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 Philadelphia, Saturday, June 21, 1919

GOMPERS MIGHT HELP

OPPOSITION of the anti-secession bill in Harrisburg think that if Samuel Gompers could be allowed to talk for five minutes on the floor of the House he would make its passage impossible.
 Its passage is not likely in any event. The longer the members have thought about the bill the more has the foolishness of it impressed itself upon them.
 They know that the criminal laws are already strong enough to reach any bomb thrower, whether he attack a private citizen or a public officer, or whether he attempt to destroy a public or private building. And they know also that the laws cover incitement to such acts.
 Mr. Gompers is a man of sound sense, so if he should go to Harrisburg next Monday he might make the defeat of the bill doubly sure by strengthening in their determination to vote against it those men who have already put themselves on record as having confidence in the adequacy of the existing laws to reach all Bolsheviks and anarchists.

THE INEVITABLE HAPPENING

THE world has been treated to more unfounded gossip during the last six months than in any similar period in a century.
 The peace commissioners went to Paris to draft a treaty which was to be submitted to Germany to sign. We were told that the commissioners could not agree among themselves, that they were likely to abandon the task, that the treaty would be so strong that Germany would not sign it and that it would be so weak that Germany would win the war after all.
 The gossips seemingly forgot that the leading statesmen of the world were not in the habit of setting out to do a thing and then turning back before it was done.
 When the treaty in its final form was handed to the German delegates we began to get the same kind of unfounded gossip from Berlin that had been coming from Paris. We knew that Germany was helpless, that she was utterly defeated, without a navy and with her army spoiled of its big guns and the whole country dependent on the rest of the world for food. But the gossips said Germany would not sign the treaty and would defy the Entente Allies to do their worst.
 But while the gossips are still talking the German National Council at Weimar has accepted the treaty, with a few faces it is true, but it has accepted it, and the placing of the signatures will begin when that act can be delayed no longer.
 This result, which was inevitable from the moment the armistice was signed, is now upon us; but all those who have accepted at their face value the utterances of the multitude of men who did not seem to be able to keep their feet on the solid ground have had a most exciting six months.

WHY THE BORDER IS QUIET

CARRANZA declares the Juarez incident "closed." A courier from the camp of Pancho Villa significantly announces that his chief will make no reprisals because of the border battle. In other words, the frontier is to be respected for the extremely specific reason that the United States Government displayed a certain regard for it.
 Such vigorous consideration is deplorably belated, but it is none the less welcome. The Mexican policy which will most commend itself to Americans is one which will protect energetically and without woolly vacillation their lives and property.
 Secretary Baker's authorization of the recruiting of twenty-six thousand men for the southern frontier service has the ring of decision worth more than a flock of A-B-C conferences and pretentious warnings. It was high time for same determination in the matter.

ORLANDO REPUDIATED

INTERPRETING the temper of a country through the action of its Legislature is not invariably a safe guide, as witness the misrepresentation of the widespread sentiment for the league of nations by excited American senators.
 The trend of Italian opinion regarding the now conciliatory Vittorio Orlando is therefore not to be hastily judged by the failure of the Chamber of Deputies to accord him a vote of confidence.
 Evidently also there are Borahs and Shermans in Italy. The hysterical cry: "The Allies have never been faithful to us. Why should we be faithful to them?" suggests a Roman politician of their stripe.
 It is quite as unjust to Italy to appraise

her by this sort of rot as the utterance itself is unjust to the invaluable aid which the associated powers contributed to that nation in her darkest hour.
 Through the murky political haze which has settled upon Rome it is discernible that Signor Orlando is less of a jingo than at the time of his melodramatic exit from Paris a few months ago. He now warns against "any blind form of obstinate intransigence." This is naturally displeasing to reckless fire-eaters.
 As for those Italians, of whom Signor Bissolati was a conspicuous representative, who opposed a blanket imperialist settlement of the vexed Fiume question, it is possible that they are indifferent to the prime minister's fate, even though he does give evidence of having changed sides. His present role is far from enviable.
 The situation as a whole clearly exemplifies the drawbacks of a diplomacy of passion and indicates that reasonableness and a spirit of adjustment have high compensatory value in a crisis. The trouble with Signor Orlando seems to have been that he took each of his stands at the wrong time.

