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Philadelphia, Wednesday, December 1, 1919

THE GREAT SUGAR MYSTERY

SOME pretty elaborate explanations will be necessary to dispel the general resentment inspired by news of vast exports of refined sugar from this city at a time when many households are altogether without that important food commodity. An air of secreey at the docks will not help to reconcile the public to the singular business. A cloud of technicalities cannot obscure the simple fact that there seems to be sugar in abundance for export and relatively little for use at home in markets where the price is being carefully regulated in the interest of the

England, it is said, has had a prior title to 34,500 tons of refined sugar taken from refineries in this city within the past sixty days. Is the sugar owned by the British Government? Or is it owned by a syndicate of British profiteers? Representatives of the sugar equalization board, with apparent deliberation, have created the impression that no refined sugar was being exported at this time. Yet Mr. McCarthy, who is supposed to direct sugar allotments in this region, has a close association with the refinery that has supplied cargoes of sugar for Europe. Contract obligations may have the delivery of such cargoes imperative. But the public will want to ow a little more about such contracts. And if the contracts exist it will want to know why it is necessary to surround the shipment of the sugar with a veil of se- | gress. erecy, as if an attempt were making get it out of the country surrepti-

It is a notorious fact that vast quantities of American products are being held in some European ports to await the removal of the blockade which the Allies have established about Russia. Is sugar a part of this general hoard owned by gamblers eager to obtain famine prices in unregulated markets? The news of yesterday is likely to start a long train of questions in the popular mind concerning other necessities of life.

The fact that 34,500 tons of reaned sugar has been and is being shipped abroad from Philadelphia while Philadelphians are on scant sugar rations is a sweet case of

refined cruelty.

IN THE MAYOR'S FOOTSTEPS MAYOR SMITH, as the head of a nding concern, has always insisted frankly that he had a right to mix his public and private business when the practice was to his own advantage. In the face of such an example it is not surprising to find one of the members of his cabinet charged with following a

somewhat similar course. Mr. Trainer's charges against Director Wilson, of the Department of Public Safety, imply merely that information relative to street accidents found an easy way from the police department to the offices of a firm in which Director Wilson is a partner. The number of laims filed against the city by Director Wilson's firm and the total of damages collected during the period of the Smith administration make it appear that the information obtained by the police department as a matter of daily routine was used to excellent advantage by the assoclates of the Director of Public Safety

in the direction of damage suits. The Mayor may have been technically right in mixing his bonding business with micipal affairs. Mr. Wilson may have had no technical right to prevent his friends from following the course complained of. But if Mr. Trainer has not one wildly astray in his charges the row avelving the Director is merely another ident that will make the end of the sent municipal administration seem a little too far off even now.

Director Wilson wants 500 more patrolmen to protect the city. Putting on a spurt for the last lap?

NEW WOE FOR POLITICIANS

DOLITICIANS in this state have been

dreaming a sweet dream. Any student of political undercurrents knows that efforts began a year ago to mobilize femisine sentiment of the state in behalf of the different parties in order that when franchise became universal large blocks of votes would be ready for delivery as necessity arose.

sudden tragic rift in the Women's ublican Club yesterday, and the sture of the charges and counter-charges attending an explosion that experts had long expected, show how far at sea the se men of the two parties actually have been. Who can control the feminine mind n or out of politics? Who can predict the future of voters who resign indignantly from a club because the president of that club wished to obtain an office?

The presidents of political clubs always lice. That is what political clubs nve been for, Yet Mrs. Archibald B.

sociates, who seemingly became angry when she became ambitious. This is not according to political traditions, although creditable to the unselfish spirit of the

resigners. There are suggestions of moods as old as time in this incident. And it is pretty clear that when the women of Pennsylvania vote the bosses will have to guess -and pray. Women will doubtless vote sincerely. But the leaders will never, never know what is to happen until the ballots are counted.

WILSON'S PLAN TO TAKE THE TARIFF OUT OF POLITICS

Consists in Swinging the Democratic Party Over to the Historical Republican Position

EN with long political memories will MEN with long political incomment of find the President's abandonment of the historical position of the Democratic party on the tariff the most notable feature of his annual message to Congress.

