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A MOMENTOUS LABOR DECISION
NO decision recently made in an American court is so momentous as that by which the United States Circuit Court of Appeals in Minneapolis has just held the United Mine Workers of America financially responsible for damage done to mines by members of the union during an interval of disorder in a strike.

BOARDWALK-HAVANA ROUTE
SOME years ago when the Culebra slides worried the Panama Canal builders, a fanciful cartoon depicted the solemn dedication of the waterway, while a fleet of speedy airplanes were smartly flying over the costly breach in the two continents.

LONELY WISE MEN
CLEAR thinking ought to be more fashionable than it is. To think rationally, to maintain a balanced sense of justice in the strong winds of emotion that sweep the world is as difficult as a loop-the-loop in an airplane.

THE DAY WE CELEBRATE
A RECENT English commentator on American customs exclaimed over the nature of the days we celebrate. Mother's Day considerably surprised him. There is nothing like it elsewhere.

ualism, but, as a matter of fact, we simply date on harmless conventions. Why are Americans abroad so readily "detected"? Why does the impetuous shopkeeper or the persuasive "guide" so easily overwhelm our alleged "native shrewdness"? Largely, it is because he can capitalize the uniformity of our tastes and proclivities.

Should any doubt still exist that America is not really a melting pot and productive of an unmistakable type, let him observe Chestnut street this afternoon after the last hatter has shut up shop. Sartorial Brahminism, the formalism of the old regime mandarin, will gaily triumph there.

LAWS drafted and passed in a panic mood usually do either more or less than the situation demands. Sometimes they merely create confusion by duplicating laws already in existence.

CRITICISM of it has already induced its sponsors to agree to eliminate one of its provisions. It was pointed out at once that to define sedition as an attempt "to incite or arouse discontent against the government of this state or the United States" would render every critic of a corrupt administration liable to prosecution.

But if the reputable citizens of the state are to be protected in their right of criticism and of instituting actions for the punishment of public officials, the paragraph making it seditious "to incite or encourage any person to commit an overt act with a view to bringing the government of the state into contempt" should also be eliminated.

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who commits assault by an explosive—is now liable to a fine of \$500 or to imprisonment of three years in solitary confinement or to both. If the explosion of the bomb produces death he is liable to be hanged. If he is caught with his bomb before he throws it he is liable to a fine of \$500 or one year solitary confinement in prison or both. If he throws a bomb against the city hall or the state capitol or the county courthouse he may be fined \$2000 or imprisoned in solitary confinement for ten years.

The law does not call these offenses sedition. They are common crimes, like burglary and assault and murder and arson. No taint of political persecution attaches to the code. It was adopted in 1860 as the result of the desire of the state to classify the provisions of its criminal law and to make them comprehensive enough to cover all the offenses likely to happen in a civilized community.

It is of the first importance that we should continue to regard arson as arson and murder as murder, and assault with bombs as assault, and no greater mistake could be made in these days, when some odd-pated extremists are prattling of revolution by force, than to humor them by making the offenses which they glibly talk of committing political offenses to be covered under the term sedition.

The history of sedition laws in America is not such as to encourage any level-headed politicians to challenge the fate which overtook those who secured the passage of such statutes in the past, in order to punish their political opponents.

If these were the Russia of the old regime we might make political offenses of brutal murder and assault. But this is free America of the twentieth century, where the majority rules and where any change in the government which the majority desires can be brought about by orderly and well-understood processes.

When our lawmakers in Harrisburg recover from their present panic they are likely to see the force of these arguments and allow the sedition bill to be forgotten.

FAIR AND COOLER IN ITALY

DID Premier Orlando know from the first that not only Mr. Wilson, but all of the Allied representatives, with the possible exception of Japan, would resolutely oppose his desires for Fiume? If he did not, he was not qualified for his tasks at Paris.

The signs and omens of the hour do not indicate that Orlando acted the amateur. Why, then, did he insist upon creating a situation that is changing and shifting as swiftly as the shadowy work of a Belasco stage manager? For the Fiume affair is being adjusted beneath the surface, and coolness, sobriety and reason are returning to the Italian people.

Was Orlando's blaze of wrath simulated? Did the patient and disillusioned representatives of other nations at the Peace Conference know that it was simulated? The Italian statesman knew the immeasurable peril of an actual break. But the old diplomatists are being driven to some queer alternatives in these days of judgment.