FACTIONALISM MUST NOT DEFEAT THE LOAN BILL

Members of Councils Should Agree on the Plan to Raise Money for Permanent, Not Temporary, Improvements
 THE members of the majority and minority factions in Councils should promptly come to an agreement on the loan bill, which failed of passage this week.
 Much of the work for which this money is to be borrowed is imperatively needed. Some of it can be delayed and some of it, according to the plans of the original ordinance, is work which ought to be paid for out of current revenues instead of from the proceeds of a loan.
 The independent members of the minority proposed a reduction of certain items for permanent improvements and a reduction of others for current expenses. The majority declined to accept the modification and an adjournment was taken before the matter was settled.
 It has been intimated that the majority is willing that the situation thus created be allowed to continue so that it may secure what political advantage there may be in charging the minority with obstructing public work.
 It is not likely that the majority will be so foolish, for this charge is a recorded sword which cuts both ways. It can be used with equal force and pertinence against the majority.
 As the matter now stands both factions are jointly responsible and reprehensible for the failure to act. If a compromise shall not be reached and the deadlock continue, the minority can justly charge the opposition with refusing to consent to reasonable modifications in the plan based on sound principles of municipal finance. And if this point is properly pressed, whatever political advantage is to be gained would benefit the independents.
 A little careful thought on the subject will convince the majority of this. Its leaders are not political infants, and are not likely to consent to be placed in a position where they would be put to it to find any justification for their attitude.

Director General of Railroads Hines says he expects a great decline in the price of materials and an increase in the available skilled labor, which would offset the need for an advance in freight rates. Mr. Hines may be more of an optimist than a prophet.

Planks a Plenty

If by any chance un-foreseen a rail wholly un-expected to him the lightning should strike Major General Wood and he should find himself a candidate for the presidency, his platform may very easily be constructed from any one of his recent speeches. Preparedness, no tax, preparedness.

Chasing the Bomb Throwers

After this census of "Reds" has been taken the Secret Service will classify them according to grades from crimson to black and pink and by a process of elimination, Mr. Watson, will at last put his hand on the gear that struck Billy Patterson. The rest will be comparatively easy.

Discharge No Longer Fashionable

Changes in women's fashions have resulted in the disappearance of the "floating kidney" as a fashionable disease, declared a doctor at the Asbury Park convention of leonogonists. Diseases of that kind have usually floated over fashion's horizon, as it were.

Progressive Discontent

Bless your heart, nobody is everbody in Philadelphia. Antipathy between and automobile thieves are happy because the police do not bother them much. The police are happy because, since the automobiles and fires are usually insured, the thieves don't bother them much. And the insurance companies are happy because, with increased business and increased rates, damage claims don't bother them much. But when the automobile owner begins to realize that he has to pay for the lack of police protection and the insurance company hears about it and the police are notified of the new angle—why, then, good gracious, Amabile, the first thing you know the police will be making arrests!

At present prices there are grounds for complaint in every coffee cup.

The not too genial outcrop of the stamp shop and wire motion stars should promptly take measures to put a stop to congressional Gallivanting.

A recent Philadelphia incident stresses the fact that babies, matches and window curtains should never be together. And women alone are responsible for the curtain.

The League of Nations is the child of the war, says the President. There are United States senators inclined to treat it as a stepchild.

If the sight of a sailor with a bottle of whisky will cause a riot in the Fairmount Park this week, the same thing after July 1 will probably cause a revolution.

That aerial military band concert at Camp Dix was, of necessity, composed entirely of soloists. The air alone interested them. And they doubtless made heavenly music.

A German coal magnate declares that Germany cannot honestly sign the treaty and hope to fulfill her obligations. That she will dishonestly sign and hope to evade her obligations is confidently expected.

ple do not care who builds their sewers so long as they are built properly.

