# vening Public Tedger

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SLAUGHTER OF THE INNOCENTS

SIX children have been killed within twenty-four hours, five by automobiles, which ran them down in the streets of the city, and one by a trolley car. It would be just as sensible to denounce all automobiles and all automo-

bile drivers because of this as to demand that writing be abolished because certain men are guilty of forgery. Denunciation will not cure anything. Affirmative remedial action is what is

needed. In the first place, there should be more traffic policemen stationed at the dangerous crossings. The police force is short of men and the city is short of money. We cannot get the men until we get the money.

In the second place, the chauffeurs of passenger automobiles and motortrucks should be subjected to some kind of examination before they are licensed to run cars through the streets. The examination should test not only the technical knowledge of the applicant, but his fudgment and sense of responsibility.

And, in the third place, parents should teach their children to exercise the greatest possible care in crossing the streets. know it is difficult to persuade a child to consider its safety, but it can be done, as many parents know who have trained their children to look carefully in both directions before leaving the curb, and if an automobile is in sight to wait until it has passed before cross-

A certain number of accidents is bound to happen every year, under conditions which no one could foresee or guard against. But six of them could not have occurred within twenty-four hours unless there had been gross carelessness. And when men arrested for disregarding the traffic rules are discharged by the magistrates instead of being fined to the limit, careless driving is encouraged. A rigid enforcement of the law upon the · might reduce the number of

### LINE UPON LINE

E first discovery of personal liberty. according to Bishop Woodcock, of Kentucky, who is in town to assist in the Protestant Episcopal campaign for increased church membership, is that a man's life does not belong to himself, but to humanity. As he is a clergyman, of course, he added that a man's life also belongs to God.

There is nothing new in this statement but we have to be reminded of its truth periodically. It is especially necessary just now, when men of various classes are insisting on their rights without regard to the rights of others. The head of every family understands it. He must consider the rights of his wife and his children. When he married he shouldered various obligations that he cannot shirk. He cannot spend his income on himself. He cannot consider his own pleasure in the disposal of his leisure. He is responsible for the comfort and happiness of others.

The state is only a larger family. citizen of it must consider the rights of his fellow citizens if men are to live together in the same community. Men who fulfill their obligations as husbands and fathers too often disregard their obligations as citizens. This indifference is responsible for all the unrest and disratisfaction. Bishop Woodcock is evidently aware that the old truths need to be restated from time to time lest we forget them.

## ROBIN HOOD OF WAYNE

HIS other name is Robert P. Elmer and he is the champion bowman of the United States. He has demonstrated his skill by killing a rooster with an arrow. As the fowl belonged to a neighbor he got into trouble. Unlike Robin Hood of Sherwood Forest and the light opera stage, he could not claim immunity on the ground that he gave the victims of his bow to feed the poor. He only kept the rooster from scratching up his meighbors' flower beds.

Thus are we fallen on degenerate days when the prowess of the bowman is unappreciated and the achiever of a good ot is haled into court and fined instead d being acclaimed by his envious com-

Archery nowadays is a sport indulged h by a chosen few to whom its romantic story appeals. Now and then there is man who uses his weapon in the ests after the manner of the ancients. obin Hood-we mean Doctor Elmermays that one of them has recertly killed ntain lion seven feet long with his bow'n arrow," as the small boy says, and on the same day brought down a

bear weighing 100 pounds. assume that it was not with a arrow such as is used in shootant a straw target. There are a few who have fitted themselves out hers who have never the steel barbed burting arrows with steel barbed ade expressly for slaughter, but

they are mostly on the Pacific slope. Longbowmen, however, are indigenous in every state, but the most that they bring down is the laughter of their

neighbors. When the national archers' club holds its next annual meet we hope that it will award to the Wayne Robin Hood a medal of sufficient beauty to compensate him for failing to persuade the court that he was entitled to the immunities of the merry bowmen who once gathered under the greenwood tree.

#### IF SOME ONE WAKES CONGRESS COAL STRIKES WILL BE NO MORE

The Wilson Cabinet is Stumbling Toward an Industrial Code That Should Have Been Established Long Ago

EVEN the remote prospect of a coal famine and consequent idleness, suffering and industrial paralysis in a country that has more coal within sight and reach than it knows what to do with is intolerable. It must inspire anger and bitter impattence in every one whose patriotism takes the form of an honorable regard for the dignity and welfare of the nation.

