into existence directly through the murder of President Madero, whose mystic idealism failed to help or pacify the country. What we would like to know now is the nature of the magical force that is to unite the two forces heretofore most violently opposed in Mexico.

It may be necessary to look backward over history for a guiding hint. In the old times that are gone forever revolutions could be made to order in a large part of Central and South America. Any one who had a great deal of money invested in concessions was sure, sooner or later, to find the demands of controlling politicians unbearable. When a greedy and unthinking system of graft threatened ruin and extinction there was but one way out. The concessionaire financed a rebel band. He started a revolution, set up a new government and carried the territory a step forward to the light—through a good deal of waste and bloodshed. There are always disgruntled and warlike factions in Mexico. They have been befriended by European and American interests before this.

For two years President Carranza has been in a trance of pro-Germanism. The navies that guarded civilization got most of their fuel oil from the Tampico fields. The German emissaries at Mexico City convinced the Mexican President that a tremendous export tax on oil would bring vast revenues to the Government treasury. It would, for a day or two. Then it would automatically ruin the foreign investors who developed the oil fields, stop the output of fuel oil and culminate in government confiscation of untold millions of private property owned in America and Europe.

This scheme has been carried forward with energy. President Carranza calls it a measure for "the nationalization of industries." The American and the European Governments are busy. They can protest and are likely to do no more for the time being. Are we to assume, therefore, that the latest of the artificial, created revolutions is being stimulated in Mexico by interests that see no hope in any other method?

An Advertising Genius

Whistler's Connection With the Lady Eden Portrait in the Wiltach Collection

PERHAPS the greatest advertising genius of modern times, not excepting P. T. Barnum, was James McNeill Whistler. He dyed his hair and allowed a long lock in front to remain light colored—it turned gray as he grew older—in order to attract attention to himself. His dress was picturesque and unusual for the same reason. He had a lot of fantastic quarrels with his patrons, ascribed sometimes to his erratic temperament, but without doubt deliberately arranged by him in order to provoke discussion in the public prints.

Every one familiar with the history of art knows the story of the Peacock Room which he painted for a London patron. There was no contract, but it was agreed that Whistler was to do the room for 500 guineas. As the work progressed he asked a thousand and this price was agreed on; but when the room was finished the artist demanded two thousand. The patron refused to pay it and Whistler declined to accept a penny less, and he never received anything for what is generally admitted to be the most splendid piece of interior decoration of modern times. When his patron refused to pay his price, Whistler jumped at the chance to get advertising as quickly as a cat jumps at a mouse. He got it.

The purchase for the Wiltach collection in Memorial Hall, Fairmount Park, of Sargent's portrait of Lady Eden has recalled another instance of Whistler's advertising genius. Whistler painted a portrait of Lady Eden, but when her husband paid for it he offered pounds instead of guineas. Whistler insisted on guineas, and when they were refused he painted out the face and inserted the face of another lady. He was sued for the delivery of the portrait, but he won his suit, and got more free advertising than he could have bought for ten times the sum he failed to collect. The husband of Lady Eden then commissioned Sargent to paint his wife. And now wherever the Sargent portrait goes the story of Whistler goes with it.

No professional advertising man has ever put over a more successful bit of publicity work. The comments which Whistler made on each occasion when he "quarreled" with his patrons indicate that he understood the value of the discussion of it in the public prints.

What England Has Done

A Philadelphia whose stepdaughter has married an Englishman and has been living in England for years, wrote her with the purpose of quizzing her; that he thought most of the people on her side realized that had it not been for the American troops and their quality and number sent to France it would have been impossible for Foch to have accomplished what he did. The woman seemed to think that her stepfather was belittling the work of the English, and she replied: In the course of her letter, written on November 5, she makes the following interesting remarks:

EVIDENTLY, without intending it, got a good old rise out of you on the subject of the U. S. A.—can't help smiling about it. You are wrong if you don't think I read the papers. I take three daily papers, two weekly and one Sunday paper. I have never missed reading all matter pertaining to the U. S. A., all the congratulations, etc. you mention. I am naturally interested. I also get a considerable amount of first-hand information from people in touch with them at the front, which does not appear in the papers. I am, without "bucking" I imagine, more up on what is going on in the U. S. A. than you are. When I say she has done "exceedingly well" I consider that high praise, not "mild praise," as you call it. As to what the U. S. A. has done for England, I am sure the papers tell me, and they certainly give great praise. So don't run away with the idea that I don't admire my native country. I do cordially. Do you know nothing of England? There is not a drop of blood in my veins that did not originally come from England. I am just as much bred from England as anybody here. I have never loved the U. S. A. just as the love for a mother and a child can be equally strong and never interfere with the love for a father. I know nothing of America has not been very long in the war, she has unlimited resources and men. I am enormously proud of her, but she can never be in the same position as France, and above all, England. The former is fighting for her own soil and women and children. We are fighting for our Allies and the right; U. S. A. is doing the same. The English have done more to win this war than any other nation on earth. At the end of four years and three months they are as undaunted, as heroically brave and shedding their blood as freely as we are in the first enthusiasm of the war. Please do not misunderstand if the U. S. A. had the chance without doubt she would prove herself that she can do as much for victory. She can never have the nation for her spur; also with unlimited men to draw on her men at their backs. I need never go on about the U. S. A. I am sure you know some men (those left of them) still fighting to the death, exhausted, maimed and uncomprehending. The English have done and are doing, and I am filled with overwhelming pride to think that I have the right to be proud of them, that their blood is in my veins. My point is that we have never faltered during nearly four and one-half years against great odds; U. S. A. has not been tried to this extent, but come in when the Hun was beginning his final swoop before collapse. I do hope you understand what I am trying to explain; U. S. A. is doing magnificent work. It is easy to do wonderful things when you are fresh; it is wonderful to still do magnificent things when you are exhausted mentally and physically. It is easier to fight a winning fight than to fight against overwhelming odds through many years and never once lose courage. Knowing my country I know that had she been in England's place, she would have fought against odds and never given in, just as the English have done. There are only two countries in the world who could have done it—England and U. S. A. I think heaven at least America was spared what we have gone through. I see Austria has caved in, certainly Germany won't be able to hold on very much longer, I imagine. The evening news is splendid, but I feel too worried at the moment to be very elated.

The President is said to be laying the foundation for world peace. The next thing in order will be a good old-fashioned raising bee, joined in by all the neighbors.

This is the season when a man's wife buys cigars and neckties for him, and as Mr. Doe says sagely remarked, he does not care which he smokes.

The Kaiser's friends are now saying that he did not fond he had abdicated until he got the news from Berlin. There seems to be a conspiracy on foot to prove that he was a bigger fool than his enemies had charged.

COMBINING DUTY WITH DESIRE



CONGRESSMAN MOORE'S LETTER

Auditor General Snyder's Hit in Washington—Delights and Responsibilities of Large Families—Chevalier Baldi and His Lemons—Peril in Eating Terapin

Washington, Dec. 13.

THE Delaware River has a real booster in George Uher, Supervising Inspector General of Steamboat Inspection Service of the United States. General Uher is one of those competent officials who holds his place in Washington regardless of the political complexion of the administration. His duties take him to all parts of the United States, and recently he has been giving special attention to steamboat regulations in Alaskan waters. Uher likes the Delaware because he was born on its banks. He is a product of Delaware City, the northern terminus of the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal, and is therefore a natural boatman. He describes his first visit to Philadelphia like this: "I came up as a boy on a spar in 1864, and thus first beheld the spires of the big city." The Inspector General delights to tell of his association with Captain Elisha Webb, whose son, Elisha Webb, Jr., of the Vessel Owners and Captains' Association, is now pleased to call the general "one of his godmothers." Uher says young Elisha was "the pretties baby he ever saw." Theodore B. Palmer, Charles E. Davis, Jr., and Albert F. Brown, who keep in close touch with river conditions, have gotten hold of this "pretty baby" story and are passing it along the wharves.