The Democratic party has been committed for years to a tariff for revenue only, with as much of an approximation to free trade as was possible. Grover Cleveland and other lights of the party have insisted that a tariff for any other purpose than revenue is unconstitutional. Mr. Wilson himself, in his first message to Congress, urged the lowering of all duties to such a point as would put the importer on the same level in the domestic market as the domestic producer.

But now, in view of what has happened since he entered office, he is recommending that "the prejudice and passion engendered by decades of controversy between two schools of political and economic thought-the one believers in protection of American industries, the other believers in tariff for revenue only-must be subordinated to the single consideration of the public interest in the light of utterly changed conditions."

He goes so far as to recommend that in tariff legislation special consideration should be paid to "the establishment of the chemical and dyestuff industry in America," and he suggests that this establishment can be brought about by an intelligent application of duties.

No protectionist could go any farther than this in pointing out the expediency of applying the policy of protection to an existing condition. Events have forced the leader of the opposition party to come around to the historic Republican position that the tariff is an expedient to be used for assisting in the development of industry here and that it should be used to the limit when circumstances

The necessity of modifying the tariff laws to meet the conditions brought about by the war has impressed itself on every one who has given any thought to the subject. This newspaper has been urging it upon the attention of Con-

America has been changed from a debtor to a creditor nation since 1914. We have brought back from Europe nearly all of the American securities held there. We have lent about nine billion dollars to various European nations. We have exported goods in such enormous quantities that the purchasers are put to it to find a way to pay for them. As the President says, payment can be made only in one of three ways-by shipment of gold, by shipment of goods or by an extension of credit.

We have so much gold already that we could not absorb much more without disastrous consequences. The European nations are in no condition to borrow more money with any hope of paying it. There remains only the expedient of paying in goods for what we shall continue broad and naving in goods the interest on the loans already made to the European nations.

The tariff laws must be so framed as to make imports possible on such terms as will permit the expansion of international trade. This means that there must be a careful study of the whole problem of foreign trade with a view to the discovery of where it is expedient to apply the protective policy and where it is expedient to modify it. If Mr. Wilson's party will follow him the tariff will be taken out of politics for many years to come.

Mr. Wilson has also weached the conclusion in which others anticipated him that the solution of the problem of the relations between labor and capital must be met by the creation of some sort of a tribunal for the settlement of disputes without upsetting industrial peace. He is not very definite in his recommendations, but he seems to be clear in his conception of the ends to be accomplished.

The public is a party in interest in all labor disputes. Its rights must be protected, and while the right of labor to strike must be admitted, its right to interfere with the orderly conduct of business by men not involved in its controversies must be surrendered in the interests of the rest of us.

He does not suggest the drafting of an industrial code, but all that he says points in this direction.

The best thought of the country is with him on these two important matters. It is with him also in the ends which he seeks in his recommendations for relief from the burden of high prices and for the suppression of bolshevistic propaganda, but there will be regret that the methods he proposed do not seem more adequate.

As to the suppression of bolshevism. he says: "With the free expression of opinion and with the advocacy of orderly political change, however fundamental there must be no interference." but he urges the passage of Attorney General Palmer's anti-sedition bill, which would give to the courts power to interfere with "the free expression of opinion" and with "the advocacy of orderly political

change." It may be urged in extenuation that the President has not been able, in view of his illness, to give to Attorney General Palmer's bill that careful study which it should receive from every one jealous of the rights of free speech and a free

Every one will join with the President in his denunciation of profiteers. They tiermon was deserted by many of her as- . have fallen so low that there is no one

to do them reverence. But it is doubtful if federal license for corporations engaged in interstate business and regulations compelling the wholesale price to be plainly marked on all articles where it is practicable would have the beneficent effect which Mr. Wilson anticipates. The general impression is that the worst profiteers are not corporations engaged in interstate business, but individual exploiters who do business in one state or

As to marking the wholesale price on articles, it would do nothing more than give the purchaser an impression of the cost of retailing and confirm him in the knowledge which he already possesses. The wholesale price of eggs and potatoes and apples is no secret. The householder who pays five cents apiece for apples knows how much they cost a barrel. When a woman pays forty or fifty cents a pound for bacon she can look in the market columns of the newspapers and find out what pig carcasses sell for in

Yet there are other recommendations made by the President which suggest that he favors general price fixing by the government. Such a policy might be defended in a temporary crisis, but as a permanent practice it would do more harm than good, because prices are dependent on so many complicated conditions and fluctuate so rapidly that no government bureau could find a just basis

The treatment of temporary conditions such as bolshevistic agitation and profiteering is not what the country has a right to expect from the President, But when he speaks of industrial conditions and foreign trade, he utters words of soherness and truth which can be considered by Congress and by the whole country as a broad-minded, patriotic, statesmanlike contribution toward constructive legislation.