The wisdom of other reductions made can give rise to honest difference of opinion. It may be argued that the reduced sum is all that can be spent to advantage at the present time when prices are high; that delay will injure no one and may save the city hundreds of thousands of dollars when prices return to a peace time level. There is no disposition to be hypercritical about these matters.
 But there is an earnest desire throughout the city that work on permanent improvements which has been delayed on account of the war be resumed as quickly as may be and that Councils take the necessary action to make that resumption possible. The members should have political sense enough to smooth over their differences and come to an agreement.

THE KAISER AND THE LAST ACT

THE present political debility of William Hohenzollern has somewhat obscured the truth that a rogue who has been found out and shorn of power is no less guilty than the criminal untouched by adversity.
 It has become the fashion to describe the ex-king as a "pitiful figure," as a lamentable weakling from whom it is hardly worth while to withdraw the cloak of oblivion.
 Fortunately, the Paris peace-makers had no patience with such sophistry, and the provision which their treaty makes for solemn official examination into his iniquity is one of its strongest moral bulwarks. Call it weakness or call it strength, it was the character equation of the German emperor which was the primary personal cause of the world-wide outrage.
 If the old description of him as a figure of force was correct, his responsibility admits of no question. If his vanity was merely a mask for his helplessness in the hands of a military clique, then such colossal egotism was as base and detestable as a forthright energy for wickedness.
 He is grossly mis-stained in either event, and as the fateful hour in Weimar strikes for his fallen nation, the role which he plays in the last act of the tragedy is no less significant because it is utterly ignoble.
 The fates which permitted his life to be spared up to this point must have quaffed deeply of the cup of exquisite and cosmic irony.

CONGRESSMAN MOORE'S LETTER

Washington Watches Penrose and the Vares—Local High School Boys in the Navy—Gossip About John B. MacAfee, William T. Budd, Colonel Elliott and Others
 Washington, D. C., June 21.
 GOOD feeling among the dining clubs, for which Philadelphia is famous, helps the city in many ways. Organizations like the Clover Club, the Five o'Clock Club, the Terrain Club, the Lincoln Club and others have persisted for years in bringing to Philadelphia prominent men who have gone away with a better understanding of the city and its people. The menu cards and souvenirs which these clubs provide for their guests are carried off and treasured in many cities. The little checks which are distributed at anniversary dinners by the Five o'Clock Club are now fairly well known in Washington. It is not unusual to find them in the office of a congressman or senator. Recently when the Five o'Clock was entertaining a number of congressmen at the Philadelphia Country Club—it was a typical Jack Holton party under the direction of Dr. Hobart A. Hare and Joseph Wayne, Jr., was the apprentice—the Lincoln Club, which was dining at Ringelstein, sent Charles R. Hamilton and William J. Condon over to ask that a few of the congressmen might be appropriated to them. It was a case of wanting to do the right thing. The Lincoln Club boys sought to share in the hospitality that usually goes out to our visitors, and the congressmen appreciated it. We saw something of "the good fellows" who talk up Philadelphia through the dining club medium.

PENROSE and Vares are not spontaneous terms. Washington understands that. But banking allowances for Penrose's long record at the capital, the Vares have come to be talked about in connection with Pennsylvania politics. Brother Bill is here to talk for himself, and he does not hide the Vares right under a bushel. But statesmen say about Pennsylvania. Penrose, Senator Lodge will have his job. "When Penrose gets through reforming Philadelphia," he will say, "and when the big red touring car returns," some one else will observe. So Washington evinces an interest in our affairs. It isn't quite on to the curves of Philadelphia in politics, but it is familiar. As to the outcome, Charles M. Hoyer, an active spirit in the charter-reform movement, tells us the city will not stand for a continuance of the Smith-Vare regime. Taking the Twenty-fourth ward for example, he says the people out there are decidedly for a change. Hoyer is close to George W. Coles, of the Town Meeting party, and has an occasional look-in with big Tom Cunningham, of the Republican Alliance. But William S. Vares, he just looks wile-like when interviewed, and hints "as how" the "old order prevaileth" and the Vares will be just as well satisfied under the new city charter as under any other.