CHARLIE SNYDER, of Pottsville, the versatile Auditor General of Pennsylvania, gave the national solons a sample of Keystone State oratory at the recent dinner to Governor-elect Sproul. No one is more popular at Pennsylvania banquets than the eloquent and witty ex-State Senator. His long association with Senator Sproul and its relations he must maintain with him as Auditor General enabled him to work off some highly interesting and amusing incidents with respect to legislative practices. When called upon suddenly at Washington, the Auditor General rolled his hand around his white vest in characteristic fashion, looked "Uncle Joe" Cannon, "Nick" Longworth and "Jim" Mann squarely in the eye, and then "went after" the Governor-elect. It was a treat which the Washingtonians enjoyed.

CABLE dispatches indicate that Brigadier General George H. Harries was one of the first Americans to enter Berlin. Many old newspapermen will recall Harries as a fellow-scribe. He was one of those who put in an appearance for a Washington paper at the Homestead riots. When the strikers undertook to discipline the newspaper men and censor their dispatches, Harries was one of those who formed an organization for protection and resistance. He figured in the visitation of the strikers' committee to the National Guard headquarters, suddenly thrown up on a commanding hill, with Major General George R. Snowden, of Philadelphia, in command. A photograph of newspaper men at Homestead July, 1892, includes Harries, Cresson Schell, the artist; Hampton Moore, "Brig" Young and Charlie Vaughn, now of Pittsburgh. Harries was always strong for the military, having helped to build up the National Guard of the District of Columbia, of which, for a time, he was in general command.

ABOUT the Christmas party in Saginaw that is likely to celebrate the homecoming of the boys of his family who had gone to France and which is to be attended by thirteen of the Fordney grandchildren. Governor-elect Sproul listened and then said sympathetically, "What more can a man desire?" But there are other ways of looking at the large family problem—practical ways like those of the late Senator McNichol in seeing that the sons are properly placed. With James J. McNally, the barge owner, the situation is somewhat different, since most of his family of ten are girls. How did McNally meet the situation? Very simply. As each child was born he built a new barge and gave it the name of the child, thus building up a family and a business at the same time.

CHEVALIER C. C. BALDI, who is recognized as a spokesman for thousands of Italians in Philadelphia, is another large family man. There are seven children in the Baldi group, but what pleases the chevalier most now is that three of them have acquitted themselves with honor in the war service. One of the sons, Virgil, a nineteen-year-old youngster, is a yeoman on the Oklahoma, which has attained distinction in connection with the President's trip abroad. Joseph Baldi, 2d, is a lieutenant in France, whose captain has recently complimented him for service and gallantry. A third son, Dr. Frederick S. Baldi, is in the aviation service. "Charlie" Baldi, as his friends best know him, came to the United States a poor boy. He recently said he arrived with forty cents in his pockets, and began his career in Philadelphia selling lemons from a basket. In addition to his other services during the war, all Charlie Baldi and his firm did, as the story goes, was to sell about \$600,000 worth of Liberty Bonds. Some record for a boy landing with forty cents, who has since been personally honored by the King of Italy!

THE Board of Health met yesterday to "discuss means to prevent the return of influenza." Have you ever noticed that boards of health everywhere always meet to prevent the return of a disease after it has returned?

If the foreign legats in the Russian capital should consider writing "Diplomatic Life in Petrograd," that singular work would be in the nature of an autobiography.

What Do You Know?

- QUIZ
- Who is the Premier of Greece who has visited Mr. Wilson in Paris?
 - Name three noted men all known as Benjamin Franklin.
 - Who was Frederick Tenyson?
 - To what nation do the Madeira Islands belong?
 - Who was Abraham Lincoln's Secretary of State?
 - What kind of envelope is called "Dixie" in American army slang?
 - What is the singular of the word kismet?
 - What is a "fete-chambrée"?
 - What article of clothing is called a corselet?
 - From what State were never herebefore represented at the head of the Treasury Department, does Secretary Grista come?
- Answers to Yesterday's Quiz
- Lisbon is the Portuguese name for Lisbon.
 - The apostrophe with fermata has been extended to January 17.
 - Dante lived during parts of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. His dates are 1265-1321.
 - "Hall, Hall, the Gang's All Here" is sung to a melody written for a number of instances by G. F. Root. It is the title of the Pirates of Penzance, by Sir Arthur Sullivan, who was the composer.
 - Benjamin Wilson was a noted philosopher, a native of America and a son of a Puritan. His dates are 1693-1743.
 - New Haven is the largest city in Connecticut.
 - A charge-basse is a long vehicle with many seats looking forward.
 - There is the verb for English verbs.
 - There is no an American word, meaning either.
 - There is no an an American word.

