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strike served a good purpose in the final analysis.

Like the recent imperial gestures of the railway brotherhoods, it helped to wake the people up. It permitted them to get a good look at the powers that threaten to make life intolerable for them. Conscienceless labor leaders on one hand and conscienceless corporation men on the other were shown frantically trying to outdo each other in a tussle for loot.

The public, which suffered acutely, cannot but be wiser now and better able to deal with the whole general problem of utilities. If the militant capitalists and militant labor leaders find themselves left before long without the public sympathy that is necessary to the survival of any organization in this country they will have such demonstrations as that recently made in New York to blame for the disaster.

The general public is organized, too. Its union representatives sit in the Legislatures and in Congress. The vehicle of its purpose is the law of the land. Sooner or later it will institute reprisals and insist upon justice, and its leaders will have to do its bidding. Then we shall see something new in the way of united action.

MR. TAFT BUILT THE BRIDGE FROM WHITE HOUSE TO CAPITOL

The President and the Senators Meet on His Conciliatory Plan for "Interpretations"

WHEN the history of the ratification of the peace treaty is written the credit for harmonizing the differences between the President and the Senate will without doubt be given to William Howard Taft.

In his famous letter to Will H. Hays, chairman of the Republican national committee, Mr. Taft suggested that in order to remove any misapprehension about the American understanding of the treaty the ratifying resolution should be accompanied by a series of "interpreting paragraphs." Until he made the suggestion there had been talk of nothing but "reservations."

Reservations are radically different from interpretations. They involve a refusal to assent to a proposition in its original form. Interpretations involve merely an explanation of the understanding of the meaning of the proposition to which one assents.

The word "interpretation" is the bridge across the chasm between the Capitol and the White House.

The President made this clear in his conference with the Senate committee on foreign relations yesterday afternoon. After suggesting certain explanations of the meaning of the most discussed articles of the covenant of the league of nations he remarked:

"There can be no reasonable objection to such interpretations accompanying the act of ratification, provided they do not form a part of the formal ratification itself."

Whether they form a part of the ratifying resolution or not seems to be a detail of little consequence. The point to be noted at this time is that the President, after having let it be understood that he was opposed to everything but a categorical assent to the treaty by the Senate so far as to agree with those senators who desire by clarifying explanations to make it sure that the United States surrenders no essential rights and binds itself in no unconstitutional way to obligations which it is not willing to bear.

The President was most conciliatory in his formal address and in his answers to the questions put to him afterward. He reminded the committee that when he met its members last March and discussed with them the first draft of the league covenant they made certain objections to it. An attempt had been made, he said, to meet those objections. The Monroe Doctrine has been safeguarded in language which seemed to the peace commissioners adequate to exempt it from the jurisdiction of the league. The interference by the league in domestic questions, such as immigration, the tariff and naturalization, had been forbidden. The United States was not the only power interested in the preservation of its right to fix its own policy in these matters. The right of a state to withdraw from the league was clearly defined and there was no body created which could question that right or could prevent a nation from withdrawing when it chose and under such conditions as satisfied its sense of national honor.

And Article X, which guarantees the territorial integrity of the members of the league from external aggression, placed no legal obligation on any nation to act in accordance with the advice of the council. The President explained he had been at special pains to make it perfectly clear to the conference that the final action of America rested with Congress under our constitution. He insisted, of course, that Article X was the very backbone of the league and that without it "the league would be hardly more than an influential debating society."

The President is clearly willing that the interpretations shall make it clear that the Monroe Doctrine is exempt from league jurisdiction, that internal questions of internal policy shall not be considered by the league council and that the United States is not expected to take any action under Article X without the express direction of Congress.

These are substantially the interpretations which Mr. Taft suggested not quite a month ago. They embody the understanding of a majority of the Senate regarding the meaning of the treaty and they do not modify its provisions in any particular.

When the President asked a committee of members of the League to Enforce Peace to consider the question of interpretations a week or so ago his formal approval of such a course as Mr. Taft had suggested was foreshadowed. Consequently the conference at the White House yesterday may be regarded as removing all possible doubt about the early ratification of the treaty in such a way as to save the face of those supersensitive senators who were timid about it in the first place.

