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## Evening Public Ledger THE EVENING TELEGRAPH PUBLIC LEDGER COMPANY CTRUE H. K. CURTIS, Passionsvi Charles H. Ludington, Vice President, John C. Marlin, Herretary and Treasurer; Philip S. Collins, John B. Williams, John J. Spurgeon, Directors. EDITORIAL BOARD:

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Philadelphis, Friday, February 28, 1915

### THE FALL OF MANN

FORWARD-LOOKING Republicans will be heartened by the defeat of Representative Mann in the speakership caucus in Washington last night. The Chicago Congressman polled only sixty-nine votes out of a total of 225. This fairly represents the strength of the reactionary element in the party.

Representative Gillett, the nominee of the caucus, polled 138 votes, and eighteen votes were cast for three other candidates. Mr. Gillett is clearly the choice of more than a majority of the members of his party, and when the minority had stood up to be counted in opposition so that its strength or weakness might be disclosed Representative Mann handsomely proposed that the choice of Mr. Gillett be made

unanimous, There was more than the customary per-

functoriness in the caucus agreement to this proposition. The fitness of the successful candidate for the post is admitted. His freedom from factional entanglements guarantees for him the confidence of the whole party and the final unanimous vote for him promises much for the future harmonious union of all shades of Repub-

licans in an effort to serve the nation. No political event of recent years is more significant than the overwhelming defeat of Mann. It lays the fourdations for an aggressive and successful Republican campaign for the presidency in 1920.

### PUTTING IT UP TO A PENNSYLVANIA LAWYER

THE appointment of A. Mitchell Palmer to the attorney generalship seems to 51 prove that if a man waits long enough he may get what he wants.

Mr. Wilson offered to make Mr. Palmer Secretary of War in his first Cabinet, but the Stroudsburg statesman preferred to be at the head of the Department of Justice. That post, however, had been prom-

ised to McReynolds, of Tennessee, Now, after six years of service to his party in other ways, Mr. Palmer gets what he first desired.

The new Attorney General is not one of the great lawyers of the country. Not even his best friends would put him in the same class with William M. Evarts, Wayne MacVeagh, Richard Olney or Philander C.

committee and maintain that he is the whole party. Indeed, according to his own plished, for the peculiar growth of this city theory, he is the supreme party leader. elected by the votes of its members. He has taken counsel with few, but has issued his orders with all the authority of a party despot. There have been rumblings of dissatisfaction, but there has been no open revolt worth considering. Even now it is admitted that his control is so nearly absolute that he can dictate the nomination of the next Democratic candidate for the presidency if he does not choose to take that nomination for himself, and there are those who say that he could get the nomination easily if he desired it. There is no mystery about this.

Under these circumstances Mr. Cummings will serve to fill the job as well as any other deserving Democrat, so long as he knows how to look wise-and obey orders from the White House.

## TRY BOOSTING THE OLD TOWN AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS

Chamber of Commerce's Mayoralty Questionnaire Can Work Wonders, Provided YOU Pull for Progress

 $\mathbf{R}_{^{\mathrm{ent}}\mathrm{Diation}}^{\mathrm{EPUDIATION}}$  of the deceptive phrase  $\mathbf{R}_{^{\mathrm{ent}}\mathrm{Diation}}^{\mathrm{ent}}$  is a signally healthy feature of the questionnaire on ivic betterment circulated by the Chamber f Commerce. To deny the excellence of the program outlined it is necessary for the disputant to be either a boob or a

fying

Of course, the referendum will produce a breadside of affirmative replies, No ionest man in his senses can venture to contradict the fact that the progress of Philadelphia must be greatly fostered by a capable Mayor and an efficient, businesslike and energetic municipal administration. To brand the whole campaign as a trumpeting of the obvious is exceedingly

easy. And in the same degree it is stulti-Perfectly patent truths have a way of inking into quagmires in this rich. resourceful and venerable American city, and only the most energetic salvaging can make their message fruitful.

Sophistication is a perilous mental attitude for Philadelphians. It begets the torpid, half-ironic indifference that is abso lutely fatal to progress. Very little, indeed, in this community "goes without saying.