THE MAYOR IN THE DOCK

IF MAYOR SMITH felt as much humiliation as the city ought to feel today when he was arraigned, even though only by proxy, on a charge of participation in election misdemeanors he will have atoned in a measure for the wrongs charged against him.

Earlier accusations made against Mayor Smith, as a result of the shameful upheaval in the Fifth Ward, represented a frank exaggeration of blame inspired by the usual factional spirit of municipal politics. In the present instance, however, the charge of election law violation is founded upon the fact that the police, who are under the Mayor's control and responsible direction, seem to have participated with deliberation in ballot frauds and tyranny over voters.

It may be difficult to prove that the Mayor was a direct associate in the flagrant violation of the laws he is sworn to enforce. But this makes little difference. Arraignment in court under a criminal indictment is severe punishment for any man with a reputation to sustain.

Mr. Smith's unpleasant fix represents the price he has to pay for long and placid association in a political system that is ignorant, backward-minded and malevolent. It is a system more powerful than any individual. The Mayor himself, in a sense, one of its victims. Retribution doesn't come to systems. It visits the individuals who comprise the systems one by one. Mr. Smith now holds its visiting card in his hand.

A jewel of an army in a Rhinestone setting is the best of all Christmas presents for Uncle Sam.

PENROSE AS A NATIONAL ISSUE

WHETHER we like it or not it must be admitted that Senator Penrose and the school of politics with which he is identified is a national issue, likely to grow more acute as the presidential canvass of 1920 approaches. There is a little group of western Senators who have set out to do their best to prevent the senior Senator from this State from becoming chairman of the Finance Committee in the next Congress. Their opposition is not based on lack of appreciation of the abilities of Penrose, but on the memory of what he and the men associated with him did in 1912.

As the East goes so goes the nation used to be the rule, but this was upset in 1916, when on election night every one thought that Hughes had been elected. It was the West that elected Wilson. It will be the West that will hold the balance of power in national elections in the future. It is the sentiment of the West that the party managers must study night and day if they would avoid the mistakes of the past.

The first task before them is to find out whether the little group of western Senators represents the opinion of the States from which they come or whether they are merely talking for themselves. One or two are notorious blatherskites.

With all his hundreds of uniforms left behind, the ex-Kaiser is suited to no role save that which he now ingloriously fills.

DELIGHTS OF THE UNEXPECTED

FIFTEEN-YEAR-OLD girl remarked the other day as she was looking over the Christmas gifts which she had prepared for her friends: "I used to wonder what I was going to get for Christmas and worry about it; but, do you know, I have found out that it is a lot more fun to give presents than to get them."

There is a whole philosophy of life in this. We have the highest authority for its soundness. If every person could accept it as his guide the holiday season would be a happier time. But you hear women in the shops saying to one another: "I have exchanged presents with Mary every Christmas season for years, and I suppose I must get her something this year, but I do not know what to buy."

This business of "exchanging presents" is the bane of the existence of those who engage in it. We do not intend to condemn it, for it automatically places itself in the dock every holiday season and awaits sentence. But we would suggest that a little money be saved from the annual gift fund to be used in buying something for somebody who will not expect it and cannot by any chance return it. Then the joy of giving will lighten the burden of obligation under which so many of us stagger.

The "Red" cross in Germany is of a sort which the Ebert "moderates" are finding exceedingly hard to bear.

REVISION MUST BE IN THE OPEN

WHATEVER may be the purpose of the men who are suggesting that a commission be set up to draft a revised constitution, it is impossible to conceive of a vast amount of quid pro quo claims and sur-