The Democratic senators, with one and possibly two exceptions, will vote for it.

About twenty-five Republicans are needed to make the necessary two-thirds majority. Knox and Lodge and Brandegee and Borah may vote against the treaty till the cows come home without being able to defeat it, provided twenty-five of their Republican brethren disagree with them. The irreconcilables may be expected to fight to the last ditch for reservations, which, as the President points out, would delay ratification all around and postpone the restoration of peace conditions, without which the orderly processes of industry cannot be resumed and without which it will be impossible to restore American trade relations with Germany. But the irreconcilables cannot defeat it.

It is morally certain that the foreign relations committee will report the treaty to the full Senate in the near future. Then, after each senator has freed his mind upon it, the final vote will be taken. The discussion thus far has not been without value. It has clarified the thinking of the Senate and the longer it continued the clearer it became that the Peace Conference performed a difficult task with surprising wisdom. It is not such a treaty as Mr. Wilson would have written if left to himself, nor such as would have been written by Senator Lodge or Lloyd George or Clemenceau or Orlando or any one else. They all admit that it is made up of compromises and concessions. There is sense enough in the Senate to refrain from trying to rewrite the whole document as it would have it without considering the wishes of any other nation.

It has already been ratified by England. When it is ratified by the United States and France all its provisions will go into effect. The ratification by the United States will hasten the approval by France. It is of so great importance that the United States be a party to it and be a member of the league of nations that it is not at all likely that any power will question the interpretations which we put upon it. Rather, they will all say that they understand it to mean just what we say it means.

Thus out of all the babel and confusion, the denunciation and recrimination, the bitterness and spleen which accompanied the formation and consideration of this remarkable document, at last came order and rationality and calmness just as the average man thought it would all along; and much of the credit for this happy approaching consummation must be awarded to the reason, discretion and sound judgment of the greatest Republican statesman in or out of the Senate—Mr. Taft.

DIVIDENDS FROM GOOD NATURE?

SINCE August, 1918, \$3,000,000 worth of dividends has been voluntarily given to the P. R. T. employees. There have been no strikes and rumors of an agitation for eight-cent fares proved to be unfounded. A letter from Mr. Mitten to the working force of the lines explains these happy circumstances. It is an odd sort of letter to read in the light of what is going on in New York and New Jersey street-car lines.

"We want more rides at five cents, not less rides at a higher fare," writes the P. R. T.'s president. Trolley crews are asked to be amiable with patrons. A ride on a street car is to be made "a pleasant experience." That will be difficult in the rush hours, but perhaps it can be managed. The motorman will keep his eye alert for passengers on sparse corners. He is asked to pass none of them, but to "catch" all short-distance riders and "pick up all the nickels." Smiling pleasantly he will waft each contented citizen to his destination without delay and slip another nickel into the pocket of an angry walker.

Here is a bright new policy of salesmanship. There are car rides for sale under a theory of big business and small profits. Everybody is to be made happy if the thing can be done. The sleek-minded old buccannery who used to run street railways twenty years ago would have called all this visionary—and that is why they are extinct. The newer doctrine is bringing in the money, keeping fares down and wages up.

Those who are still banking on Kaledah might feel a bit more comfortable if the latest military dictator in Russia were not talking in a vein strongly suggestive of General Ludendorff's outgivings in the days when his army was retiring "triumphantly" to defeat and chaos.

It begins to look as if the stage strike will be settled amicably. Will audiences ever strike? Who will lead a public demonstration against managers, authors and actors alike to insist, let us say, upon one good play, one good song and one new joke a year?

Perhaps the theory is that food hoarders will be scared by reading of the numerous schemes to drive them out of business.

The farmers knocked the daylight out of majority rule when the House passed the bill repealing daylight saving.

He is a wise witness who reads a prepared statement before submitting to cross-examination.

All too soon there will be nothing left of Uncle Sam's entry into the grocery business but a beggarly array of empty cans.

Wonder if the senators thought they were going to have another Henry Ford on the stand?

The purchase of a home by the ex-kaiser is expected to dole out the Allies will provide him with one.

The President's refusal to confer with them adds a drop of bitterness to the California wine growers' cup.