Platitudes proclaimed from the housetops are a spiritual necessity. Ingenuousness would be a virtue. There are cities in this country which

possess it to the full, which are unafraid of the trite when it is helpful, and the development gait of these communities is among the American miracles. Certain Philadelphians smilled conde-

cendingly at the spectacle. They had a earty laugh when Duluth announced itself the "Zenith City of the Unsalted Sens." Florid was that epithet and naive. But it is not exactly funny today that Duluth is one of the great fresh-water ports of the world. Ingenuousness, however flagrant. proved a powerful stimulant.

The kind of enthusiasm which prevails in Cleveland. Detroit. Minneapolis and many other fast-growing American cities is also amusing to the chronic ironist. But some of the humor evaporates when Cleve. land jumps to sixth place among our nopulation centers, while Philadelphia remains

stationed at third for a generation. There is a deal of lusty constructive energy to be derived from the inspiration of the most incontestable commonplaces. "Put your shoulder to the wheel" is a stock "bromide," but the man who rejects its message will not go far. The Chamber of Commerce is hot after

has clouded a unified view of its manifold activities, commercial, industrial, financial, Despite the fact that the civic consolidation dates from 1854, Philadelphia still bears traces of being a congeries of communities. It is doubtful if the significance of their "home town" is as hazy to inhabitants of other large American cities as it is to the average Philadelphian. "Boston stands for this." "San Francisco

stands for that," "Chicago stands for something else"-these are the substance of phrases quick upon the lips of the Bostonian, the San Franciscan, the Chicagoan, While recognizing that this city has played role of noble importance in American history, her citizens, thinking in contemporary terms, are readiest to declare that "Philadelphia stands for corrupt politics." What a pitifully inadequate estimate of

prodigious "workshop!" Badly ruled we have been, but our sheer productive potentiality and its results have been enormous. Pride in what Philadelphia truly stands for may be legitimately entertained without a taint of reprehensible conceit. The pride that inspires action is the kind which cannot be indulged in too freely at this time.

when Philadelphia faces the choice of either "stumbling through" without reallzing a tithe of her precious resources or of tackling her problems with clear-eyed, level-headed enthusiasm. The fear has been expressed that the

'hamber of Commerce's campaign and imilar undertakings to which it should give rise will result in an embarrassing array of good candidates for Mayor. Well in view of what has happened in the past this "danger" can be faced with genuinely joyous emotions. Prodigality of personal material would be of signal value in clearing away civic stagnation and ending the thoroughly ineffective "go-without-saying" policy

Let us have talk on the subject and plenty of it.

Let us have pride, too, in any performance, wherever originating, which shall bring us to a realization of what Philadelphia means and ought to mean in a future of unexampled opportunities.

Reform is a fine word, but progress is a finer, for it is inclusive.

### FOR THOSE WHO DON'T KEEP AC-COUNTS

 $C_{\rm a\ record\ of\ all\ their\ expenses\ and\ can}^{\rm ERTAIN\ systematic\ householders\ keep}$ tell how much money they paid for butter last year, how much for meat the year before and what the price of flour was the year before that. But most of us know merely that since the war began we have

been paying much more for everything we have to buy, and let it go at that. There is a certain curious interest, therefore, in the comparative figures prepared by the national Bureau of Labor Statistics showing the relation of the prices of 1913

with those of last fall. Here they are, omitting the prices of 1913, which are fixed at 100 as the basis for comparison: 223,00

222.70 210.80 Cornmeal 
 Potatoes
 161.70

 Creamery butter
 178.70

 Granulated sugar
 204.70
 $204.70 \\ 234.00$ Bacon ..... Lard .... Fresh beef ..... 225.20 241.80

188.50 The increases vary from 45.8 per cent for gasoline to 204.9 per cent for bleached muslin. These are the wholesale prices. The man whose salary has not been increased since 1913 - the teacher or the

preacher, for example-is the chief sufferer,

# WHAT FORDNEY THINKS

Confession of Faith of the Man Who Will Head the Ways and Means Committee

Joseph W. Fordney, of Michigan, sentor Republican on the Ways and Means Com-mittee of the Bouse of Representatives and in line for the chairmanship in the next Congress, set forth in a recent speech be-fore the Michigan Society, of New York, his belief on the principles which should guide in the framing of war legislation. Following is what he had to say about government control of business, the protection of in-dustry, the army and the navy and other kindred matters:

GENERALLY I believe in "government hands off of business." Government control means political interference and political

pull; control, not by the great captains of industry, but by the political office-seeker-which does not spell industrial success. When I speak of politicians I do not mean a man holding an elective office. I mean those seeking political appointment—soft snaps and good pay. On the contrary, I find men in Congress to be generally of the highest type of intelligence and characteronorable men. Imagine a politician of the former type.

selected by the President of the United States, directing the management of the United States Steel Company or the Bethlehem Steel Company or any other of the large and varied industries. Why, during the war the politicians failed and the President was forced to call upon experienced men to direct large affairs at a salary of \$1 a year. The aircraft construction was a scandal until a fractical business man was called to the helm. Ship construction larged and bade fair

to be a failure until a man of business ex-perience was put in control. Our merchant marine under government control must and will prove a financial fall-ure: it cannot be otherwise, operated under existing marine laws.

The best evidence of this assertion may be proved by an examination of the recent government control of the railroads and steamship transportation lines-a glaring and signal fallure. Government control threatens us with

dangerous political machinery which would endanger the very foundation of our govern-mental institution,

INTEREST in public affairs, state and na-, tional, should ever be present in the minds of the people. It is their duty; it is honorable. No citizen is too great and none too humble to be exempt from such duties. The business men of this country have a great responsibility devolving upon them. It is no easy task at this time to keep the wheels of industry moving. Idle mills mean idle capital, and idle capital means idle min, and the poorest asset of a nation is an idle man.

Production means consumption. The ca

pacity for consumption of an idle man is not so great as that of the man who is employed.

Consumption of American-made products means employment for American laboring men. The best market in the world for the products of the United States is with our own people. Our annual sales abroad, during normal

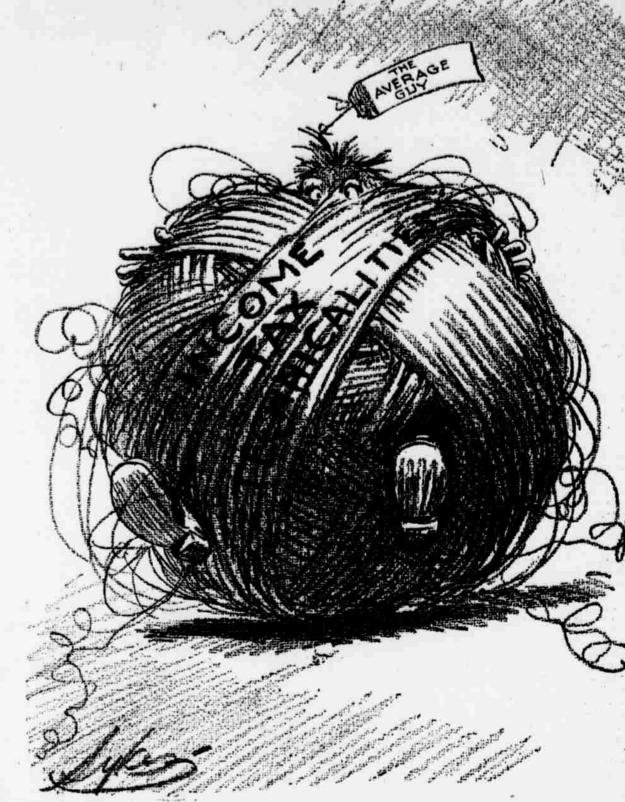
times, are less than 10 per cent of our total production. Therefore, to throw down the bars and invite in the products of the cheap labor of the world, while we chase rain-bows around the globe to find a dumping ground for a small percentage of our output nd at the same time neglect our best market, is, in my opinion, poor business judg-ment. We want a foreign market for our surplus, but we do not want it at the cost

of the loss of our home market. Think of the vast amount of capital in-vested in this country and the effort neces-

sary to keep it going. Capital is entitled to fair treatment: when unfairly treated labor suffers most. When capital is idle, both capi-tal and labor draw upon their own resources —each is unprofitable when the other is unamployed unemployed.