Unforgivable negligence among those who are supposed to direct national affairs and the incurable disposition of Congress to talk and act as if it existed in a world removed from the concerns of the rank and file have made chaos possible in the coal industry. Doctor Garield's ultimatum to the operators yesterday, like the sudden awakening of Mr. Hines, represented an eleventh-hour effort to avert a catastrophe to which the country has been drifting open-eyed for weeks.

The House did not intervene. It appears never to have thought of intervention. It prepared with blithe unconcern for adjournment and left the country to cope as best it can with a situation charged with dangerous possibilities. The Senate was lost in a fever of partisan debate. And meanwhile it must shock the country to realize that the authority by which Doctor Garfield, Secretary Wilson and Mr. Hines are trying to avert a widespread calamity is purely accidental.

If the treaty had been ratified, if peace had been proclaimed, war laws would have been suspended and no one in Washington could have prevented the operators and the miners from continuing reckless warfare of a sort that would stop industrial activity and throw about 15,000,000 men out of work at the very edge of winter.

What Congress has been unwilling or afraid to recognize is the plain fact that economic rather than political factors are, for the time being at least, dominant among the influences that shape and order the common life of America. The issues thus shoved forward by the force of circumstances may not be safely dodged or disregarded. How costly a policy of evasion may be we are permitted to understand by the tentative plans for industrial embargoes and restrictions prepared by Mr. Hines.

The two parties in the miners' wage dispute have been permitted to continue battle for advantage that is without justification in any rule of morals, justice or common sense. They have been willing to see confusion spread from the coal fields over the entire country.

No one has questioned the decency or saffity of their procedure because savage trials of strength are still the only methods generally accepted for the adjustment and balancing of opposed interests in the industrial field.

Repeatedly in these columns been urged that a new method must be devised, that Congress will have to come down from the clouds and formulate an industrial code, enforceable by labor courts or by public opinion, to insure peace and civilized relationships in industry. Some such departure from routing political action is absolutely imperative to compel a general recognition of the social obligations that rest with great

utilities like mines and railways. The mine fields, like railways and watersheds, can no longer be regarded only as fields for private speculation. Coal, we are told now, is a commodity essential to the safety and comfort of al people. The people, therefore, have a greater right than either operators or miners to a controlling voice at the source of supply. Yet no one has ever defined or recognized their interest in the matter. The output is limited or greatly restricted by inhuman struggles precipitated at regular intervals between those who control the mines and those who work in them. No means exist by which fair and discriminating judgments might be substituted for violence.

The miners, the operators and the pub lic are alike without the benefit of rational, humane and scientific decisions. Strikes are settled in desperation, after suffering and immeasurable loss. What might be called the social view of coal is almost unknown among the men and operators. It is that view which the government expressed belatedly through Doctor Garfield vesterday when the operators were informed that a continued blockade of the coal supply or an effort to saddle increased costs upon the pub-

lie would not be tolerated. If a similar determination had been manifest at Washington before this the country would now be far better off. The cabinet decision on which Doctor Garfield based his ultimatum represents painful and timorous approach to the enlightened method of industrial settle ments and to the industrial code already referred to. It comes late, as all things come at Washington, and yet it shows that there is more courage at the White House than there is in a Congress, which was apparently ready to shut its eyes

and fice from the coal crisis. "The people of the United States," said Doctor Garneld to the coal operators yesterday, "are willing to pay sufficient to maintain American standards. But what are American

standards? "The people want the operators to just return, but what is a just A ...... these two incisive questions

virtually all industrial disputes continue disastrously to revolve; yet, as matters stand, Doctor Garfield can expect no answer but the echo of his own voice. Cautious politicians at Washington avoid such queries. Yet it is Congress that will have to answer them finally by the enactment of laws or the promulgation of a code defining the privileges and rewards which, in justice to the nation and in the interest of society, the various parties in basic industries have a right to

expect. We have said this before. We shall say it again.

It is for Congress to apply its mind resolutely in efforts to find a method by which reason may be applied in controversies that now are decided in savage and costly struggles between powerful groups of embittered men.