Having won his strike, the wise New York street-car man will follow his own advice and mind his step.

Judge Patterson has decided to remain on the bench. Then how can he expect to make a hit or a run?

Archduke Joseph of Hungary is a dictator who readily submits to dictation.

Wasn't it simply awful of that United States officer in Mexico to banoo a bandit?

CONGRESSMAN MOORE'S LETTER

Shipping Board Keeps Cuban Sugar Out of the Market—Interest of Physicians in the May-orality Fight

The high cost of living is the big thing now. Many remedies are suggested, but there are some who hold that nothing short of a financial catastrophe of some sort or other will bring prices down. Internationalism is suggested by others, a leveling, as it were, of economic conditions, such as such as President Wilson proposed in one of his earlier messages. Attorney General Palmer is talking fight, but up to date little has been done in the way of prosecutions. Why? For one thing, it is difficult to throw a stone at profiteers without hitting somebody who is close to court. Why talk about ships and shipping conditions when it gets under full swing. The committee is starting its work in California and Washington, but it will come East in due course. The cost of construction and waste which enter into the cost of living ultimately are among the things to be investigated.

JOHN B. PARSONS has passed away. He was one of those semipublic men who earned his way to distinction. He was never proud to let it be known that he had started as a car conductor. When he became head of the traction company he knew the business, and that is why Widener and Elkins liked him. It's a good thing to have that kind of foundation. That's the way the Dissolution boys usually started right. They knew how to make saws before they undertook to manage the big business.

SAMUEL EDELMAN, a bright youngster from the Third District, obtained an appointment to West Point some years ago, but did the unusual thing of resigning to go into the consular service. All through the war Edelman, who had become an accomplished linguist, speaking seven or eight languages, was most useful to the State Department. There were times when he was obliged in the Far East to mix with pashas and other oriental potentates as if he were one of them, and all this on a salary which ranged from \$1500 to about \$2000 a year. When the Turks were assaulting the Armenians early in the war Edelman was of great service in saving life. Sometimes by reason of his acquaintanceship he was able to stay the hand of the avenger against whole colonies. But the government is not a liberal employer, and Edelman, who married an English girl and is now a lawyer father, after waiting for the government to recognize fittingly his services, has gone into a Near East enterprise which is supported very largely by Charles J. Webb, the Philadelphia wool man.

PHILADELPHIA medical men are taking a lively interest in the mayoralty campaign. Some of them do not like the way the coroner's office has been conducted, but most of them are anxious to have the city cleaned up. Doctor Aiders, who is a leader in the movement for clean streets, attributed the cholera epidemic to the filth and miasma in the thoroughfares. It is a curious thing, but the opinion holds in the medical profession that the healthier people are the better it is for the doctors, and looking at it from the practical point of view from the humanitarian viewpoint, it is reasonable to presume that the people are more cheerful and generous when they are clean and prosperous. They are not so well able to pay when the town is overrun by an epidemic. But as to the mayoralty campaign, listen to Dr. L. Webster Fox, who has been summing in Colorado: "Wherever I go I hear constantly quoted against that horrible slogan 'corruption and contentment.' This is a curious catchword of Philadelphia must be wiped out."

"BOB" McWADE is out in Idaho. He is "conciliating" for the Department of Labor. Robert says the political power of organized labor is growing immensely, and off that line he is a big center. He has a better chance than any other man in the Northwest. He says Lindbergh is stronger than "Jurety Bill Borah."

CONGRESSMAN VARE'S announcement that he does not want state honors, but prefers to remain in Washington until he can become chairman of the all-important committee on appropriations, is a topic of interest in Washington. Mr. Vare was put on the appropriations committee shortly after his arrival in Congress. He is a member of the Lancaster, who had prior claim to it, but who was satisfied to remain on the committee on postoffices and postroads. Mr. Vare went on at the foot of the list like all other new members with a reasonable possibility of reaching the chairmanship at a remote period, but his manager, a big spender, ranking above him occurred. Several were defeated; the head man, Mr. Gillett, was elected speaker; another prior member, Mr. Mondell, of Wyoming, was elected leader, until finally the list stood Good, of Iowa; first; Davis, of Minnesota, second, and Vare, of Pennsylvania, third. That left Uncle Joe Cannon, who came back to Congress after Vare was put on the committee, behind the latter. Today, therefore, Mr. Vare stands very close to being chairman.