COAL: A CRISIS

IS difficult to estimate or even to imagine the losses and hardship that business men, wage-earners and the publie at large will have to endure if the fuel restrictions tentatively proposed by Doctor Garfield are made generally effective because of a continuing paralysis of the soft-coal industry.

Suffering will be bitter and widespread if the coal has to be meagerly rationed only to preferred industries, and the losses in business will pass anything yet dreamed of in the United States. This is because restrictions of the war period were casual and limited to one day a week. As the matter looks now the country has to prepare for a coal famine that may continue for an indefinite period.

For the moment at least the Fuel Administration seems to be following a policy of drift and hoping ardently that the drift is in the right direction. But surface indications are not of a sort to encourage optimism. The government's strike injunction, necessary and justifiable as it was, added a new element of bitterness to the soft-coal strike. It has not served to renew production. Doctor Garfield's suggestion that the miners accept a wage increase less even than the operators had promised in conferences with the union leaders has further incensed the men. The effort in a number of the states to reopen the mines with volunteers is more picturesque than practical. Such a procedure hardens the mistaken conviction among the miners that the fight now on is primarily intended to break the unions.

Volunteers can do little in the mines. Mining is difficult work and it requires experienced hands. The enthusiasm of college men and others who are new in the pits will not long survive the danger and darkness of gangways hundreds of

feet below the surface of the ground. It is apparent that the Fuel Administration still shrinks from the sort of control which, as we have suggested before in these columns, would probably have brought order and productivity in the soft-coal fields. Such control would have to be sweeping and authoritative from one end of the soft-coal region to the other. It would be a trying task for which Doctor Garfield has neither equipment nor organization at present. But it would have enabled the government to summon all the miners back to work. with a promise of fair treatment at the outset and such an investigation of all their claims as would insure an equitable adjustment of wage scales later along.

The government may yet be forced to adopt such a program. Doctor Garfield's proposal for lightless nights and the withdrawal of fuel and light and power from nonessential industries opens the way to a period of suffering without any apparent end. For a time it will be possible to live without the industries classified as nonessential. But what is to become of the millions of families that depend on these identical industries for their very existence?

There would be no And a Miss Might dullness in the neigh-Mean : Hit at That borhood of City Hall when the letter carrier was due if the suggestion were acted upon to fix a contrivance on William Penn's hat to catch falling mail bags. There would always be possibility that the aviator would

No Place for Lazy has to do is to deal Men or Lazy Minds effectively with the Reds, regulate food transportation, smash the profitcers, provide employment for the soldier, adjust the relations between capital and labor; and, when these chores are attended to, solve the railroad problem and ratify the reace treaty.

Some Congresses run to seed and some suffer from acedia.

Burglars in this city are still showing ack of judgment by stealing furn justcad of sugar.

We may naturally expect from Mr. Mc-Adoo an indorsement of the plea of the soft-coal operators for a price hearing.

We judge from the report of the weather bureau that December is going to be cold enough to give snappiness to the coal strike.

Every industrial plant closed down as a result of the coal strike helps to crystalliz sentiment against the mines being public permitted to remain idle.