THE matter of government finances is one of much concern. Our expenditures for the last three years have been equal to our

the last three years have been equal to our total expenditures from the establishment of the United States down to three years ago. Our outstanding government obligations-bonds, certificates of indebetedness and war-savings stamps on January 1 were \$21,600,000,000, and we are adding to that \$21,000,000,000, and we are auging to that sum daily through our bonds authorized but not yet disposed of, of which there are more than \$5,000,000,000. The administration is asking for an additional authorization of 2,000,000,000 and a solution of indebted news and



**DO YOU FEEL THIS WAY, TOO?** 

# TRAVELS IN PHILADELPHIA

## · By Christopher Morley

AT THE MINT

would believe anything after one marvel my friend showed me. He picked up a glass that I DON'T know just why it was, but an de-time I was in the Mint yesterday 1 kept on thinking about Lenine and Trotsky and how much they would have liked to be there. I found my friend, the assistant assaver, in his laboratory making mysterious chalk DON'T know just why it was, but all the ooked like an innocent tumbler of sprin water. "This," he said. "is nitrate of silver water. in other words, dissolved silver. Don't spill it on your clothes or it will eat them right off your back." I kept off, aghast. Into the in his laboratory making mysterious chaik marks on a long blackboard and gazing with keen gray eyes at a circle of little bottles containing pale bluish fluids. At the bottles of each vessel was a white sediment that looked like a mixture of cream cheese and headagte source. tumbler he dropped a little muriatic acid. The mixture boiled and fumed and long streamers of soft, cheesy substances, began to hasten toward the bottom of the glass, to nasten toward the bottom of the glass, waving like trees in a gale. "That's the silver." he said, and while I was still tremu-lous showed me waters of gold dissolving in aquaregia. When completely dissolved the liquid looks like a thin but very sweet mo-lasses. He then performed similar magic upon some silver solution by unloading a pipette of sait water on it and shaking it in a little machine cauled an "aristator". After headache powder. "Silver," said the assistan assayer, in an offband way, and I was duly You may expect to be impressed when

Medaille Militaire. Near these are the United States military and naval medals, a sad and ugly contrast to the delicate art of the French trophies.

I WAS unfortunate in not being lucky enough to meet Superintendent Joyce, under whose administration the Philadelphia under whose administration the Philadelphia Mint has become the most remarkable place of coinage in the world; or Mr. Eckfeldt, the assayer in chief, who has served the Mint for fifty-four years and is the son of the former assayer and grandson of the Mint's first "coiner," Adam Eckfeldt. These three generations of Eckfeldts have served the Mint for 123 years. But my friend Mr. Homer L. Pound, the assistant assayer, who modestly sense of his own thirty years of Homer L. Found, the assistant assigner, who modestly speaks of his own thirty years of service as a mere triffe, had by this time shown me so much that my brain reeled. He permitted me to change my pockst honey into brand new coinage of 1919 as a souther work, and then I left. And as for Lenin Trotsky, the experience would have killed them !

IF HORACE HAD BEEN AN ADVERTISING MAN

Prof. Brander Matthefes has discovere

n a traveling neurspaper olipping the fol-

lowing ode in the classic manner. Reprint-

ing it in the Bookman, he says it is almost

worthy of Horace himself. Who wrote it?

ODE

Chipeco thermos dioxygen, temco sonora

Resinol flat bacardi, camera ansco wheat-

Antiskid pebeco calox, oleo tyco barometer

Prestolite arco congoleum, karo aluminum

Crisco balopticon lysol, jello bellans, car-

Ampico clysmic swoboda, pantasote necce

Postum nabisco!

Knox, who have preceded him in the office. But his abilities are probably as good as those of a number of the Attorneys General of the past.

The appointment is interesting locally, for Mr. Palmer is the eighth Pennsylvanian to hold the office. Washington, Madison, Van Buren, Buchanan, Garfield, Arthur, McKinley and Roosevelt came to this state for the chief law officer of their administrations, and they found at least two lawyers here who were recognized as leaders in their profession.

