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Philadelphia, Thursday, January 23, 1919

GOOD NEWS FOR THEATREGOERS

THE abandonment of the congressional plan to double the theatre tax is something more than a mere victory for the playhouse managers who have been conducting a fight against the proposed impost. Primarily it benefits the public as a whole, which has been patriotically uncomplaining under extraordinary tax burdens. The suggested 20 per cent extra charge on theatre tickets, however, would have unduly penalized a harmless pleasure which is, despite "high brow" jeremiads, an alleviating influence in modern civiliza-

There are assuredly other ways, notably, a check tax, by which the money necessary to pay the great war bill of the United States may be raised without rendering the cost of footlight entertainment almost prohibitive. The twenty cents' additional charge on a two-dollar ticket has brought in a goodly revenue and should continue to do so. It is possible that the higher rate might actually have produced less income for the government.

The Kitchins and their associates may have realized this, and they may also have appreciated at last the need of a little discretion in the execution of their formidable task. Even a needed tax bill may exhibit tact, taste and a certain sane sympathy without being unprofitable.

Democracy ought to be safe with so democratic a body as that sitting in Paris.

# EMANCIPATING THE VIND

SCHOLARSHIP material rather than scholars is obviously the desire of Columbia University in substituting product logical or intelligence tests for the oldfashioned entrance examinations. The faculty of the University of Pennsylvania is reported to be considering a similar plan. Its execution would be directly in line with the prevalent tendency in modern education to supplant the actual acquist tion of knowledge with the potentiality for acquiring it.

Facts are hopelessly arollyary. They embarrass the brain, solicitously tailored to register 100 per cent in cell normality college examiner, might well tremble did analysis prove his mental machinery to have labored under the slightest pressure in amassing the store of information which he stuffed into the "Decline and Fail." Exhibiting a mind beautifully fallow and as unburdened with specific information as the surfeiding Kanaka, ferrent commendatory honors might be he

There are jeers today for spelling learned word by word, geography remembered place by place and the deadly oppression of a historical date. Thought is free cried Caliban; fort it really wasn't be his day, while there were Prosperos non who persisted in learning something. Thought was shackled by the then alleged necessity of sullying it with memory. The chains are falling now. How fragile they are may be exemplified in a cruel request to the modern child to look up a word in the dictionary. The alphabet is a willing and tyrannoral preangement of between Why learn it? Psychic tests look far beyond such admoded "patter."

The work of reveiling Room ore in the tuent may be described as Manuel above

# A REVIVAL OF KULTUR?

WORLD that has been waiting patiently A for signs of contrition in the new Germany can find little reassurance in the news that Dr. Friedrich Naumann is being advertised as a probable first president of the new republic.

Doctor Neumann was a power in the University of Berlin and one of the ablest propagandists of the German superstate which, as he saw it should embody all of middle Europe and dominate the world by force, philosophy and industrial power. In the books written while Germany was at war. Doctor Naumann exhibited a cam assurance of victory and proceeded to be his people what they should do when France and England had been crushed withelm himself could hardly have drawn a madder picture of the future Germany.

Berlin, in the scheme outlined by this bithe prophet, would rule all of the conti nent between the French borders and Russia, as well as the Balkan territories. and, while preparing for further dominion over the world, would guard the expanded empire not with fortifications, but with deep parallel lines of trenches. Doctor Naumann wrote brilliantly and was without question the most effective of the many German writers who tirelessly preached race consciousness to the German people and hypnotized them with a sense of their imagined superiority. He did as much as Bernhardi to convince the

Germans that they were destined to rule

The fact that Naumann should be even seriously suggested for the presidency of a new German republic may explain why bitter anti-Germanism still is felt by many delegates at the Paris conference.