Bring Them Along

Dear Socrates: When my father died he bequeathed me a steady income of three ideas a year. The course of my business does not compel me to use these up very rapidly, and it has occurred to me that some of the surplus might be useful to you. I have been holding them, I wonder what they would be worth to you? GODFREY.

The Downfall of George Snipe

A Story With a Concealed Moral

GEORGE SNIPLE was an ardent book-lover, and sat in the smoking car in a state of suspended ecstasy. He had been invited out to Mandrake Park to visit the library of Mr. Genial Girth, the well-known collector of rare autographed books. Devoted amateur of literature as he was, George's humble career rarely brought him into contact with bookish treasures, and a tremulous excitement swam through his brain as he thought of the glories he was about to see. In his devout meditation the train carried him a station beyond his alighting place, and he ran frantically back through the well-grounded suburban countryside in order to reach Mr. Girth's home on time. They went through the library together. Mr. Girth displayed all his fascinating prizes with generous good nature, and George grew excited. The palms of his hands were clammy with agitation. All round the room, encased in scarlet slip-covers of the priceless morocco, on freepress shelves, were the tooled booty of the collector. Here was Charles Lamb's Essay of Elia, inscribed by the author to the woman he loved. Here was a copy of

ALL THE THRILLERS DON'T HAPPEN IN MEXICO

Mr. Hi FLYER is Forced to land and—

—is captured by BANDITS and, after experiences too dreadful to here discuss,—

—UNCLE SAM has started to his rescue.—

(MORE ANON.)

THE CHAFFING DISH

News Item in 2019

Washington, Aug. 20.—The American punitive expedition into Mexico, to chastise the insolent bandits who recently dropped mothballs on the Secretary of War from an airplane, crossed the border this morning. The War Department has addressed to the Mexican Government one of the most stringent notes ever compiled.

Lost and Found

LOST: The good old days. Liberal reward for return of same and no embarrassing questions asked. Everybody. Everywhere.

North Penn Bank busters must be grateful to their fellow-plunderers—the Mexican bandits—for relieving them of some of the unenviable space on the front page.

Every one must wish that the \$7500 saved by Captain Matlack when he rescued Lieutenant Davis could be divided between them. But the vouchers for that money will probably be passed round the offices of the War Department for fifty years and O.K'd and referred and filed a thousand times.

One of the fellows who ought to be commended for contempt of courtship is the chap who married a girl and says he conducted all his wooing in a \$20 sack suit.

Another man we have it in for is the one who sews the buttons on Palm Beach suits. It seems to us that a wreck is such a brief career for a trouser button.

We hope that when the Kaiser really does leave Amerongen Mrs. Beutwick will be able to get a nice long vacation. Fall housecleaning will have to be put up, and it would be such a relief to throw together the spare room will have to be done over.

End Tongue Sandwich is 15 Cents

Everybody knows the little puny checks that you get in the lunchrooms, the kind that say at the bottom, "Please Pay Highest Amount Punched to the Cashier." We thought it was a very sinister omen when we saw the other day that a lunchroom we frequent had laid in a new stock of these checks. The "Highest Amount" printed on the old checks was seventy cents, but the new kind run up to a dollar.

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Paradise Lost, signed by John Milton. Here was a "Hamlet" given by Shakespeare to Bacon with the inscription, "Dear Frank, don't you wish you could have written something like this?" Here was the unpublished manuscript of a story by Robert Louis Stevenson. Here was a note written by Doctor Johnson to the landlady of the Cheesecake, refusing to pay a bill and accusing the tavern-keeper of profiteering. Here were volumes autographed by Goldsmith, Keats, Shelley, Poe, Byron, DeFoe, Swift, Dickens, Thackeray and all the other great figures of modern literature.

Poor George's agitation became painful. His head buzzed as he surveyed the faded signatures of all these men who had become the living figures of his day-dreams. His eye rolled wildly in his orbit. Just then Mr. Girth was called out of the room, and left George alone among the treasures.