MAYOR-ELECT MOORE'S LETTER

EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER-PHILADELPHIA, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1919

How Congressman Vare's Colleagues Tried to Make Him Pay the Money They Lost on Bets Made on His Tips on the Mayoralty Primaries

Washington, Dec. 3. IKE the stock market on Blue Monday, Congress opened sluggishly. There was a listlessness in both houses, and the galleries showed no evidence of undue excitement. The House members who were held in session to do very little during the summer, because the President practically commanded them to remain after his return from Europe, felt as if they had had no vaca tion at all, and plunged into the "unanimous consent calendar" to consider few public land bills just as if school had not let out. On the Senate side, much concern was expressed about President Wilson and his attitude on the league of nations situation. Each house seems to feel that the President needs sympathy both as to the league of nations and the railroads, which had indicated in one of his messages would be turned back to the owners by the first of January. The President is a sick man and the task ahead of him is heavier than one man should bear. There are those

who regard the outlook as serious indeed.
The absence of Senator Penrose was noted, particularly because of rumors relating to his physical condition. Truth is the sculor senator from Pennsylvania has been overworked and must lay off for probably a month or more. This is the way

the physicians talk about it. Over on the House side the opening day found most of the Philadelphia members on guard, including the Mayor-elect and Messrs. Vare, Edmonds, Costello and Darrow, Some the outside members were inclined to from Congressman Vare, They represented that they had gone wrong in bets on the primary election, due to tips given out by him. One western member district member was finally "made wise" to the frame-up.

Congressman Henry W. Watson, of the Bucks-Montgomery district, did not get a very long vacation. The interstate and foreign commerce committee, of which he is a member, was obliged to sit until the last horn blew to consider the railroad bill. The Laughorne member has de cided views on the railroad situation and oes not think the bill as finally brought from the committee solves the problem. talks of the \$20,000,000,000 investment as if there were some people throughout the have some rights with respect to railroad management; but sees government ownership looming up as a possibility if conditions remain as they are. The congressman knows, as every other observer does, that the railroad brotherhoods have a great deal do with the solution of the problem. Some of these organizations are now be ginning to talk of an extension of railway control by the government. Keystone Lodge No. 221, United Brotherhood of Maintenance Way Employes and Railway Shop Laborers, of Philadelphia, through the secretary, John J. Caldwell, is petitioning Washington to agree to at least a two years extension of national control.

HOW many people know that Editor Thomas J. Lindsey, once secretary of the collector of the port, came within an ace of being secretary to a mayor? Tom was younger in those days than he is now, but no more vivacious. Apart from his editorial work and his proximity to the "dean ship" of the profession, Mr. Lindsey has another love. It is Lansdowne, the spot he has chosen for sleeping purposes. If it is a Fourth of July celebration or a union athletic association affair you will generally find the veteran newspaper man on the job.

He now has in mind a big function for the 261 mcs, more or less, who left Lans-downe to go into the service of the United States during the war. They do not pro-pose to forget those boys out in Lansdowne.

CAPTAIN JOHN P. VIRDEN is happy, and when the captain is happy George Sproule, secretary of the commissioners of navigation, is happy, and when he is happy nearly everybody along the wharves the same frame of mind. Captain Virden's smile is due to the appointment of is nephew. Henry Virden Rice, to a cadetship at West Point. Young Rice is the son of William L. Rice, the box maker, and Anna Edith Virden Rice, daughter of the late Henry F. Virden. Virden is a good old Delaware usine and runneth back to the origin of the Blue Hen's Chickens. Captain John keeps up the traditions as presi-dent of the pilots' association for the bay and river Delaware, and he is expecting young Virden Rice to do the same thing at West Point.

THE Engineers' Club of Philadelphia has A an interesting membership list. Included in it are men who have traveled over the world and who have done big work in Philadelphia and throughout the nation. Joseph Steinmetz, the president, was recently ited to submit a list of members of the club who might be eligible for high station under the new city administration, but Mr. Steinmetz takes the ground that the club really stands for a principle and that it would be dangerous to mention names. If Mr. Steinmetz were given the opportunity to pick "the prettiest girl" he probably could not be more adroit.