The Italian cabinet and the government itself have had no sense of a too-great stability in recent months. Orlando's stirring appeal to his country's sense of nationalism, the phrases in which he pictured Italy in a state of heroic solitariness, reacted like magic to unite factions that were drawing apart and to bring about a new unity of sentiment in the country. He may be pardoned for playing a daring and picturesque game of domestic politics. But if he was deliberately foisting his own people, who shall we say to gentlemen like Mr. Lodge, who was taken in as neatly as the fiery folk who paraded in the streets of Rome?

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CONGRESSMAN MOORE'S LETTER

Men and Women From Philadelphia and Its Vicinity Were Discovered in Porto Rico by the Congressional Party Which Visited the Island

Washington, D. C., May 3.

TAKING a trip to Europe or to any distant point, like the Hawaiian Islands, Panama or the West Indies, is interesting because of the surprises one enjoys in meeting other travelers. There is something worth while to the student of human nature in a more intimate knowledge of the millionaire who is traveling for health or of the man in the steerage who is traveling from necessity. The recent journey of members of Congress to Porto Rico is in point. Uncle Joe Cannon went along and Kitchin, the Democratic leader, and while they were attractions—and so far as Uncle Joe is concerned he always will be an object of interest to the curious observer—he goes abroad—every one of twenty or more members of the party ran up against "some one from home" or some one who knew some one at home somewhere along the way. As to the ex-speaker, beginning with New York, where he was glimpsed by the provincials inside and outside of the hotels and at the landing wharves, there was no place where some "man from the States" did not turn up to look him over and seek the privilege of shaking hands. This was so in Porto Rico, where he had been twice before. In every town, apparently, some one bobbed up who knew enough English to say "there goes Uncle Joe."

ORDINARILY persons known to Pennsylvanians turn up almost everywhere. The ship's surgeon, Dr. P. N. Thompson, bronzed by the southern sun and dealing largely with Spanish passengers, owed up to having had office on Girard avenue in Philadelphia, and when some one began to talk about bathing in Porto Rico, 1400 miles from New York, he said: "Wait until we get back and see me make the 3 o'clock train for Atlantic City. That little cottage on Vermont avenue is good enough for me." It was Mr. Hanson J. Janer, roommate of the Porto Rican commissioner, Cordova Davila, all Spanish enough looking to have come fresh from a bullfight. Swinging into first-class English, he asked if any one knew our American minister to Portugal, Mr. Thomas H. Birch, of Burlington, N. J.

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ARRIVED at San Juan, the party was greeted among others by the president of the Senate, who speaks Spanish only; the president of the House of Representatives, the Hon. Juan B. Huxley, a lawyer and educator, whose father was associated with Dr. Martin G. Brumbaugh, of the University of Pennsylvania, first commissioner of education after the American occupation, and the vice president of the House of Representatives, the Hon. Miguel Guerra Mondragon. Signor Cueva, Mr. Huxley's lawyer and business partner, and a lawyer and business partner of nerves like George Brennan, of the Pen and Pencil Club, became interpreter for the party. Upon inquiry it was found that Signor Guerra was educated at Nazareth Hall Military Academy, in the cement region of Pennsylvania. He spoke in terms of affectionate remembrance of the "old chief" of the president emeritus of that institution. Then along comes R. V. Perez Marschand, University of Pennsylvania, 1914 law class, who desired to be remembered to Dean William Draper Lewis. Evidently there are enough University of Pennsylvania boys in Porto Rico to form an alumni association. Signor Cueva, Mr. Huxley's lawyer and business partner, and a lawyer and business partner of nerves like George Brennan, of the Pen and Pencil Club, became interpreter for the party. Upon inquiry it was found that Signor Guerra was educated at Nazareth Hall Military Academy, in the cement region of Pennsylvania. He spoke in terms of affectionate remembrance of the "old chief" of the president emeritus of that institution. Then along comes R. V. Perez Marschand, University of Pennsylvania, 1914 law class, who desired to be remembered to Dean William Draper Lewis. Evidently there are enough University of Pennsylvania boys in Porto Rico to form an alumni association.

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"VAIT 'TIL I SEE DER HAS-BEEN AS ORDERED IT!"



THE CHAFFING DISH

But How About American?
Count Brockdorff-Rantzau, the head of the German peace mission, prides himself on his ability to speak English.—News item.

"I see you are all dotted up for the peace foundry," said the American reporter to Brockdorff-Rantzau.

"Very possibly," said the discreet envoy, having not the slightest idea what was meant.

"I have a hunch you're going to get a good bowling out when you sit in at the booze table. Have you had a chance to buzz Eddie House yet? He's usually the fellow that has the inside dope."

"Conceivably," emitted the puzzled plenipotentiary.

"Probably you're on the anxious seat, hey?"

"Not impossible."

"Do you expect to pull any sob-stuff or are you going to sign on the dots and beat it?"