"INSIDIOUS INFLUENCES" AGAIN BOB UP AT WASHINGTON

Astonishing Revelations of a Corporation-Kept Man Sitting in Hoover-Hurley Conferences Abroad Call for Explanation

DRESIDENT WILSON, in a statement to the public on May 26, 1913, called attention to the existence of a corporation-maintained lobby in Washington with a vehemence that effectively rallied public opinion against these "insidious influences" and squelched the "extraordinary exertions" of the agents for the time being. If the President were in Washington today it is easy to guess what would be his at itude toward the amazing revelations before the Senate Agriculture Committee, showing that a ceret agent of meat packing, oil and other corporations, who for years has posed as a newspaper correspondent had actually been taken abroad to participate in the important conferences of Chairman Hurley, of the Shipping Board, and Food Commissioner Hoover. Without doubt, we venture to believe, Mr. Wilson would demand an explanation which would disregard sensibilities and personal relations and get at the bottom of as nasty a scandal as ever cropped up

in the national capital. So far as concerns this particular keptman of the corporations himself, little need be said. That he was able to collect regular monthly salaries amounting to \$2700 from six different great corporations, while the newspaper which allowed him to remain at the head of its Washington bureau assessed his value at \$60 a week, affords the measure of his relative usefulness. No doubt he earned his pieces of silver better in what he did for the secret employers than for his news-

But the serious part of his confession is the extent to which it involves Chairman Hurley, who, he declares, was fully aware of his secret connections when he took him abroad last November to assist in the work of arranging and feeding the starving peoples of the war-torn countries for whom President Wilson has asked an appropriation of one hundred million dollars.

What will Chairman Hurley say to

If Chairman Hurley had wanted representatives of the packing, oil or other large interegts to attend his conferences with Mr. Hoover in Europe in order to facilitate the purchase and shipment of supplies, he could have arranged to take them openly and nobody would have felt Ampelled to complain. It would have been merely a business proposition. These corporations must furnish the supplies since they are controlling factors in

But why should this paid informer have been selected as an assistant to do what he admits was largely clerical work because he had made a study of shipping from information collated in the archives of the Shipping Board when any ordinarrly intelligent clerk could have served just as well?

And why, if he did not go to serve the nterests of his secret employers, did they continue to pay his exorbitant monthly retainers during the many weeks he was away from Washington? Big business is not in the habit of squandering princely salaries in such a fashion without adequate return. There must have been a quid pro quo or else nickings are easier in Washington in these days of tremendous expenditures of the taxpayers' money than the efficiency experts who seek to prove how economically great industries are operated would have us believe.

The purpose of the senatorial investigation which brought to light the facts may be to prevent the passage of the \$100,000,000 appropriation. But it should not. The justice of the President's appeal is a thing apart from such slimy compets. Mr. Wilson assumes the responsibility for its proper expenditire, and nobody will believe that it has the aligntest suspicion attaching to it so far as he is concerned. Indeed, it may be as well to have these facts revealed now so that the President will have his attention directed to the possibilities of mikapplication and take prompt measares to checkmate them. But there should be no attempt at hushing up the scandal. The President should act and act without fear of where the consequences may do hurt. If Chairman Hurley was decrived, let this drab lobbyist be branded with the additional infamy of har. If Chairman Hurley knowingly committed the folly, his usefulness to the Federal Government is gone. And the senatorial investigators would perform a notable service to the people if they would make the secret employers explain in detail what they got for their \$2700.

Risson Portete face a deficit of more than twentroone billion deligns. Simply another phase of high Donne

# SLIM PROSPECTS FOR MANUEL

Since 1870 monarchical textorations have facts. The Third French Republic had a perilous start, but, despite Bournons, Or leanists and Imperializes, the modern demporatio tendency could not be withstood China and Brazii, even chaotic Russia, and now apparently Germans, textify to the force of this political philosophy, notwithstanding formidable obstacles. Cognizance of these facts serves to illumine the present disturbed situation in Portugal.

The young republic there has had an

measy career. Five or six incipient reolts in favor of the dethroned Braganza house have registered discontent. Porugal is not a rich country, educationally t is one of the most backward nations in Europe, and thus far there has been some lifficulty in proving to its inhabitants that riddance of a king did not necessarily

guarantee the millennium. But whatever the weaknesses of the new egime, the bulk of the republic has sucreeded in quelling the uprisings, usually ocalized in the conservative northern provnces watered by the Douro. There are indications that Lisbon, liberal as great ports always are, is unsympathetic with the latest royalist movement. If it remains true to form, young Manuel,

apparently far from discontented in his English exile, will not be returned. And even if he should come back, his

ule would probably mark but a passing phase. Kings once overthrown today have way of belonging to past history.