Mr. Palmer will doubtless do himself credit in Washington. His selection will be gratifying to the better class of Democrats here, for he has fought to break the old-time alliance between the Republican and Democratic organizations which was demoralizing to both parties. He has done his best to create a real opposition party in this state, and the President has cooperated with him in recent years by recognizing the Palmer-McCormick wing of the party in the distribution of offices.

### FAIR PLAY FOR SALOONKEEPERS

THE bill which Governor Sproul has signed permitting holders of liquorselling licenses to pay for them month by month instead of for the whole year in advance commends itself to the common sense of all fair-minded persons.

The liquor sellers will have to go out of business on July 1. To force them to pay a high license fee for doing business after they have been compelled to close their doors would be unjust.

Complete justice will not be done until the General Assembly passes a bill providing for a refund to liquor dealers of that part of their license fee paid in advance for the whole year represented by the fraction of the year in which they may do no business.

There are, we know, certain persons who dist that a saloonkeeper has no rights which a prohibitionist is bound to respect, ut, fortunately, most of us are inclined to respect the financial equities even when a inkesper is involved.

CHAIRMAN CUMMINGS'S JOB IS TO LOOK WISE-AND OBEY ORDERS

COMER S. CUMMINGS, of Connecticut, the new chairman of the Democratic National Committee, is like the painted nurlap strung up along the roads of France to deceive the enemy. Great armies and tiess heavy cannon moved along beind the painted scenery.

e real chairman of the Democratic Namittee, hidden behind the amiace of the man from Connecticut, is ng his time between Washington There are those who insist that

reiteration of indestructible truisms. which would be impregnated in the civic consciousness and act as a spur to forthright action.

that individual, and in a sense he typifles

Philadelphia. The very best thing that

could happen for this city would be such

Lamentations on our mistakes and deficiencies are hopelessly enervating. They have produced us nothing but a bad reputation. Neither contrite confession nor blatant whitewashing is the remedy in this plight.

What is imperatively needed is constructive vision, constructive vigor and the courage to confront problems with action.

The really efficacious way to wipe out the past is to grapple with the present, while unafraid also to envisage the tasks of the future.

The Chamber of Commerce's program is heartening beginning. Fundamentally, it is grounded in those familiar civic ideals which emphatically, however, do not "go forward without saying," but, fortunately, its proposals are far from being airy

generalizations. It lays specific emphasis on an adequate water supply, real rapid transit, proper school facilities, clean streets, port development and enlarged police and fire

protection, reorganization of the city's governmental machinery and, above all, on the selection of a Mayor of probity and The next step, when the referendum has

won the expected indorsement of the proposals by the chamber's members, will

abiltiy.

open up an even more practical field of endeavor. Cultivation of it should by no means be confined to the organization which has made this new departure in

civics. If the presumption is correct that Philadelphians would like to see their city secure efficient home rule, conducted on a businesslike way, that they would welcome a Mayor fit and willing to govern on that basis, an altogether refreshing kind of "redemption" may be in prospect.

Politics of the fell partisan nature should have nothing whatever to do with it. It is nonsense to view Philadelphia's particular problems from a party angle. The city is a huge business concern which will pay badly for all except a few rascals if selfishly mismanaged, and very excellently for phia. the whole community if all its opulent assets are sensibly developed.

It-is not braggadocio to admit truth in the assertion that Philadelphia is one of the major workshops of the world. The real danger lies in deprecatingly blinking the fact and aimlessly administering a

business of superb potentiality and vast complexity as though it were a corner notion store. The type of somnolent modesty which represses civic conscious ness is a fatal attribute, and Philadelphians would do well to cease indulgence therein.

The reformation is not easily accom truck farmers,

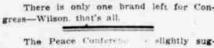
for he has really had his income reduced. The law provides a To Discourage penalty of ten years the Thug for highway robbery. A bill in Harrisburg makes the panalty twenty years. But a thug with a gun will never stop to consider a mat-

ter of ten or twenty years. His attitude is, "Oh, make it life while you are at it !" What our legislators should do is to make it difficult for him to get the gun; and "sock him" when he gets it-and before he uses it.

