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Philadelphia, Friday, March 14, 1919

#### ROADS AS AN ASSET

SOME time in the far future, when wheels have begun to go out of style and vast landing cushions to catch fall ing aviators are planned as ambitious public works, there will be slow-minded communities ready to interest themselves reluctantly in good roads. They will not be in Jersey, where good roads are a habit.

Approximately \$700,000, most of it contributed by Atlantic City taxpayers. is to be used in paving twelve miles of the shore end of the best-known motor pike in New Jersey. And the money will be well invested

H. Ford is staying awake at night making plans to flood the country with automobiles at \$250 each. The interest in motors that has developed with the first whiff of spring and the relief from war tension is phenomenal. In the near future almost every one will ride, as the motor salesmen say, on his own rubber, People will go wherever the best roads lead them.

Good roads will not be a luxury then, but a necessity as important as railways and trolley lines. The communities that prepare their modern highway systems now will find their money doubled and flowing back to them within a few years.

### DOGS AND OTHER LUXURIES

LICENSE tags for dogs and automodrives his motorcar with last year's tag he is arrested forthwith. But Director of Public Safety Wilson says that he has reason to believe that there are 33,000 dogs going about the city wearing 1918 tags. Some of them may have found their way to the pound. But the policemen have thus far failed to hold up every dog they see to examine the date of his license.

Now, a dog in town is as much of a luxury as an automobile. In the country there are men so poor as to be able to keep six dogs, but the townsman with one is usually a man of comfortable He regards his animal not a necessity, but as one of the delightful ornaments of a civilized existence, like an electric reading lamp or a phonograph or a player-piano. Therefore he ought to be willing to pay the small tax exacted.

To facilitate the enforcement of the law, it seems to be necessary to take a dog census of the city. If, however, the dogs were properly tagged the collection of the annual license fee would be much simplified. An ingenious man has suggested that every dog be compelled to wear a front and rear tag big enough to be read at a distance, after the manner of an automobile. Even if the tag could not be read, the adoption of a system of coloring, with pink for 1918, blue for 1919 and lavender or mauve or taupe or puce for 1920, would enable the police officers who were not color blind to tell at a glance whether the animal was entitled to travel the public highways under his own power or not.

# SPOILS STILL ON TAP

THE Burlesons of the administrationthat is, the spoilsmen-will find little to displease them in the reorganization of the National Civil Service Commis-

They were gratified when Mr. Wilson filled the two vacancies in the commission at the beginning of his term with politicians who had no experience in eivil service matters. John A. McIlhenny, one of the most consistent supporters of the merit system, remained in ice. But he was in a minority. He had been appointed first in 1906. The commission has consistently made rulings favorable to the patronage mongers. The National Civil Service Reform League has protested from time to time against the disregard of the spirit of the laws, but in vain.

Mr. McIlhenny resigned a few weeks ago. The President asked for the resignation of Commissioners Galloway and Craven by wireless from the George Washington and they have resigned. Now the President has appointed Martin Morrison, a former Democratic Consman from Indiana, and George R. Vales, a Vermont Republican, who has en chief examiner of the commission for several years. A third commissioner as to be named. Morrison's record s not such as to justify the belief that e will do any more to block the spoilsm than was done by Galloway or Wales may be a good civil reformer. But unless the Presi-

merit system the spoilsmen will be allowed to continue to distribute the patronage as they have been doing for six years. And unless Mr. Wilson has changed his views, there is every reason for believing that the spirit of the civil service laws, if not their letter, will continue to be disregarded.

### AMERICA NOT HOBBLED BY ITS CONSTITUTION

The Republican Party Has Always Found a Way to Do What the Nation Wanted Done

THE few Republicans who are saying that the United States cannot constitutionally enter a league of nations are hopelessly out of sympathy with the history and traditions of their party.

The glory of Republicanism is that it has found a way under the constitution to do the great things which needed to be done. Its first national platform, adopted in 1856, set the pattern for those which have followed.

The Democratic platform of that year declared that the federal government is one of limited powers, derived solely from the constitution, and that the grant of powers therein contained "ought to be strictly construed." Under this strict construction theory the platform announced the opposition of the party to internal improvements and to chartering national banks.