Nationalization of mines is neither necessary nor desirable. But before the coal industry is lifted permanently out of anarchy and barbarous confusion it will be necessary for the federal government at least to suggest answers to the questions put by Doctor Garfield and to see, by some such system of regulation as was in force during the war, that coal production is kept at maximum efficiency and upon a scientific basis.

The interests of society are above the interests of groups of operators or groups of miners. No one will deny that obvious fact. Yet the rule is one that can be applied only by the abandonment of informal efforts at mediation and the establishment of a recognized system by which all grievances on one side or the other in industry may be settled without the strikes and lockouts for which in the end the patient public has to pay.

The coal strike itself is the final argument for a closer scrutiny and a more deliberate settlement of labor disputes. A little while ago the miners were being violently charged with disloyalty because they wished to cut off the nation's coal supply. More lately the operators have been quibbling and wasting time at Washington while the days of coal famine drew nearer.

And even now it is difficult to tell whose claims and contentions are just and reasonable, and whose are illogical and unfair!

#### LET THE WORLD KNOW IT

EVERY shipping man in every country of the world should be interested in the announcement made by Director Webster, of the Department of Wharves, Docks and Ferries, at a meeting of the Engineers' Club that a cargo of 12,000 tons of coal had been put into the hold of a steamship here in the unprecedented time, of twenty-two hours and thirty-five

minutes. Those ports with the Best loading machinery are favored by shipowners because they save time and increase the number of voyages that can be made in a year and thus enlarge their profits. If we have better loading machinery than our rival ports we should let the whole world know it.

Twelve Alabama Men of Their Word farmers, having fin-ished their harvesting, surrendered themselves at the jail in Anniston, in accordance with an agreement with the court, to serve sentences for mak-ing moonshine whisky. Which causes one to wonder just what good purpose is served by jailing such men.

The Philadelphia Then Get After Coffee Board of Trade wants the sugar equalization board continued after January 1 in order to keep prices down. But the milk strike of half a million consumers in New York may demonstrate that there is another and efficacious way of keeping prices down.

A national organization of newspaper pressmen organized in St. Louis has adopted constitution which provides that there shall be no strikes or walkouts, but that all differences shall be settled by arbitration. These men are pioneers and they are headed toward Happy Land.

Five thousand insects have been added to tile museum of the Academy of Natural The number seems large, but not Science. sufficiently large to impress any of our boys who experienced trench warfare.

The Prince of Wales characterized hi stay in New York as "most delightful." This being distinctly reminiscent of a notable Washington interview, we confidently look forward to an imminent "May I not." Life can have no terrors for the members of the navy "suicide squadron" who during the last two years swept the North

sea clear of 50,000 mines. When it comes to naming a Director of Public Welfare it may occur to Mr. Moore that the only way to please the women is to

name a man. Murdoch Kendrick was told he could have mything he wanted, and what he got was an indorsement of which any man might be

It will ever be a source of regret to the Prince of Wales that he didn't take the time to have his picture taken while in this country.

Wales's democracy was the ease with which he was embarrassed. The Young Lady Next Door But One opines that a get-together lunch means either hash or Hamburg steak.

Dropping mail from an airplane should be the easiest thing in the world. The difficult thing is dropping it where it is wanted.

have a serious effect on the Christmas trade

If a freight embargo is initiated it will

of S. Claus & Co. The cow that jumped over the moon nust be completing her jump. Beef prices are said to be coming down.

National respect for the ability of Senator Lodge is accompanied by reservations.

D'Annunzio appears to have a compelling way about him.

In the promotion of education a corn show tends to the development of big ears.

The supposition is that most of the

THE GOWNSMAN

The Froge and the Mice HOMER once sang the battle of the frogs and the mice; the mice, quick, temperamental, impetuous; the frogs, cold-blooded crosking, leaping at anything. And it was a dreadful fight, involving squeaks, snaps, croaks, flaps and splashings for the innocent bystanders, with flying epithets, dismembered bits and splinters of prose "loosely flying" and as free as the freest verse that ever exhaled its fragrance out of the soul of a vers librist.