THERE is much satisfaction in sending boys to Annapolis who make good. The examinations are severe and the boys who stand all the tests may be set down as exceptional. If the appointee does not pull through the congressional banking the appointment must start all over again with a new applicant or lose the place. Boys at the Central High School will be glad to know that William Butler, who figured big in athletics for several years, is among those who came out smiling. He is now a full-fledged ensign and will go to sea on the United States steamship Louisiana. Paul Ralph Hinesman also came through with flying colors. He will start to sea as ensign on the United States steamship Fish. Natty boys these, and both of them from river wards.

JOHN BLAIR MACAFEE, who used to practice law in Philadelphia but who now is engaged in a local real estate business in London, has been looking Washington over with an inclination to take in Norfolk before again crossing the water. "MacAfee & Co., Limited, 5 Copthall Street, London," is the way the card reads, but in addition John Blair has become a director of the American Chamber of Commerce with headquarters in Wall Mall. It has not been so many years since MacAfee, who looks about as young and business-like as ever, was doing big things in trolley construction in Virginia. His residence in England during the war has naturally brought him in contact with many of the celebrities over there.

WILLIAM T. BUDD, formerly of the Harlan & Hollingsworth Company, has become the secretary of the Chamber of Commerce of Wilmington, succeeding Mr. Killen, who has gone into the newspaper business. Being one of the best connected business men in the East, Colonel Budd may be expected to bring Wilmington across to the Delaware river in due course. He has a big job on hand, for Wilmington has large transportation and industrial interests. However, he is already plugging away at Washington, where his acquaintance with congressmen and representatives and with department heads will count heavily. And incidentally it may be stated that Delaware's new congressman, Caleb R. Layton, is taking a lively interest in what is going on here. He has made several speeches already and may be counted for economy and a reduction of the high cost of living.

COLONEL GEORGE J. ELLIOTT, the ex-commander of the 10th Cavalry, who cooperates with Colonel W. H. Saxon, Colonel William A. Patton and the other colonels who look after the upkeep of Valley Forge Park, has been down here for several days on business. Any one who knows the colonel's dog in the East, Colonel Elliot of the Bell Telephone Company can guess the reason. Congress has been ready for some time to turn the telephone and telephone companies back to their owners. But there are many details to look after. The unscrupulous process is a little more difficult, even as Mr. Baileton finds it. But the talking over process. Wages, rates and restoration of pre-war conditions all enter into it and, as Colonel George observes, "raising wages \$25,000,000 and rates only \$20,000,000 is another element of government control that's hard to figure back to normal."

CONGRESSMAN BILL BROWNING gave a fish dinner to his colleagues on the naval affairs committee at the conclusion of the big fight on the naval appropriation bill. The fish came from somewhere on the Pacific coast and was too big to be shipped up the coast. Hence the feast. So big as the Pacific product was, there are some people who live in the vicinity of Salem creek—R. C. Ballinger, of the Builders' Exchange, for instance—who have the notion that Delaware should be still king of the tunny tribe. Dick Ballinger is a local sportsman who is not averse to taking a hand in Philadelphia affairs, which makes him useful on both sides of the river.

The Boy Scouts are still assiduously searching for Good Old Scouts.
 It is gratifying to know that the detectives who are seeking the perpetrators of bomb outrages still have a clue.



THE CHAFFING DISH

A City Notebook
 In the new coal cellar under Independence Hall, where Fred Ekersburg, the engineer, and Victor Anderson, the carpenter, have their pleasant haunt, we inquired after the health of Martha Washington, the State House cat. We were very sorry to miss her, which the statesman of '76 hung their saddles when they rode up to the State House and hitched their horses outside. He also showed us one of the former visitors' books, with Mr. Taft's signature in it, dated December 30, 1911. Below Mr. Taft's name were those of John W. Wainwright and Major Archibald Hart, Mr. Taft's aide, who was lost, if we remember rightly, on the Titanic.

ONE of the little streets that runs south from Market street near Third there is a sign, "No Parking." An upstate Pennsylvania German looked at it thoughtfully and then turned to his wife. "You see not a well-governed city this is," he said. "Even the docks ain't allowed to park in public."