The platform of the Republican party indorsed improvements of the rivers and harbors and insisted that Congress had constitutional power to order such public works. The attitude of the party toward the constitution has from the beginning been that it is a living document under which a way can be found to do that which the nation wants done.

Under Republican initiative rivers and harbors have been improved, irrigation supplied to arid lands, and national banks chartered, and the Democrats have been forced to admit that their theories were

The party has applied the same principles of interpretation in framing its foreign policy as it has used in domestic affairs. It was as sound in its Cuban policy in 1856 as it was in 1896. The Democratic ministers to England, France and Spain met at Ostend in 1854, at the instance of Mr. Marcy, then Secretary of State, and issued a manifesto in which they announced that Cuba belonged territorially to the United States and that if Spain refused to sell the island it should be wrested from her. The purpose of this Cuban policy was to extend the slave territory, as that had also been the purpose of the Mexican War.

The same platform which in 1856 proclaimed the belief of the Republicans in the constitutional power of the national government to make internal improvements denounced this Ostend manifesto. The Republicans could have taken no other course. They were committed to freedom for the individual and they could not commit themselves to aggression upon the rights of nations. Forty years later, when the Cuban

issue became acute and the people of the island were in revolt against the oppressive government of Spain, the Democrats contented themselves with a perfunctory expression of sympathy with the Cubans. The Republicans, who were in power, announced their belief that the United States should use its influence to restore peace and to secure the independence of the island. When lined themselves almost solidly against the Republican program of a war of liberation. And they advocated a policy of shameless scuttle from under the obligations which that war laid upon us. In 1900 they conducted their presidential campaign on the issue of anti-imperialism, condemned the administration because it had not withdrawn American forces from Cuba while the affairs in the island were in a state of chaos and demanded that we get out of the Philippines as soon as possible. The party whose diplomatic representatives had, without rebuke, advocated wresting Cuba from Spain for the benefit of the slave owners did all it could to obstruct the party which had succeeded in liberating the Cubans for their own good. The Republicans found a constitutional way for doing that which needed to be done to promote the cause of peace on this hemisphere.

The case of the isthmian canal is another illustration of Republican constructive efficiency within the four corners of the constitution. Its platform of 1888 denounced the Democratic administration for refusing to sanction the charter of an American corporation to build the Nicaraguan canal, a work which it insisted was essential for the maintenance of the Monroe Doctrine. It was not until twelve years later that the Democrats thought it worth while to mention an isthmian canal in their platform, and it was mentioned then not so much because they favored it but in order to denounce the Republican administration for its modification of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty in such a way as to permit this country to build a canal across the Isthmus of Panama. And it was futilely implied that Great Britain had consented to the modifications as the price for American noninterference in the South African war. The administration was condemned for making an alliance with the British against the interests of a struggling people in Africa.

But we have built the canal without violating the constitution and by it have strengthened the Monroe Doctrine and

buttressed our position as a world power. The Democracy has been wrong on all the great foreign issues or it has trailed along after the Republicans. It has consented to be bound by a narrow and technical interpretation of the constitution, and in the search for issues it has reversed itself time after time for the sake of criticizing the acts of the Republican party. It has been petty and fills the remaining vacancy with a without vision or constructive genius. in therough sympathy with the Those members of it who are now de-

nouncing the league-of-nations plan are the legitimate heirs of the men who have blundered in the name of Democracy for the last sixty-five years.

The Republicans who are following their lead are unworthy of the traditions of their party. They are unworthy, in the first place, for the reason that they are attempting to make a partisan issue out of a question of foreign policy. Party divisions ought to be dissolved by salt water, and when the country confronts the rest of the world it ought to be as a united nation.

These recreant Republicans are unworthy, in the second place, for the reason that they are trying to conduct their party in a way in which it would not go. The great mass of the people are hoping and praying for some world union which will make war difficult. They care not who is active in its organization, whether he be Republican or Democrat, liberal or tory, British, French or American, so long as the thing is done. And they are also firmly convinced that there is a constitutional way to do it, even though that way may be through the technical surrender of some moiety of our national sovereignty. That which the nation seeks is worth the price that must be paid. America is inextricably entangled in world affairs because it is part of the world, and the one thing we cannot do is to withdraw from them.