"Come, we burn day-Where Shakespeare light. In delays we waste our lights in Repeats vain." - Mercutio

would have made an excellent press agent for the National War Gardens Commission, which is engineering a national drive to prevent the repeal of the daylight-saving law.

### Senator Dala's bill cuts the scalp off the scalper.



gestive of the mills of he + dy "This is a horse on me," said the man who ordered a pony of beer and got a pony-

ette. Variations of the pastomime "Humpty

Dumpty" are being performed at all European capitals. The pathetic figure in the case of the

Boston militants is that by their course they injure the cause they favor. -

The League Island naval program is de signed to help the work of the league of nations.

Among the men behind the guns, Rear Admiral Plunkett has singled out Samuel M. Vauclain for special honors. ----

Woodrow Wilson Sayre weighs nin bounds, but he may have pulling power enough to bring the President to Philadel-

There are two lines in the British na

tional anthem that have international application just now: "Confound their politics Frustrate their knavish tricks !"

It may be that we shall achieve an aerial merchant service before we get a merchant marine of a size commensurate with our greatness.

More than a hundred million dollars will be used in road improvements in Pennsylvania during the next four years. And every road built ought to be strong enough to stand the wear and tear of the heavy frucks of the

edness and \$7.000,000,000 noncirculating Treasury notes, to run from one to five years. This request

If these bonds are disposed of our annual interest account will exceed \$1,500,000,000. I believe a tax-free bond, hearing interest at 312 per cent, would sell at par, while a taxable bond, hearing interest at 412 per cent, would not find ready purchasers. cent, would not find ready purchasers. It appears to me it would be wise to give future purchasers the option as to a tax-free bond at a low rate of interest or a taxable bond at a higher rate.

O<sup>UR</sup> army and our navy command our wisest coungels. 1 do not favor a large standing army. The expense would be very great on the taxpayers.

To demand the largest navy in the world, while in the same breath shouting for a league of nations solely for the purpose of the prevention of wars, is, in my judgment, the rankest inconsistency. It seems to me that we cannot need both for the security of the nation. nation

nation. The demand for government ownership of railroads comes from the thoughtless, the reckless and the selfish classes of people. No effort of that kind has ever met with finan-cial success by the people of any country in the world; on the contrary, it has always proved to be a financial loss. I challenge successful contradiction. Our freight raits per ton mile prior to

Our freight rates per ton mile, prior to the war, were one-half those of any other nation in the world (Japan excepted), while our railroad wage scale was double that of any other nation in the world (Canada ex cepted), and Canada's railroad wage scale was below, and Japan's freight rates 25 per was below, and Japan's freight rates 25 per cent above ours. The taxpayers are now called upon to pay a loss for last year of more than \$755,000,000 tor the folly of the government of taking over the railroads, while, at the same time, they were compelled to pay extra passenger fare and extra freight to an amount exceeding that sum. Does the wildest imagination of any reck-less brain believe that one man, a directing general, seated at Washington, D. C. inex-perienced in railroading, no matter how com-

serienced in railroading, no matter how com petent he may be in other things, can as efficiently and economically manage the 750 rallway systems in the United States as can the 750 well-trained, thoroughly experienced railroad managers who are quite familiar with all the needs of the people in their particular vicinities? I believe not.

Two million ratiroad employes under gov-ernment control-oh, what a political nachine unscrupulous politicians would try to organize under government ownership of overnment control

I appeal to you, gentlemen, to use your affuence and exert your energy against such

tendencies in our legislative bodies. The present Congress has accomplished much in the last two years—most important matters have occupied its attention. A vast matters have occupied its attention. A vast amount of war measures has been enacted, both political parties acting as one—no po-litical lines being drawn in all war legisla-tion. The United States Treasury has been provided with almost countiess billions—the taxpayers making but little complaint. The people as a whole have come forward and purchased government bonds with such free-dom and patriotism that the like was never exhibited before by any people on earth. In this war \$180,000,000,000 of the world's wealth has been blown away. Suffering and

wealth has been blown away. Suffering and bloodshed have been beyond comprehension and more than 10,000,000 souls have per-lahed. Oh, what a sacrifice and what a crime! God grant we do not lose by nego-tiation what we have won on the buttlefield.