### The progress of Germany toward a stable government is being watched with equal parts of interest and suspicion.

NEW AIMS OF LABOR NONE of the developments at the Peace Conference has more clearly reflected pposing trends of thought in Europe and n America than the friction that has decloped between the labor forces assembling abroad for international councils organized to act under the stimulus of the greater congress at Paris.

Mr. Gompers and the other representaives of the American Federation loom already as the dominant powers for conservatism. All labor leaders here and abroad are committed to a plan for the internationalization of trade unionism. But whose ideas are to dominate in this larger scheme? The British Labor party is opposed bitterly to the Bolshevists, and of course the American Federation is opposed bitteriy to the Bolshevists. But the leaning of almost all European trades unionists toward socialism has made it impossible for the American representatives to co-operate fully with the British trades unionists. The American Federation refuses to lend its aid to socialistic propaganda.

There will be a general conference at Berne, at which all classes of labor will be represented. Even Bolshevist delegates from Austris and Russia will be there But the untral conference will be held at Paris and it is likely to be conservative. The fight for leadership in the formation of an international labor body probably will be waged between Compers on the one hand and Arthur Henderson, leader of the semi-socialist British Labor party, on the

Meanwhile the Peace Conference is preparing to go to great lengths with a proconcernent on the labor situation as it relates to the whole scheme of modern ivilization. It is generally understood hat the conference will formally enunciate code for the guidance of industry and dustrial workers.

Apparently the Peace Conference doesn't ntend to make detailed orders for industrial regulation. It will, rather, define what is right and what is wrong in terms of the individual and the man he works for. Some such definition would tend to give both sides in industrial disputes a clear conception of their rights and help from public nuisance. largely to avert the vast economic losses of periodical labor disturbances,

Sald J. Ogden Armour Depends on Whose to the House Inter-Ox Is Gored State Commerce Commirror; "If the ability will affect the livestock industry. To which Cuss may respond tilf the ability of human industry to function prop erty is impaired the prohibitive food prices the packing industry may reasonable expec-

The Germans will as-A Poser in Posen suredly see to it that the republic of Silesia ill protest against the feding of Posen to whind and Mast Bohemia to Czecho-Sloakin. It is in this way that monotony is unided in the marking out of frontiers

Providence has a way of providing for margenmen, fluring the days of reconstrucon and industrial readjustment Donnactor is will have need of a man with a level end in the gubernatorial chair and it really ove as though we had hun

Secretary of War Baker admonishes the my to maintain its high standard during no treated days of demobilization " Mr Baker evidently has in mind Mr. Kipring description of a big home draft

of Great Bertain's dominious same the ague as sourceign nations it will give no hork to the people of their mother country will simply be a formal acknowledgment f accondition long existing The new Hungarian cabinet or sold te

Emirgence sparties. That is because it by nes. As a cabinet grow- old -nofidence is he first in ng to wear off it is well for those who are opposed to the partial lifting of the blookade of sier. any to remember tha title Germana won't

one of the auto bandits in a recent heldn a described as a blonde girl with a baby care. Chris of that type usually were their sentiups without having to flourish a gun.

is able to pay their bills if they are starved

It is interesting to learn mor what the German delegates intend to accept and to The prisoner at the bar is usually expected to take what a coming to him Stereorological conditions and political

In the light of Marcont's conception we may now forward to the day when newspapers will contain accounts of interplanetary chess games.

If the Slave and the Italians will but hold their horses, the Peace Conference will provide each of them with a beautiful har-