Just at what instant the mania seized him we shall never know. There were a pen and an inkpot on the table, and the frenzied lover of books dipped the quill deep in the dark blue fluid. He ran eagerly to the shelves. "The first volume he saw was a copy of 'Lorna Doone.'" In it he wrote "Affectionately yours, R. D. Blackmore." Then came Longfellow's poems. He scrawled "With deep esteem, Henry W. Longfellow" on the flyleaf. Then three volumes of Maule's "History of England." In the first he jotted "I have always wanted you to have these admirable books, T. R. M." In "The Mill on the Floss" he wrote, "This comes to you still warm from the press, George Eliot." The next book happened to be a copy of Edgar Guest's poems. In this he inscribed "You are the host I love the best. This is my boast. Yours, Edgar Guest." In a copy of Browning's Poems he wrote "To my dear and only wife, Elizabeth, from her devoted Robert." In a pamphlet reprint of the Gettysburg Speech he penned "This is straight stuff. A. Lincoln." But perhaps his most triumphant exploit was signing a copy of the Rubaiyat thus: "This book is given to the Anti-Saloon League of Naisland by that throng in their side, O. Khay-yam."

By the time the ambulance reached Mr. Girth's home George was completely beyond control. He was taken away screaming because he had not had a chance to autograph a copy of The Songs of Solomon.

Notes in Independence Square

The Chaffing Dish, always first with the news that really matters, paid a call on Fred Ekersburg and George Bloom, the friendly engineer and carpenter who reside in the basement of Independence Hall. They informed us that searchlights are about to be erected on the roof of the Hall, to light up the tower at night. When this news gets into the papers, as it will shortly, you are privileged to remark that you read it first in the Dish.

Fred and George are always hospitable, and urge the wayfarer to tarry a while. Fred can always dig up something interesting from his remarkable collection of relics. With a mystic air he produced a dangerous-looking flask, raised in wicker. Our heart reached up, and for a moment we thought that here, in the very palladium and bulwark of the American constitution, we were to have a chance to thwart the eighteenth amendment. We shook the flask, expecting to hear a swash and swirling of good cheer. Empty. We looked inquiringly at Fred, and he explained that it was the flask in which water from the Washington Spring at Valley Forge was brought to Independence Hall on the Fourth of July a few years ago, for President Wilson to drink.

It looks as though George Washington, who is now lying under canvas on the west coast of Independence Hall, is going to keep his lowly and inglorious posture for some time. For we observe that a neat little wooden cradle has been built round him.

SOCRATES.

NEXT TO NOTHING

When Miss McFlimy once inveighed against That minimized enjoyment of a feminine display. She voiced the cry of Mother Eve who in a grove arboreal Put fig-leaves on the fashion plate, to rule there for a day. In silk or fig leaf petticoat Upon hyperbole they dot!— And so I earnestly declare That when they say they've naught to wear They mean just next to nothing!

Dear Eve and Flora! Bless your hearts, such a skirt or a pair of bloomers Of girdles of today we see in ballroom, beach or street. In arms and necks and shoulder-blades you'll very quickly note a type Of feminine complaint that's old as it is sometimes sweet. The girls of all colors sometimes free Including in hyperbole, But modern girls, I declare, Are right in saying that they wear— Well—really next to nothing!

GRIF ALEXANDER.

Judge Patterson's five reasons for not quitting the bench are discounted by the one reason that such quotation would be right and proper.

Have you patronized Uncle Sam's bargain counter yet?

When the elder is hard it is soft for the toper.

A sinner is more endurable than a saint with a grievance.

What Do You Know?