AND in the days of Swift and the earlier Georges, another similar and terrible fray arose, dividing families, estranging friends, becoming political as the court took one side and an insurgent Prince of Wales the other. The matter was one of taste, a question of preference as to the respective merits, actual and relative, of opera as conducted by Signor Bononcini or by "Myn-heer Handel"; and as it waxed furious, it was only the Philistine who laughed; and this was his cachinnation:

Some say, compared to Bononcini, That Mynheer Handel's but a ninny ; Others aver, that he to Handel Is scarcely fit to hold a candle. Strange that this difference should be

Twixt tweedle-dum and tweedle-dee! Of the parties to our recent fray of a not dissimilar importance, it might be invidious to affirm which is Tweedle-dum. The Gownsman will content himself with gathering up for the curious one or two of the chips that fiew, having now served their purpose as missiles, the obiter dicts that had little to do with the case which, by the by, was not decided.

INDUBITABLY there is nothing that a poet, of old school or new, so resents as being asked, "What is the meaning, my dear sir-or madam-of this poem of yours? The meaning of a poem! As if an atmosphere, an aroma, "a return," should have a meaning! Of course, in one sense, the other evening, we did not "get it." It was too subtle for Philadelphia; but we did not lile to be told so. It was too much like that exasperating habit which some people have of talking about the latest book they happen to have been reading, as if an unacquaintance with their particular reading on your part were an interiority. Or like the man who picks out some unheard-of trifle in a famous museum and, raving about it, impresses upon you the futility of all your knowledge about everything else. The Contemporary Club of Philadelphia was treated with the condescension, the other evening, of the very choicest Bostonese brand; but perhaps we deserve condescension if we subscribe to so implicit an acceptance of the doctrine of a speedy evolution in literature, as it was enunciated then and there, by which we find a steep artistic ascent from the plays of Shakespeare to the works of Pope, and from the works of Pope to the labors of Mr. Carl Sandburg.

HOWEVER, because Edgar Allan Poe, then a resident of Philadelphia, was once treated none too civily in Boston, it hardly becomes us to return a grudge so long remembered. The Gownsman is very old-fashioned. a He believes in the sacredness of guestship. He is also very newgfangled; for he likewise believes in according to woman "all the rights and privileges which appertain" to man, with a few added courtesies, hers by reason of her womanhood. More-sover, can it ever be quite fair to twit even a minor poet of a minor school on single poems or even-shall we call them stronglines? Browning once wrote:

"Higgledy, piggledy, packed we lie, Rate in a hamper, pigs in a sty. Fleas in a carcase, etc. And one line of a fine lyric of Saskespeare

"And Marian's nose looks red and raw." Want of taste is not confined to the vers librists; and some of their critics of the other evening contrived in this particular to

In MUSIC we are more tolerant. We listen to our \$1,000,000 orchestra, pouring forth the golden melodiousness of Haydn, the robust sonorousness of Wagner and the cacophonous inconsequence of a contemporary Italian composer, all on the same program, and we applaud according to our tastes. In art, too, we go to the galleries and see, cheek by jowl, old-fashioned art. following the safe ways of precedent, and things which are so blanre in their futurity that he who would "catch on" must needs go the pace. Shall we be less tolerant of the art which expresses itself in words? The Gownsman holds to another ancient notion that only those despise form who are unable to compass'it; likewise, that form is a trivial matter except as it is fitting to the thought. which is alone the animating spirit of all forms of art. Then why in conscience quarrel over the rhyme or the rhymelessness of verse or be jolted out of temper by the irregularities of anybody's feet, metrical or other? Each year has its growth of weeds and flowers which go with the frost. The weeds differ from year to year, while the grand old trees survive the ages. Among the small weeds at times come up what is destined to live, however in our ignorance we may not recognize a potential monarch of the forest yet to be. The scythe of criticism

that would sweep all new things clean would

leave us in the end only dead timber where-

with to make coffins. Only in growth and

change-in art as elsewhere-is there life. IN THE paper which Miss Lowell read to I the Contemporary Club last week, the Gownsman found much effective and brilliant criticism. In her poem with its son-orous "return" to the world "Persepolis"and what matters it whence it -he recognized that power to move, which is the power of poetry, whether it swing to the pendulum of a clock or ripple like a wayward stream over the impediments of rock and fallen trees to a new and varied The chiefest proof of the Prince of nusic. When the writer of the new poetry dribbles, poses and offers us bits of broken crockery as if he were a lapidary presenting us with a jewel, let us treat him-or heras he deserves, with neglect, disgust, if you like, but not with obloquy. It is not alone the vers librists who dribble and pose; and the grave clothes that wrap the corpses of regularity are only more neatly folded than those which conceal inanity masking in free verse.