## THE GOWNSMAN "Public Service"

PUBLIC service is a mouth-filling, dignifled, important phrase. Fighting, running ships, handling guns, keeping the ways of transport open, attending on the wounded and doctoring them, aiding the helpless, feeding the hungry-all this is to be abread on public service. Making the world "safe for democracy" and uncom fortable for the Bolsheviki, watching the staring-holes of Reynard the ex-Kaiser. keeping an eye on the exorbitances of national ambitions, whether Italic or Slavonte-all' is within the day's work of

public service. Mr. Wilson is abroad or

public service, though some are not aware

of it. M. Clemenceau, Lloyd George and

his relative. King George, as some one put

it, are all busy with public service. But

it, are an inas, this is not today's story. THERE was once a young economist or sociologist or "humanitarian"-it does not matter which-who had the impudence to criticize, in the Gownsman's hearing. the career of our late revered fellow towns man, Dr. Horace Howard Furness. "What a pity it is," said the "humanitarian." "that Doctor Furness is not interested in humanity. He seems a humane man." (The "humanitarian," with characteristic is o rance, knew nothing of the kindliness, generosity and true charitableness of the man of whom he presumed thus to speak.) "He seems," he continued, "a man of good heart but he spends his time selfishly delving over out-of-date books, writing and print ing opinions about an old poet, long since dead. Doctor Furness neither feeds the hungry, clothes the naked nor warms the cold. He seems to care nothing, either, for the souls of men. Just think what a power he might be in a college settlement or in the Y. M. C. A." "The humanitarian" was

JERE was a man with a thumb and H finger for values. He could tell a hawk from a handsaw, but mainly by negation; for the hawk, having wings, evaded him; the handsaw is your only useful implement. To him "a good man" is one who finds another who is hungry and gorges him; of intellectual hunger or the purveyor thereto he knew nothing; and, outside of the Y. M. C. A.-which the Gownsman maligns not-this man knew no life of the spirit. Of such, let us hope, is not the Kingdom of Heaven; for such have already too much of the earth.

such a power at \$5000 a year.

BUT to return to "public service." There is a kind, quite other to that which opened this "Gownsman." It is the kind which we do not so much achieve as have thrust upon us; the kind which seems referable to the determination of some people to escape at least the mistake of Cain, who was so unwilling to be thought his brother's keeper. Those whom this kind of "public service" has made its own are professionally "my brother's keeper." They keep him supplied with thoughts and how to think them, words and how to say them 'facts" and how to meet them and throttle them. They direct your benevolences and keep your money when they get it. Indeed so determined are they in their keeping. correction, direction, supervising and boss ing of every "brother's" act that those of us who do not want to be up to date, virtuous, directed or efficient, find it hard to distinguish this kind of public service

SOMETIMES it is only a chair of "public service," the chief function of which is to tell the rest of us how to sit in our chairs or else vacate them. Sometimes it is a whole bureau. But the bureau shall speak for itself. Public Service, to circuof the packing industry to function properly late facts, questions and suggestions of nation-wide importance about public service by governments, civic agencies, higher eduation and henevalent foundations issues weekly . . . subscription 50 cents a year. Reports and articles are analyzed and reviewed at cost, which means from \$15 to \$75," . . . "Salary campaigns are directed \* \* \*; articles and high-spot notes are circulated. Live wires are sought and reported: co-operative self-surveys are di rected." The Gownsman swears that he has manufactured none of this twaddle; he has not the genius. A "fact" is sadly to seek in all this rubbish. Here, however, is "a suggestion" of marvelons originality - we knew it was a suggestion because it is so labeled. "Serviceable slang: Have a heart. Can you beat it? How do you get that way?" A "question" is "Have you stopped-or begun-letting the world reconstruction vitalize your instruction." A "query": "If you are doing something new or having larger classes, let us know about it. And lastly, "Dan't you want the Public Service Weekly Bulletin to come to you regularly?" Heaven forbid.

A DEVOTION to "public service" of this kind is conceivable on the part of the oneocter and instigator of all this smart ommonplace and obvious novelty: he inubiless yets a better wage out of it -to udge from his talents-than he would be Skely to get out of anything else, and to e paid as a professional smart Alec with a has toward emulscience is certainly to practice an original profession. But some-body is paying out good American money for the continuance of this kind of thing. Who is he and why is he doing it? my the confidence of the Scenarist and people who read this stuff. Does the small tyranny of the school require any unfortu-nate teacher, or body of teachers, to take read or use these circulars and the hod of "literature" which, for a price, is adver-tised, puffed and exploited back of it" much of it, the work of "the director," who doubtless reveives his royalties,