NATHAN T. FOLWELL, whose judgment as former president of the Manufacturers' Club is entitled to weight, protests against "the mutilation of Logan Square and the multiplied dangers to children and others crossing the square because they really have to cross two boulevards instead of one."
Mr. Folwell thinks the Parkway should have run directly through the square. In this opinion Mr. Folwell is backed up by Harrion S. Morris, who says the treatment of the square has been the subject of many protests on the part of the artistically inclined. These gentlemen think the orna-mentation should have been on the sides of the boulevard rather than in the center of

BANKER JOHN W. SPARKS is president of the New Jersey Society of Pennsylvania, and as such is accepting suggestions for the next dinner which is to celebrate the ratification by New Jersey of the constitu-tion of the United States. Mr. Sparks is an amiable president and like all his decessors is of open mind on dinner details. The "open mind" in the New Jersey society generally gives play to some very brilliant suggestions from William J. Conlen, the secretary, whose range of vision is broadened by his intimate association with masters. mates and pilots from every shore. Whether the New Jersey society will serve water melon in December or produce any of the other Jersey truck farm specialties is a question—but such things have been done it former meetings of these Pennsylvanians

of Jersey lineage. J. HAMPTON MOORE.

THE CHAFFING DISH

THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF TH

Carried !!

MACAINSTRUCTURE AND AND

STEATION

Reminiscences of a Hard Guy WHEN I woke up out there in France,

With blankets like a clam, And found I'd joined the army And made myself a ham, I simply rolled a cigarette-I didn't give a damn.

ND when I'd done my very best A With caisson and with horse. To language that was coarse Instead of wildly raving It was the better plan To roll myself a eigarette And not to give a damn !

So, WHEN I went a-biking With caisson and with gur And most devoutly boping We wouldn't meet the Hun-When shrappel started twanging And shells began to blamb. I'd slide into the nearest hol-And try the same old plan: I'd roll myself a cigarette And wouldn't give a damu.

DONALD M. CALLEY.

Mexico killed two Americans last week. Cancer killed forty-four, in Philadelphia alone. If we want to declare war on some one, let's tackle cancer first. It looks to us more dangerous.

It was William Wordsworth, we think, who said. "The poet writes under one restriction only, namely, the necessity of giving immediate pleasure."

We doubt if any one ever had the hardi-

hood to call Wordsworth "Bill"; even his sister always addressed him respectfully as "William"; but still he knew a good deal about poetry.

It is sorrowful to think that all the young girls who used to play ukuleles in the me light are now grown up and wrestling with the sugar shortage.

Inexorable Time

A Voice From the Back Benches The only sort of strike I like Is when on my land oil they strike Then let the miners rave and rove! For I'll keep warm with my oil-stove.

Boy Howdy!

Dear Socrates—Just about this time of year the proper fixings for Chester county cider is a nice large bowl of old-time N. O. colasses gingerbread. In order to properly appreciate this delectable combination there should be a liberal helping of good pumpkin ustard well seasoned and a dish of oldfashioned shellbark kernels. But boy, to appreciate it at the best, a nice fat roast rabbit stuffed with a liberal belping of Ches ter county sausage; and breadcrumbs toasted to a turn give the proper tang to the deli lous juice. Then your pipe and dreams-'Oh wilderness were Paradise enow!" seriously, Soc, wasn't it Hennessy's XXX?
DO DOOCIT, Oxford, Pa.

Speaking of cider, the fellows who translated the King James version of the Bible had the right idea. In the course of their 'diligently comparing and revising' found that the Latin vulgate said (Judges xiii, 7) "Drink no wine nor cider." judicious men promptly canceled the word cider and substituted "strong drink."

We are glad to inform our client, W. F. Mead, of Allentown, that Mr. Fletcher Du Bois has been kind enough to send us the text of "Essex Junction," the poem Mr. Mead asked about. We will reprint it some day when business is dull.

Sweden must have bad a change of heart. haven't seen a dud match for quite a

Return This Coupon With Remittance Of all sad words of tongue or pen, The saddest are: Income tax again.
I read, and my heart grows deader and

"WHY? WHO? WHERE? WHEN?"

deaderer, 'Direct all payments to Ephraim Lederer.'

One of our clients, in irresponsible mood has written to us suggesting that the con-tributors to the Dish should have an annual dinner. We wish them better than that. We hope that they will have 365 every year.

The Only Place Left

The smoking car of an express train, we have often observed, is the best of all places to think. Not the smoking compartment of a Pullman, of course, for there one is so liable to meet Victor Jones, of Minneapolis, who will insist on telling how he in memory, or some other terrible person. But the plain, ordinary smoking car, particularly on an early morning train that is not too crowded, is a bully place for meditation In fact, civilization being what it is, it is almost the only place left where a man can think undisturbed. The time may come, and perhaps it has come already, when the only way a man can get a chance to indulge in any high philosophy is by buying a ticket for New York.