When the Republican party expresses itself, unless all the signs of the times are misleading, it will be found on the right side.

# NO FEAR OF LOCAL "REDS"

SUPERINTENDENT ROBINSON, of the Police Department, exhibits frank contempt for all amateur Bolshevists who happen to be tiptoeing around hereabouts. His assurance that the reserves could shoo them all into the river without any considerable effort if the need arose represents an intelligent view that is badly needed at a time when mild-hysteria is as fashionable as pingpong used to be.

The delusions of those who seem to fear that a few men with kinks in their minds can somehow create disorder in this city or elsewhere in the United States is inexplicable. The whispers and rumors of Bolshevism in America belong with the odd phenomena of a time of general nervous tension.

The industrial and social systems of America are not perfect. But they represent the best starting point available to any one who can visualize or plan better things. The American system is flexible. The people themselves have it always within their power to make improvements. We have achieved a system of government which has been the only medium so far found adequate for human betterment and human progress. To suppose that a few men driven half mad by ill-digested theories can ever impose upon any considerable number of Americans the insane delusions that carried the credulous and illiterate Russians to starvation, pestilence and general ruin is to reveal an incredible lack of ordinary common sense.

What the Bolshevik orators need is the light of day, plenty of freedom and permission to talk till they are tired. Nothing that they have to say will stand analysis or daylight. They thrive on suppression and flourish by intimations of martyrdom. Superintendent Robinson is wise to refuse to favor them by oppression and wiser still when he refuses the time for action came the Democrats to take them or their propaganda se-

> Would you say that Yes; In a Pinch after all the complications of the international situation have been studied it must appear that the one-time boss of Germany is in Dutch?

The War Department This Year's Gas has found a fuel that Does It adds ten miles an hour to the speed of airplanes Now will some genius come

along with a fuel adequate to take ten

miles an hour off the speed of automobiles? What are the white-ribboners going to do if they speak so fervently that "there

isn't a dry eye in the house"?

Hindenburg wants to suppress Bol shevism in Russia. And, of course, some body would have to suppress Hindenburg.

There is one fellow, at least, who is not in favor of bars after July 1 or at any other time. He lives at Amerongen After all, isn't it a bit superfluous for

the Reds to plot a world revolution. One takes place every time we have day and It is pleasant to realize that the hoard

ers who secretly bought vast quantities of sugar when the ban was on it lost by paying the top price.

Every cloud has a silver lining. Con gress in its eagerness to stop all business before adjournment didn't take time to repeal the daylight-saving law. Judging from the protest of the Cam-

which the Public Service Corporation seeks to adopt in its trolley-fare schedule Some of the speeches delivered a Harrisburg justify the suggestion that since German is prohibited in the schools English might be made compulsory in tha

Legislature.

denites, it is not a temperate zone system

There can be no doubt about the Canadians being scrappers. Those in Kimmel Camp. Wales, seem to have fought as vig orously to get home as they did originally to get to Germany.

The various discussions about the proposed Delaware River bridge remind us again that in America nothing can be suggested that does not instantly invite organized opposition of some sort.

The medical inspectors in the Philadelphia schools who struck for a pay in crease from \$600 a year to \$1000 seem to into their jobs. Look out for a doctors

### WILL THE BAR OUTLIVE JOHN BARLEYCORN?

How the Problem Is Complicated by Reformers Urging "Kickless" Cafes and Saloon Owners Averse to Modification

BALKY imaginations continue to make the way of the uplift prophet exceedingly hard. As he tears from his calendar the days whose passage brings him nearer and nearer to July I he would be delighted to picture the social structure of a dry nation, but the exercise of even the most extravagant fancy must proceed from facts. The few which are available are insufficient. We are told that under the wartime prohibition rider alcoholic beverages will not be sold after June 30, but the specific fate of the saloon is not at all forecast by that enactment.