MHE general practitioner in "how to de A per is a preposterous and dangerous product of the loose and happy-go-lucks education of the day. With increasing demands for expert knowledge in ever a larger number of fields, with a rigorous call for deeper and better research and scholarship in every direction, it seems a scholarship in every direction, it seems a strange contradiction that this new class of experts in expertness should have so grown up among us. It is clear that any one may specifically study the management of anything, but a practical experience in the subject would seem to a plain man not an irrational or inconsistent part of the equipment of any expert. As it is we have experts in factory management who have never tun a factory experts in enditions had points in common in Harrisburg resterday. A bright sun dissipated a who have never run a factory; experts i national relations who have ever h further abroad than Hoboken; specialists in education who cannot keep order or interest in their own classes, and advisers is to the use of moneys in charity who annot finance their own families. The eart of the Gownaman goes out t the ictims of these half-educated exploiters of the obvious, who part with their money to throw it into novel experiments in ineffi-cient hands, and more especially to the hard-worked teacher, who, with trouble enough of his own, must stand the buffets of folly, exploitation and worse.

# THE CHAFFING DISH

I am the beautiful silken lid, with which some eminent domes are hid, shining on top of a lustrous knob to distinguish the wearer from the mob. c political junkets would soon Yall flat, inaugurations would ose egiat, without the cane, the spat & the hat

The Freede - .... she Seas

Paim Beach, Fia. ban, 21,-Miss Pear White, who was in the surf, appeared after-ward in a brilliant victory red hat wreathed with small vegetables and fruit and a blue and white gingham frock with white organ-die vestee and cuffs.—New York Times.

I intended a wheeze And it turned to a wry piece. On Fashion's decrees I intended a wheeze. But Pearl left the seas In her vegetable sky pie e 1 intended a wheeze And it turned to a wry piece "You're the Mother of Pearl I remarked to an oyster;

And she makes my heart which In its innermost cloister You're the Mother of Pearl I remarked to an oyster But it is not a hat I shall notify Hoover It's magnificent, that, But it is not a hat. So I'll tell you quite fla

"She's a fine looking gir

(Vou're the Mother of Pearly

. . Said Miss White: "You must hedge Of your jokes I've a surfeit. These are not real veg." Said Miss White: "You must hedge; I've my milliner's pledge What do you think of her fit?" Said Miss White: "You must hedge:

I shall have to reprove her

I shall notify Hoover."

But it is not a hat

So I said to Pearl White "It's a rollicking chapeau; And your instinct is right So I said to Pearl Whites "To put on nothing trite Just above your bright map-O! So said I to Pearl White

Of your jokes I've a surfeit."

'It's a rollicking chapeau.' One Method of Desk Cleaning

rne's custom to allow miscellaneous matter collect on his table—proofs, bills, letters Edmund Gosse tells us that it was Swin collect on his table—proofs, bills, letters ospectuses, manuscripts—until the litter eached formidable proportions. ould then pounce upon the pile, gather it up the day's newspaper and place it carefully upon a shelf never to be touched again, unless by another parcel of the same sort laid beside it.—New York Evening Post. Is it necessary to add that Swipburne was a bachelor?

The best part of many a young poet's erse is the refrain-the refraining from writing it.

Mr. Creel says he is coming home as oon as possible "to resume literary work." We were not aware he had ever begun it.

Noodies in the Haystack

Five lunatics have escaped from an asylum near Chicago, and by mingling with the holiday crowds defied detection .-Cleveland Picin Dealer.

Null Sed writes to us that he whe?) has been reading The Chaffing Dish, and adds, "I often wonder weather you are man, women or child, sometimes I think your an old maid."

"BR-R-R-RR!"

To which our only reply is to quote the title of an amusing melodrama we once saw called "Neither Maid, Wife Nor Widow."

A silk hat on some people looks as incongruous as an amber mouthpiece on a corncob pipe.

Hurrah! We ring in grateful ditties On a theme that is incongruous: Congressional committees This modest little song grew us. Their action wise and witty smacks To have denied that theatre tax.

HAMLET. so far as to admit that they had a "war psychosis" during the last four years.