you visit the Mint on Spring Garden street. Most of us know, in a vague way, that two-thirds of our coinage comes from that digni-fied building, which is probably the finest mint building in the world. Fewer of us know that most of South America's coins that come from there too, and when the citizens

come from there too, and when the citizens of Lima or Buenos Aires pay out their bright centavos for a movie show or a black cigar their pockets jingle with small change stamped in Philadelphia. And none of us can realize, without a trip to that marvelous home of wonders, the spirit of devoted and delicate science that moves among the men who have spent self-effacing lives in testing precious metals and molding them into the most beautiful coinage known on earth.

impressed.

THE assistant assayer, after a last lin-gering look at his little blue flasks-he was testing the amount of silver in deposits of ore brought in to the Mint from all over the country-if you find any in your back yard the Mint will pay you a dollar an ounce for it-was gracious enough to give me some feeting glances at the fascinating work going on in the building. The first thing one realizes is the presence of the benign and allent goddess of Science. Those upper floors, where the assayers work in large, quiet rooms, are like the workrooms of some great university, some university happily THE assistant assayer, after a last linfloors, where the assayers work in inter-quiet rooms, are like the workrooms of some great university, some university happily exempt from the turbulent and irritating presence of students, where the professors are able to lose themselves in the worship of their own researches. Great delicate scales—only you mustn't call them "scales." hut "balances"—that tremble like a lover's heart if you hay a hair on one platform, sheiter their gossamer workings behind glass cases. My guide showed me one, a fantastio delicacy so sensitive that one feels as clumsy as Gibraltar when one looks at it. Each division on its ivory register indicates one-tenth of a milligram, which. I should say, is about as heavy as the eyelash of a fea. With a pair of calipers he dropped a tiny morsel of paper on one balance and the needle swung over to the extreme end of the liquid into ice water. It is a place in which one would willingly spend a whole day tomed to them take so calmly. In the vault just outside the furnace room I was shown between eighteen and nineteen million dol-lars' worth of gold bars stacked up on shelves. Again—I don't know just why—I thought of Lenine and Trotsky. There were also more truckloads of the old silver dollars on their way to the fire. Some of them, though dated back in the seventies, seemed as good as new; others were badly worn. They were plied up in lots of 40,000, which, when new, would weigh \$4.375 ounces; one lot, I was told, had lost 208 ounces through abrasion. morsel of paper on one balance and the needle swung over to the extreme end of the scale. With his eyes shining with enthu-siasm he showed how, by means of a coun-terpoise made of a platinum wire as slender needle back toward the middle of the scale and get the exact reading.

T ANOTHER balance a scientist was A snipping shreds from a long ribbon of gold. I was allowed to hold it in my hand gold. I was allowed to hold it in my hand, and though its curator explained deprecat-ingly that it was only 999.5 thousandths pure, it seemed pure enough for all my pur-poses. It is wonderful stuff, soft enough 'p tie in knots and yet so tough that it is very difficult to cut with heavy shears. That strip, of about sixty ounces, was worth well over \$1200-and they didn't even search me when I left the building. "Proof gold." it seems, which is 1000 pure, is worth \$40 an ounce, and all the proof gold used for sol-entific purposes in this country is refined in the Philadelphia Mint. The assistant assay-er showed me lots of nice little nuggets of it in a drawer. Almost every drawer he it in a drawer. Almost every drawer he opened contained enough roots of evil to make a newspaperman happy for a year.