IF you went to the postoffice at Ninth and Chestnut yesterday you may have noticed that big barrage of pink roses at window No. 5, where Letters, etc. for Men are delivered to the anxious public. George Scott, chief trace clerk, who has been in the service for twenty-four years, was having another birthday thrust upon him, and the flowers were in his honor.

WE ARE glad to see that good old G. A. Henry keeps his hold on the younger generation. Sitting on a doorstep at Fourth and Kelly streets, during the noon hour (and what we were doing in that significant neighborhood is our own concern), we found a boy immersed in a book. It was Henry's "Ready to Abdicate: A Tale of Waterloo."

WE OFTEN wonder what the business college flappers, who are so thronging Chestnut street at lunch time, talk about. Many a time we have halted along behind a couple of them, hoping to get a line on the way their busy little minds revolve; but their busy little jaws revolve so much faster, with the customary adhesive confection, it's hard to get a word out edgewise.

A COMMUTER on the Cider and Blood-shank tells us that the roses along the embankment beyond Wayne Junction station are now in full and magnificent bloom. For a few minutes we were almost sorry that we had given up commuting.

IF you want to see how well Uncle was prepared for a long war, have a look at the despairing announcements of the surplus-property officer, posted on the boards in the halls of the Federal Building. If, for instance, you should need 100,000 currys, or several thousand tons of electroly-

A BOY'S PRAYER

God Who created me
 In three elements free,
 To rise, to ride, to swim;
 Not when the sense is dim,
 But now from the heart of joy,
 I would remember Thee;
 Take the thanks of a boy.
 Jew, King and Lord,
 Whose are my foes to fight,
 Gird me with Thy sword,
 Swift and sharp and bright,
 That would I serve if I might,
 And conquer if I can,
 From day down till night,
 Take the strength of a man.
 Spirit of Love and Truth,
 Breathing in grosser clay,
 The light and flame of youth,
 In the blue summer twilight, sit calmly
 Glancing small girls. We saw one reading
 And asked her what it was, "A story," she
 Said shyly. We persuaded her to show us
 The book, which was called "Fifty Old
 Stories Retold," and the tale she was deep
 In was "The Three Wise Men of
 Gotham." We know that these were three
 Wise men of Gotham, but the Other Three
 Were new to us, and we badly wanted to
 know what happened to them.
 Any one who has written a book that will
 be read by the millions of P. M. street
 on a hot evening; has deserved well of his
 fellow men.
 —Ray, H. C. Bowdler (1859-1919)

What Do You Know?

- QUIZ**
1. What part of the United States is most opposed to woman suffrage?
 2. What European premier has just been denied a vote of confidence?
 3. How many bushels make a roomb?
 4. What one of the three counts of the United States is the shortest?
 5. Into how many days were the months divided according to the calendar of the French Revolutionary era?
 6. What is the error in this quotation from Gray's "Rage in a Country Churchyard": "The path of glory leads but to the grave"?
 7. Who was President of the United States 100 years ago?
 8. What is the meaning of the word impaling?
 9. Who was Epictetus?
 10. What American philosopher is in Peking engaged in drawing up a new and comprehensive national education system for China.

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

1. Six senators voted against the declaration of a state of war with Germany. They were Lane, Stone, Vandaman, Norris, Thomas and La Follette.
2. Cauliflower and carrot were unknown in the United States at the time of the Revolution.
3. A dossier is a set of documents, especially a record of a person's antecedents.
4. "Nobis vobis" is Latin for willy-nilly.
5. Antwerp is on the Scheldt river.
6. A succedaneum is a substitute that one falls back on in default of another.
7. Jean-Francois de la Perouse was a distinguished French navigator, noted especially for his South Sea discoveries.
8. Shay's rebellion was an insurrection in Massachusetts in 1787 against alleged abuses by the state government. Daniel Shay was leader of the uprising.
9. Bolivia is the third largest country in South America.
10. Charles E. Hughes resigned as a Supreme Court justice in 1916 to become Republican candidate for President.