## On the Rapid Deterioration of Garter Elastics

Capricious things are garter bands: Traitors in a way Malicious no one understands. Elastic webs won't stay in any one position For any length of time. They fall down in their mission And almost lead to crime.

to summertime they get red hor The rubber hugs so tight. Our veins feel all tied in a krot And we would like to fight The guy who wished them on us For such cemenic whims We'd hang him in a harness Of these twin pests for limbs.

Relief is sought; we fix them loose, But soon our sox hang down o graceless folds about our shoes And cause a deep'ning frown: For each time they're adjusted They flop right down again. With garters we're disgusted And breathe a "damn" - Amen!

When wintry winds blow 'round our shanks Elastics lose their pep. But be not hasty with your thanks For we know not the step Phose secret sins of raiment Old 'rose or Alice blue, Will drop out on the pavement To make a boob of you.

A pair of garters bought today To fit your calf so sleek Will fill your soul with blank dismay-They'll stretch so in a week. They are such great offenders,

No matter what their hue, To use them for suspenders is all that's left for you. WALTER S. FOGG.

## The Hard Life of a Soldier Our Military Correspondence With the Army of Occupation, Dec. 27.

This is the big Division (First) over here that's done more hard work and done it better than any other. I got back from my office-hours job to find an outfit that's been in continuous fighting ever since I left them at Montdidier. The poor officers haven't had a leave. And on top of the fighting, they've just completed the long hard like thiking is 100% harder for ar tillery than for doughboys, appearances to the contrary notwithstanding) up to Coblentz and a few kilometers across the

river, where they are now set for the winter.

CONFERENCE

I don't know the name of our town, it isn't on the map anyway. It is just big enough to stable the horses and bunk the men. I have a little billet with a bed, a table and a stove, and I have large black cigars in store, so I am quite happy. It's cold and snowy now, and Christmas was a bit depressing, but we have little work to do for once, and I look forward to the long evenings with my books and papers without dismay. I'm reading French now, may turn to German later. I have brought along a few books representing Montesquieu, Pierre Loti, Flaubert, Verhaeren, Verlaine, Victor Hugo (poetry), Gogol (translated into French). For the first time I'm indulging in great gobs of French, and it's fascinating.

LIEUT, JOHN C. RANSOM, Fifth Field Artillery, A. E. F.

croaked against than croaking. Never mind. Next Monday is his birthday, and if he is still living then, we shall indite a nosegay that will finish him.

"The Kaiser still seems to be more

The gentleman who prepares the peace communiques believes in cutting things down to the bone.

The correspondents have already provided the Peace Conference with more subjects for settlements than one body of men could attend to in a lifetime. Herr Hohenzollern's birthday is to be

elebrated with a concert in the castle at Amerongen. There would be more snap to a necktie party. The Legislature will not be just what it

should be until Vare men, Penrose men, Les-

lie men and the like are succeeded by just plain Pennsylvania men. After living the life of a man about town in London Manuel should have no

desire to take up the uncertainties of the king business in Portugal. It is really so unsettling, y know. Representative Vickerman, of Allegheny,

herald-in-chief for the drys in the new Legislature, assures an anxious world that Pennsylvania will "get in" with the other States before the end of the line is reached. In, so to speak, out of the wet?

# What Do You Know?

QUIZ Who is the President of Switzerland?
 Who were the first three American soldiers to die on the soil of France in the war? 3. How many people in Ireland speak the Gaelie

Which is the "Gopher State"? What is the crisin of the expression, "Even

6. What is the route of the great government railway to Alaska?

7. What is the number of the United States Con-8. Who was the first American President to wear a full beard? 9. Who wrote "The Lady of Lanne"?

hat celebrated poet, philosopher and dramatist was associated with the tewn of Weimar, selected as the meeting place of the new German National Assembly? Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

The orlop deck is the lowest deck of a ship The Grand Duchess Charlotte is the new ruler of Luxemburg, succeeding her sister, Marie Adelaide.

. Twenty-five degrees Vahrenheit is the freez-Clay ran three times for the presi-

Seventeen kings of France were named Louis

7. R. D. Blackmore wrote the novel. "Lorne elve ounces make a pound, troy weight. The Hoosac tunnel, piercing the Hoosac Mountains, Mass., is four and a half miles long.

10. There is no difference in time between Wash-ington, D. C., and Santiare, Chile.