"Das mag sein."

"Do you think Kaiser Bill is going to get bumped off?"

"Ich verstehe nicht," shrugged Brockdorff.

"When it comes to a showdown I guess you'll have to come across."

"We came across the frontier yesterday," said Brockdorff.

"I presume you're watching your step carefully?"

"Yes, I hope that the peace will satisfy all concerned."

"Sar, I think one of those bellhops is paging you."

(Curtain)

Referred to the Sporting Department

"Finally, there is soccer, a form of football quite unknown in the United States."—H. L. Mencken, in "The American Language."

V V V

Ned Muschamp has taken all the trouble to write us a letter to the effect that "every big, healthy, husky rouginess of a man who wants to have a good cry had better read K. C. B.'s story of the police band that played in the children's hospital in San Frisco." Ned, always attentive to detail, adds that the story is on page 16 of the May Hearst's.

We're fond of a good cry, so we wish it had been in almost any other magazine.

V V V

We hope the German peace envoys had sufficient bean to bring a pulmotor with them to Versailles. If Brockdorff-Rantzau nearly swooned when delivering his credentials, what will he do when he gets the text of that 70,000-word treaty?

V V V

Of course we want to see the world made safe for democracy, but we should be sorry to see publishers' royalties abolished.

V V V

Desk Mottos

The great and glorious masterpiece of man is to know how to live to purpose; all other things, to reign, to lay up treasure, to build, are at the most but mere appendices and little profits. I take a delight to see a general of an army at the foot of a breach he intends presently to assault, giving himself up entire and free at dinner, to talk and be merry with his friends. 'Tis for little souls, that truckle under the weight of affairs, not to know how clearly to disengage themselves.—MONTAIGNE.

V V V

Motto for Home Guards when facing Bolshevik rioters: Don't fret till you see the reds of their eyes.

V V V

We find, upon questioning many of the more or less human race, that "Americans All" is the Victory Loan poster which has made the strongest impression. It's a corking poster, but we can't help wishing the "All" were strongly interlarded with "Americans" would like them to be.

V V V

We believe that it was written by Colonel House in one of his lighter moments.

V V V

SOCIETIES

SOLITUDE

THERE is the loneliness of peopled places: Streets roaring with their human flood; the crowd

That fills bright rooms with billowing sounds and faces.

Like a lost gull in solitary flight, There is the loneliness of one who stands Fronting the waste under the cold sea-light.

A wisp of flesh against the endless sands, Like a lone bird in the vast, open air, Each is alone in bearing, and in dying; Conquest is unaccompanied as despair.

But I have known no loneliness like this, Locked in your arms and bent beneath your kiss.

—Babette Deutsch, in Banners.

Taft Has Come Back
A most astonishing thing has happened. Mr. Taft has "come back." He stands out today as one of the greatest of American leaders. The largest following in the Republican party today is his. He is one of the very few men of the country who possess to any great degree the confidence of the people.—Milwaukee Journal.

Speaking of Victory Notes, the one which civilization is about to hand to Germany is interest bearing in all sorts of ways.

What a lot of worry we'd have all been saved had we known it would take the Germans 1700 days to reach Paris!

"Pitiless publicity" appears to be hiding its light under a Parisian hat.

What Do You Know?

QUIZ

1. What was the full name of Charles Dickens?

2. When the clouds in the sky look like fish scales what kind of weather is indicated?

3. What and where is the Dodecanesus?

4. What is the date set for Mother's Day?

5. Who was Diderot?

6. In what building in Versailles did the Allied commissioners receive the credentials of the German peace delegates?

7. How many states compose the republic of Brazil?

8. What animal is emblematic of Rome?

9. What is a tontine?

10. What is a proscenium?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

1. The Tennessee has been ranked as the greatest battleship ever launched.

2. Jean Jacques Rousseau, famous as a champion of government by consent of the governed, was born in Geneva.

3. Kiao-Chau is on the Shantung peninsula in northwestern China.

4. The authorship of "Henry VIII" has been attributed to Shakespeare and John Fletcher, but "The Two Noble Kinsmen" is also said to be the joint work of the two dramatists.

5. Senator Smoot is from Utah.

6. A fall in temperature may be forecast when a cloudy day clears at sunset.

7. The French expression "Fumer sans pipe," which means literally to smoke without a pipe, metaphorically means to put one's self in an ineffectual rage.

8. A winch is a hoisting engine or windlass; also a crank of a wheel or axle.

9. The sirocco is the warm wind blowing from Africa across the Mediterranean to Italy.

10. The first regular airplane mail service in the world was inaugurated on May 15, 1918, between New York and Washington.