We emphasize also the fact of trying the experiment early in the morning. The course of our existence has frequently caused us to patronize the 8 a. m. trains from Philadelphia to New York. There is something about the placid flitting of the level landscape, as the sun comes up through a winter haze, that is very agreeable to the mental parts. beaker of coffee at Broad street or the Reading Terminal (if properly cooled by the insertion of a large boulder of ice) makes a just foundation for a dozen pipes of tobacco. Riding on a train under such conditions, we have noticed, is almost the only time when we can really get much fun out of reading Wordsworth. That we regard not as a slur on Wordsworth, but as an indictment of our modern way of life.

The author of "The Balsam Groves," we notice, uses the phrase "the tired business man." His book was published in 1892. This suggests a question: When did the business man begin to be tired?

Our star correspondent, William McFee, is soon to return from South America. Mr. McFee's first book, "Letters From an Ocean Tramp," published in 1908, remains the scarcest literary item we know of. Jin Shields told us that a bookseller in Troy had a copy, and we hastily wrote for it; but a New York lawyer had already bought it.

The Urchin attains the age of three years this week. It is sad to contemplate that he will never again know three years so devoid of carking care.

Frank Dooner's hot mince ple cured a serious fit of depression for us yesterday.

We are told that Dr. Tim Bowes mislaid his automobile the other day. When it was found it contained a brand new blanket. Doctor Bowes unwrapped the blanket in alarm, fearing that some one might have passed off an orphan flivver on him. But to such mishap, and the genial doctor says any one else can steal his car again on the same terms.

When Mr. Wilson wrote to Congress about Russia as "a painful object lesson in the power of minorities." one can hardly resist the suspicion that he was thinking also of another very painful example of this, viz. in the United States Senate.

Human beings, says Mr. Wilson, are possessed of deep yearnings and desires. After watching a good many of the species, particularly about curfew time, the most conspict ous yearning we note is a seal to get to the nearest movie before the feature h

If I Had Loved You More

F I had loved you more God would have had pity, He would never have left me here in

this desolate place; Left me to go on my knees to the door of

Crying in vain for a little sight of your

How could I know that the earth would be dark without you? For you were always the lover and I the Now if there were any hope that I might

I would go seeking you to the world's end. 'God is a jealous God! You have loved

too wildly, You have loved too well," one said. head. But my heart in scorn was crying That you whom I had not loved enough are

look on my heart and see it is hard and

That its loves are slight and last but a little space. But why do I go on my knees to the door of Heaven Crying in vain for a little sight of your

-Brigid Murray, in the Bookman,

Though Mr. Burleson has dropped very largely from the news, it would appear that ever so many letters with unfailing regu-

What Do You Know?

What eminent expert on food has declared it possible to live in the United States on cleven cents a day? 2. What were the two kingdoms of the Jews

in Bible times? 3. Who is the new assistant secretary of the

treasury?

4. Where is Kerguellen Land? 5. How long after the opening of the Amer-

ican Revolution was the independence of the states declared? 6. How often is there a reapportionment of congressmen in the House of Repre-

sentatives? Who wrote "Bug-Jargal"?

8. What is a spinnaker?

9. What is the origin of the word cannibal? 10. What is caoutchouc?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

1. There will be a tie of Democrats and Republicans in the Senate if Truman H. Newberry is excluded and a Democrat replaces him. In that case the Vice President will have the de-

ciding vote. 2. Penetralia are the innermost shrines or

3. Two books by Maria Edgeworth are 'Castle Rackrent' and "Belinda."

4. Tasmania is the smallest state of the Australian commonwealth. 5. Polyandry; plurality of bushands,

6. Water hemlock, polson ivy and white

heliebore are poisonous plants. United Italy, since the acquisition of Rome in 1870, has had three kings.

8. They were Vittorio Emanuele II, Umberto and Vittorio Emanuele III.

9. Lady Astor represents a Plymouth divin in Parliament

10. The Federalists and the Whigs elected, respectively, two American Presidents. Washington annd John Adams belonged to the former party and William Heavy Harrison and Zachary Taylor to the