- QUIZ**
- What army is replacing the American troops which are evacuating the Rhine area?
 - Who wrote that in England it was necessary to execute an admiral now and then "to encourage the others"?
 - Who was called the "Napoleon of Mexico"?
 - What is said to be the origin of the word jingo?
 - Which is the deepest of the Great Lakes?
 - Who succeeded Lord Tennyson as poet laureate of England?
 - Who was the ruler of France 100 years ago?
 - How many standard times are used in the United States?
 - Who wrote the music of the grand opera "The Huguenots"?
 - How many Presidents of the United States died a natural death in office, and who were they?
- Answers to Yesterday's Quiz**
- Hamburg is the largest city in Germany after Berlin.
 - A begum is a Hindu queen or lady of high rank.
 - Chaucer is called the father of English poetry.
 - El Dorado is Spanish and means the gilded.
 - Alaska was acquired by the United States from Russia in 1867.
 - Letters of marque are licenses to fit out armed vessels and employ them in the capture of the enemy's merchant shipping.
 - Edgar Allan Poe was born in Boston, The St. Mitchell offensive began on September 12, 1048.
 - Velasquez is regarded as the greatest of Spanish painters.
 - The jacket of a ship is the flagpole or mast.

A GOOD USE FOR JAILS

CONFERENCES like that held here yesterday by Attorney General Palmer and others interested directly in the reduction of living costs show clearly that federal departments are now relatively helpless and that, like the public at large, they must turn to Congress for assistance in the emergency.

The food administration cannot be organized with volunteers. War psychology gave Mr. Hoover's organization its potency. The war is supposed to be over. Existing laws are inadequate to meet the needs of the hour. It is the imperative duty of Congress to concentrate its attention on this one towering question.

When laws are made to curb the food gamblers they ought to provide not fines alone, but jail sentences. Fines are easily paid if you happen to be making millions in illicit profits. But there are a good many plunders in the food markets who might go slower if they were confronted with the prospect of ten years at Atlanta.

THE DEMOCRATIC NOMINATION

IN NAMING a candidate for Mayor the Democratic city committee preserves a harmless tradition. Harry D. Wescott, son of former Attorney General Wescott, of New Jersey, its choice this year, is regarded as able and he is well liked in the community. So far as politics goes, however, it is evident that sentiment is one of his chief attributes.

For sentiment alone must be the motive of any one accepting a Democratic nomination for municipal office here unless, as has sometimes happened in the past, political bartering has been the motive. The city is Republican and will remain so.

This year, more than ever, is the practical utility of writing a Democratic ticket evident. An anti-machine candidate who is also a Republican is the type that appeals most to the best ranks of the Philadelphia electorate. Such a nominee for Mayor is in prospect in J. Hampton Moore.

A quaint parody of the really significant campaign here is provided in the fact that the Democratic primaries are to have their little battle. Mr. Wescott's rival, supported by the "Bonniwell Democrats," is former Congressman Michael Donohoe.

The outcome, so far as the future government of Philadelphia is concerned, is of no consequence. The most that the little group of willful local Democrats can hope for is that their party will not be used here for base trading schemes. Under the old Ryan-Donnelly domination its extinction was morally preferable to its existence.

A JUDGE IN A FOG

JUDGE PATTERSON did not say that he was holding his seat on the bench because it was comfortable, especially in face of an uncertainty. That kind of talk would at least have been understandable. The five reasons which he does give are not.

His "firstly" expresses deep concern for pending cases before him "that have not been decided." Such sensitiveness is somewhat belated. It failed to disturb him sufficiently to deter him from playing a role which, if the public should support him, would eventually lead to his retirement from the judgeship to which he now so affectionately clings.

His "secondly" evinces ignorance of "a judge resigning without finishing the public business before him." He apparently never heard, of course, of Charles Evans Hughes and Alton B. Parker, two of the many who drew the sharp line between the impartiality of the judiciary and the special pleading of politics. His reference to other sitting judges who are running to succeed themselves is beside the point and puerile.

His "thirdly" emphasizes regard for the people of Philadelphia who elected him a judge. But what then will be their feelings if he throws down that office in November?

His "fourthly" points to the desires of members of the bar that he should hang on until election day. Naturally the amiable judge has friends. But what is the bearing of that fact on the actual merits of the question involved?

His "fifthly" cites "the right of the humblest citizen to run for office." Sure. He is entitled, if he likes, to be a candidate for Mayor. But he defies all good precedent and practice here by retaining a judge's commission during his campaign. This is indeed, as he says, "the land of opportunity." Nothing would make that clearer than an opportune resignation.

LAWLESSNESS DE LUXE

LIKE everything else that appears on the surface to be wholly bad and without reason, the New York street-car