Will that venerable institution, alternately described as "the poor man's club" and the "nation's course," adapt itself to "kickless" drinks, retaining the while its social allurements? Will it be transferred into a soup kitchen, a lightning lunch station or a leisurely coffee house, or will it "softly and suddenly vanish away," like Lewis Carroll's "Boojum"? Saloon patronage and the public in general are intensely eager to speculate on the theme. Saloon proprietorship

RECENT surveys of the situation, both in this city and New York, give scant stabillty to any prophecy. Bar owners refuse to be imaginative. The lingering hope that prohibition, somehow or other, will strike a snag before the curfew rings is fatal to the play of fancy. "Let's suppose" is a game in which those who are financially concerned in the metamorphosis or extinction of the saloon decline to join.

Similar tactics made easy the legislative triumph of the white ribboners. If the policy is pursued until the last clink of the last highball, will the saloon be enabled to leave even so much as a "rack behind"? Whatever its admitted faults, whatever its virtues. the American bar is a distinctive institution. Is it to disappear without a trace merely because the imagination of its operators shies at contemplating the death throes of alcohol?

THE most suggestive information is naturally obtainable in the arid regions of the West. Washington is an inaccurate index, since industrious "bootlegging" has prevented the capital from really adapting itself to the new conditions. But in Detroit, if the saloon, apart from its extinguished spirituous considerations, has any friends, their sentiment has been but feebly displayed. It was only on the first of last May that the Michigan metropolis went dry, but considering the physical aspects alone, the places that knew bars once now know them no more. It is much easier to trace the tomb of Romulus in Rome than the vestiges of a twentieth century saloon on Woodward avenue.

Soft drinks are profusely advertised throughout the West, but the quarters in which they are consumed savor not at all of the bygone barroom characteristics. Coffee houses, with genial, clublike concomitants, have not materialized. Bars that really look like bars, mirrored and brass-railinged, do not masquerade as lunch counters. They simply are not. On the lake boats, however, some evidences of a sense of adaptability are discernible. One of these "floating palaces" in particular boasts of a soda and mild drink pavilion as glittering and ornate as a Burmese pagoda. Bacchus is absent, yet there are pregnant hints of saloon technique in all the accouterments

PRESUMING—a most violent effort for some minds—that prohibition is enforceable and will be enforced, great cities like New York, Philadelphia and Boston will soo have to decide whether to accept a social revolution in toto or retain under modifica tions any bar attributes.

In this connection it is curious to note th marked change of attitude which strong cliques of teetotalism have adopted concerning the saloon, "Right-minded people," declared a Brooklyn minister the other day "ought to see that the saloon is retained as a social center." Here indeed is a dissying reversal of judgment. Time was when the "tear-drop" melodrama, "Ten Nights in Barroom," was not only propaganda against alcoholic induigence, but a footlight polemic against the saloon itself and all its elamour

The very swinging doors were shameful. The bright lights, the polished glassware, the rail which invited leisurely leaning, all the cozy appointments which made for recreative social intercourse were rated satanically insidious. "The saloon must go!" was a cry raised even by those tolerant reformers who averred that away from barroom environment "another little drink" would do them no harm. Buttermilk patrons at a bar were almost under suspicion.

TOPSY - TURVYDOM as well as bone I dryness is confronting us. Social workers, convinced that workingmen require meeting places where refreshment and social intercourse may be combined; places, moreover, that are exempt from an official humanitarian or organized "uplift" stamp, favor bar coffee, bar milk, bar soft beverages, bar lunch, and some unexpected sentimentalists

have even called for the bar cat.

The world is whirling into piquant times as such causes are espoused by classes which once repudiated them, while the saloon owner continues serving heady drinks until the curtain falls and, with the reflection "maybe won't happen," is unimaginatively averto speculating upon a threatened revolution.

In view of this queer change of sides it is
no wonder that the general public is mysti-

HERE in Philadelphia, where the tradihave been preserved for several centuries there would seem to be excellent opportuni-ties for the tactful handling of new conditions. The pepperpot vendor has vanished from our streets, the old "crabman" is seldom seen, the hot com merghant, with his buttery cobe, is no longer extant. Why not a revival of their harmless yet seductive and epicurean wares served over a well-conducted bar Local pride would be flattered and antiquarian interest in ex-saloons might be in-formed by that dulcet pathos of the days that are no more. The Bastile was ar iquity, but Paris would be historically en-riched did those tall towers lift their heads there today.