IN A neat little row of furnaces set into

In A neat little row of furnaces set into a tiled wall I was shown some queer little cups heating in a roay swirl of fire to 1700 degrees. These little "cupeis." as they call them, are made of compressed bone-ash and aloy. Their peculiar meril is that at the required temperature they absorb all the copper, lead or whatever other base metal there may be and leave in the cup only the gold and silver. Then the gold and silver mixture is placed in bolling nitric acid, which takes out all the silver and leaves only the globule of pure gold. The matter that pur-sies the lay observer is, how do you find these things out in the first place? But 1 pressure, up to 120 tons. THE Mint's wonderful collection of coin THE Mint's wonderful collection of coins and medals of all lands would deserve an article of its own. One of the rarities of which the curator is most proud is a terra-cotta medallion of Franklin, made by Nini at Chaumont in 1777. It is in perfect condi-tion and was bought by the Mint from a New York newspaperman. A brand-new ac-quisition, only set up within the last faw weeks, is a case of French military decora-tions presented by the French Government-the five grades of the Legion of Honor, the four grades of the Croiz de Guern and the

a little machine called an "agitator." Af which he felt I was sufficiently humble F YOU have an affection for the nice old

sliver cartwheel dollars, keep away from the furnace room of the Mint, for one of the first things you will see is whole truckloads of them moving silently to their doom. I was told that there is a shortage of silver in Was told that there is a shortage of silver in Europe these days, particularly since troubles in Mexico have reduced that country's out-put of ore, and in order to accommodate for-eign friends Uncle Sam has recomily melted 200,000,000 of our old friends into bars and 50,000,000 more of them are on the way to the furnace. None have been coined since 1904, as apparently they are not popular.

The pride of the Mint centers just now upon the two new electric furnaces, the larger of which has only been installed a few weeks (a Swedish invention, by the way), but the

(a Swedish investion, by the way), but the old gas ovens are more spectacular to the visitor because the flames are more visible. When the heavy door is slid aside you can see the crucible (made of graphite from Cey-lon) with its mass of sliver dollars, standing patiently in the furious glow. Then, if you are lucky, you will see them ladling out the liquid sliver into the molds. One of the workmen held a slip of paper to the boling metal: it burst into flame and he caimly lit his pipe with it. In other furnaces sheets of nickel from which Argentine coins had been punched were being melted, surrounded by a marvelous radiance of green and goiden fire. All about you are great ingots of cop-per, sliver, nickel and boxes of queer little nickel nuggets, formed by dropping the hot liquid willingly spend a whole day

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### What Do You Know?

OUIZ

- 1. What American state is smaller in ter-ritorial extent than at the time of its admission into the Union?
- 2. Who was the Republican vice presidential candidate in 1916?
- 3. What is an estuary? 4. What is the first name of General Dias?
- 5. How many miles make a league?
- 6. What is the meaning of the Latin phrase "Nil desperandum"?

7. What is a lectern?

- 8. Of what state is General Pershing a native?
- 9. What is the longest river in England?
- 10. In what play of Shakespeare's does the description of the "Seven Ages of Man" occur?

### Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

- 1. W. M. Hughes is the Premier of the Commonwealth of Australia.
- 2. The colors in the flag of the German republic are red, black and gold.
- Currants derive their name from Corinth, Greece, in the vicinity of which they have been cultivated since the carliest ages.
- 4. William M. Thackeray wrote "The Rose and the Ring."
- 5. John Quincy Adams was known as the "Old Man Elequent."
- and means the putting together of sep arate elements to make a co
- Poolscap paper takes its name from th Italian "foglio-capo" (folio-size sheet).
- Storker Storkerson is a Scandinaviah a plorer who headed an expedition whi drifted from Alaska into the Aro Ocean on an ice cake is order to termine the course of Polar current

IN THE big coining room the presses were housily at work stamping out new coins, and women operators were carefully examin-ing the "blanks" for imperfections before the yeo under the dies. To one who expected to see vast quantities of shining new Ameri-can coinage it was odd to learn that almost all the machines were busy turning out small change for Peru and Argentina. Next week, the foreman said, they start on a big order of the queer coins of Siam, which have a hole in the middle like the Chinese money. But I saw one machine busy turning out Lincoln pennies at the rate of 100 a minute. The one-cent piece requires a pressure of forty tons to stamp the design on the metal; the larger coins, of course, need a heavier pressure, up to 120 tons.

- Analysis is the resolution of any thing or idea into simple elements. Synthesis has exactly the opposite significance

- 7. Forty-five states have passed the pro-hibition amendment.

"manana policy" is a dilator