A woman elected to the New York Assembly bought candy for the families of all the men who worked for her. The Young Lady Next Door But One wonders if this king of thing isn't responsible for the scarcity of augar.

The steal strike and the coal strike serve to remind us that the reason we "muddle through" when threatened with disaster is a good constitution.

A 'steamed contemporary speaks of "a wet oasis in Washington." Well, one naturally expects a little dampness at an oasis, doesn't one? Ludendorff has called Bernstorff a liar.

Now if Bernstorff will be similarly frank concerning Ludendorff the record will be

The Colyumist Soliloquizes Upon the Theme of Returning From a Metrical Furlough RISE, O heart, resume the theme And pass the scalpel o'er the strop: Vacation's but a pleasant dream-

Peel up the desk's old rolling top. With corncob pipe your courage prop And get you to the task, poor fish, Till from the tree of words you lop A Ballade of the Chaffing Dish.

WHEREVER human follies teem, The watchful scythe may swathe a crop Of genial japes, and skim the cream Of mortal error. As a sop

To local satirists, you'll drop A scoffing fush, an acid pish, Or, pulling out your bassoon stop, A Ballade of the Chaffing Dish.

DAMN satirists, for they will scream Your tender stuff is sugared slop-Damn sentimentalists, who deem Your bitter musings you should chop Damn all, and lay on with a mop Or with a hatchet, as you wish-And sing, if you should feel de trop, A Ballade of the Chaffing Dish.

Envoy, to a Lady, As Required by Tradition DAME before whose charms we flop A Is needed. Rhyme suggests Miss Gish-Let Dorothy or Lillian cop This Ballade of the Chaffing Dish.

Send on the Bronze We notice that the writer of the best business letter during the current fiscal year

will be awarded a bronze statuette by La Saile Extension University. Here is our entry: Dear Sirs:

Your order, accompanied by remittance, received today. The goods have been forwarded. Hoping for further favors, Faithfully yours, CHAFF, DISH & CO.

Always fecund, it occurs to us that it might be well to submit more than one letter for the competition. Perhaps this one will

grab off the prize. Dear Sir: Your offer of a \$2 raise in salary is refused. I beg to inform you that owing to the death of my uncle in Australia I have just entered upon the disbursement of a fortune of three million dollars, and connection thus comes to a severance. Hop-

ing for a continuance of the same, yours, etc. DOVE DULCET. . We Tilt at Windmills The Bishop of New York, in presenting Bible to the Prince of Wales, said : This Bible is the King James version for which we are obligated to the Church of England and whose pure English and de-votional rendering have become so large

part of the religious history of the West-Hemisphere. Since the worthy bishop laid stress on pure English, we feel called upon to protest against his misuse of the word obligated when he meant indebted. Obligated, one of the most frequently misused words on the far-from-literate island of Manhattan, means bound by contract, with an uncomfortable sense of penalties and burdens at-

We feel sure that if only the prince had been given a Bible in Philadelphia none of our local bishops would have fallen down in this way.

Managing editors never have to reprimand reporters for loitering when a fire occurs in a factory where the girls work in bloomers.

One of the most annoying features of all the will-power questionnaires that we have A in their inviction on the full munities

THE CHAFFING DISH of a mind that wanders. Everything worth while in the world has been done by those whose minds were able to wander from the beaten path. The most entire follure we know of is the man who is completely concentrated on one task or idea.

"COAL! OR YOU'LL GO HUNGRY, TOO!!"

The Tyrant WHAT, give you half the bureau? But what about poor me? You know I need quite every inch For all my lingerie.

It is too bad we cannot Both summer by the sea, But then hot weather never did Agree quite well with me.

You'd have, you say, your siste: To stop with us a week? You know how I dislike her. So countrified and meek.