Reforms, however, have a way of sweep-Reforms, however, have a way of sweeping remorselessly clean. Out go the chaft
and the wheat. "Modified submarine warfare" proved a fiction. Modified bars may be
similarly impossible. Certainly it looks as
though any adapted form had a silm chance
here. Individuals who may wonder what is
going to become of all the swinging doors
here had perhaps best read the answer in
Detroit—"all or nothing" is at least a code
of transparent simplicity.

# THE CHAFFING DISH

WE HAVE been wondering whether the artists who make the summer frosting for saloon mirrors will think it worth while to compose their annual designs this year? We hope so, for few of the old guard will want to see their tragic faces reflected in the candid glass as July 1st draws near.

Excluding Sundays, only ninety days

Pennsylvania has no state flower and no state poem, which is a cause of grief to some enthusiasts. Nor have we a state joke, like Massachusetts and the bean; nor a state character. like Michigan and Henry Ford: nor a state mystery, like Texas and Colonel House. We should worry; we seem to be getting along all right.

We are informed that there is a new three-cent stamp on the market, which we regard as an unworthy subterfuge on the part of the government to lure people into answering letters before July 1st. On that date, we have been told, the two-cent rate will be resumed, and we shall then undertake to answer some of our accumulated correspondence. The task will keep us from brooding on something else that happens about the same time.

In the meantime, we are thinking of having a rummage sale of unanswered correspondence. We have a couple of bushels of very excellent unanswered letters that we will offer to the public on exceedingly moderate terms. It being understood that the purchaser of each letter will guarantee to answer it.

We notice some one asking our young lady editors, "What will remove wine stains from linen?" That's easy. July 1st will do it.

# A Generous Offer

We have just begun a new detective lovel, and are convinced it is a good one with much harrowing to come. In the first fifteen pages the hero undergoes as fol lows:

On page 5, where he enters the tale, he 'aspires to better things for the sake of one fair woman whose eyes have plerced the depths of his degradation." On page 6 a mist swims in front of h

eyes and his pulses are set hammering. On page 7 he registers a silent vow ar raises his eyebrows involuntarily. On page 8 a sudden light comes into his

eyes and a sudden smile curves the corners f his mouth. On page 9 he twitches up an inquiring

evebrow. On page 10 his voice trails into silence and he thrusts away the sorrow of the world. On page 12 a look of indescribable pain.

amounting almost to despair, crosses his

features. On page 14 he sits sphinx-like at the steering wheel and smiles down at her tenderly.

On page 15 he utters a little laugh of pure happiness. We have an extra copy of this admirable

work on our desk, and shall be happy to give it to any one who has an overmastering yearning to follow the further facial contortions of the gifted hero.

# . More Zoology

Dear Socrates—The peccadillo is not the only animal at the Zoo that has had babies recently. I am credibly informed that the bugbear has a new cub. ANN DANTE.

We judge from what the aeronauts are saying that the only remaining obstacle to ransatiantic flight is actually doing it.

### Mr. Egan and the Fordship

A CASE OF "HAVE TO"

Mr. Maurice Francis Egan, until recently our Minister to Denmark, is not only a diplomat but a scholar; not only a scholar but a poet; not only a poet but a humorist; not only a humorist but a Philadelphian by birth.

All of which makes us the more interested in Mr. Egan's entertaining confession (in this week's Collier's) that he was the stepfather of Henry Ford's peace pilgrimage in 1915. This will be news to Henry. and the story is too good not to pass it along.

Mr. Egan was pleasantly enjoying himself near Elsinore, Hamlet's old home, in the summer of 1915, when Mme. Rosika Schwimmer, the well-known rattle-pate, telephoned to ask if she could see him, "in the name of the ideals of European and American womanhood." This sounded like a matter that would involve a good deal of listening, and Mr. Egan, with the ready caution that marks diplomats, replied that he was too ill to see any one. "Have you forgotten that your mother was a woman? replied Mme. Schwimmer over the wire. This unnerved Mr. Egan and he consented to see the lady.