Now if it were my sister

'Twould be a different tune ; Grace is so gay and stylish And cannot come too soon You won't be home to dinner,

A smoker at the club? Old Shakespeare knew you sinners In saying "There's the rub." Oh dear, I wish life wasn't

On such a horrid plan, To either live a spinster Or serve the tyrant man HELEN U. ATKINSON.

Social Chat Our high-spirited friend J. Jarden Guen-ther was, we are told, the only local civilian to welcome the prince at North Philadelphia the other day. We know no one who can

bear the burden of a frock coat with more honest pleasure than Jarden. Hugh Walpole, the genial English novelist, will tell the Bryn Mawr girls about literature this afternoon. Any man who can tell Bryn Mawr something she doesn't know

already is going some, we hazard.

Tom Daly is very busy these days autographing copies of his new book of poems for those who insist upon buying it. The The volume is said by connoisseurs to be beautifully bound, printed and illustrated.

Miss Phoebe Foster, the charming actress, told us that when she was playing in this city last year she was so fascinated by Philip Warner's gentle smile every time she bough a book that most of her spare time was spent in a citadel of the muses on Ninth street. A placid ripple of the features is almost as good an asset as a memory course, is our only comment.

Page Allinson, the volatile squire of Town's End Farm, West Chester, is having the spare room beds aired in preparation for bis annual party after the Haverford-Swarthmore game. Page having forgotten to send us the customary cask of cider, this is about as much space as we intend to devote to this smisble person.

The board of trustees of the Ludlow Street Business Men's Association met at a Tenth street ordinary recently, and, as usual, Mr. A. Edward Newton was permitted to reach for the check.

T. Woodrow Wilson, the increasingly aggressive invalid; spent a happy morning watching the White House sheep, and is re-ported to have said that he wished the senstors were more like them.

Thomas Smith, the well-known collector of handshakes, is still inconsolable over the absence of one princely grasp from his otherON A SQUIRREL

Now that in gorgeous polychromes The trees hobnob, A workman in gray jumper roams About his job.

igom sunrise he maintains top speed Till darkness lowers, Nor ever thinks if he exceed Eight working hours.

So eager he to spot his spotla And promptly fob them, He fails to ponder as he toils The labor problem.

His sense of honor's somewhat blunt; He goes and dines, \*
Nor ever bothers much to hunt

"No trespass" signs. Tis true a chestnut to him is

Naught but a nut; That all abstruse philosophies He'd greet with "Chut." But though he might not recognize

His Latin name, He gets—a quality to prize— There just the same. -Maurice Morris, in the New York Sun

Denying their color is the readlest thing the Reds do. Perhaps the reaction is natural with them. As danger approaches the blood recedes, displaying a streak of yellow.

What Do You Know? .

QUIZ 1. What former German liner is now subject of dispute between the United States and Great Britain? How does a cow's method of getting up

from the ground differ from that of a horse? What kind of an animal is a borsoi? 4. Who was Charles Brockden Brown?

What is the Esch bill, which has just been passed by the House of Representatives?

6. How many American soldiers were sent to France during the war? 7. What celebrated English novelist was born a hundred years ago this No-

8. Where is Zara, which D'Annunzio re cently captured?

9. What was the Missouri-Compromise? 10. Who was Vice President during the second term of Theodore Roosevelt?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz 1. The two ex-premiers who were returned to the French Parliament in the recent

elections were Briand and Viviani. Fasces were ensigns of authority in Roman times. They were a bundle of rods with an ax in the middle carried by a lictor before a high magis-

3. Nathaniel Hawthorne wrote the campaign life of Franklin Pierce. San Domingo, capital of the republic of Santo Domingo, in the West Indies. and Seville, Spain, are the two cities

which claim to possess the remains of Christopher Columbus. 5. Hospodar means lord. The governors of Wallachia and Moldavia, which later formed Rumania, formerly bore that

6. George the Fourth of England, when he was Prince of Wales, was the inti-mate of Beau Brummell, the celsbrated dandy.

7. Donnybrook is now included in the sub-urbs of Dublin. S. A malaguena is a Spanish dance. It derives its name from the city of

9. Neptune is the planet farthest from the

10. Charles Frohman was lost on the La