Poor Mr. Egan! As he mildly admits, Schwimmer talked him off his feet. She expounded mellifluously her gigantic plan for arousing the women of the world in a movement to end war. She asked him whether it would be worth her while to go to America to enlist the support of American women in this noble cause. In weariness and despair, eager to get rid of his guest, Mr. Egan urged her to go by all means. She did, and how she got next to Henry Ford's bank account all the world (including Henry) well remembers. When Henry thinks over the matter, in

his lucid intervals between the throes of editorial writing for the Dearborn Independent, we wonder whether he holds any grudge against Mr. Egan? And Philadelphia obviously gets whatever credit may be due for that party on the Oskar, without having had to pay the bills.

According to Hank Harris, gardens are being planted out in Marathon and the old, old rivalry between Fred Myers and Bill Stites is beginning again, more embittered than ever. Hank says he has no chard and fast rules for gardening, but he doesn't intend to be a mandatory for Bill's hens. Fred says he is weary of acting as a buffer state between Hank's fertilizer and Bill's bonemeal. We predict trouble and our star suburban reporter is all ready to cover the story when it breaks.

A consignment of corncob pipes reached us yesterday from Boonville, Missouri, and we felt quite proud of them until Bob Maxwell tripped in and showed us an enormous diamond stickpin that had been given him by some of his admirers. Even on Bob's extended frontiers those diamonds make quite an impressive showing.

Our idea of an agreeable sensation is as When you had something on follows: your mind that you knew you ought to do, didn't want to do, and yet intended to do it-and then, on getting home in the evening, find that you quite honestly forgot all about it.

We still think that they made a mistake in not beginning the Victory Loan campaign during Lent.

"How," asks Dove Duicet, "can any one tell today from tomorrow?" We have one infallible rule. Tomorrow is always the day when those letters will be answered.

SOCRATES.

## DANTE REMEMBERED

UNVEILED is the glory of Italy's hour; The soul of her beauty a full-blown flower;

Ambrosial rays of light replete-

Enthralling splendor fills the street. The nightingale full-voiced I hear-Gone is the menace, the brooding fear,

And the strong deep tones of tremulous bells Are borne on the winds to the mountain

Smiling is heaven; and every one Is dancing, singing beneath the sun. The soul of love is near to bless.

And the quivering day is loveliness. The spirit of Dante seems to glide

Through the golden sheen of this noon A presence that walks through the blossoming trees

From a starry realm on the waft of the breeze.

Out of celestial light it came-The essence of Dante-a glorious flame That fires the world, and his quickening breast To Italy's heart is fondly pressed.

And out from the roses, up from the

stream Comes a deeper fragrance-the hearth-

And Italy, wrapped in Love's embrace, Remembers Dante with joy-flushed face. -Edith Burr, in the New York Herald. The growers, planning a food-price

fires' gleam;

fight, are in one sense suggesting nothing new. That conflict is always with us. The way in which Great Britain tied up the German cable system with terminiin her own domain denotes a marked de-

sire to "end it all," but with the reverse of suicidal intent.

# What Do You Know?

OUIZ

1. What was the greatest naval mystery 2. Who was the first Chief Justice of the United States?

3. What is a gibbon?

4. When does the Victory loan campaign 5. When was Philadelphia founded?

6. What is a sennet? 7. What British colony besides Canada is

8. What naval stations in Cuba belong to

Who wrote the music of the opera "The Barber of Seville"?

10. Where do Panama hats come from?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz James Schoolcraft Sherman was Vices President during Taft's administration.

Lake Itasca, in Minnesota, is the source of the Mississippi River. The full name of Horace, the Latin poet, was Quintus Horatius Flaccus.

4. The motto of Alabama is "Here we rest," William Frederick Cody was the real name of Buffalo Bill.

6. Eugene V. Debs was noninated for President four times on the Socialist ticket.

ticket.
7. The French phrase, "Entre nous," means "between ourselves."
8. A mongoose is a small furry snimal belonging to the ichneuron class and noted for its ability to kill snakes, mice, rats and ligards. It is about fifteen inches long, with a fall of shout mice, rats and marran fifteen inches long, with a tail of about the same length, and is a native of

Louisiana was named after King Louis

XIV of France.

Microphoae is an instrument for tensitying sounds. It was used largely to detect enemy tunneling operations during the way.