

Evening Public Ledger

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ECONOMY AND THEN SOME

The apparent inescapability of a tax rate of \$2.55 will force upon the new Mayor and the new Council a policy of the most rigid economy for the next twelve months.

If it should be necessary to reduce expenses by reducing the number of dispensable city employees, there should be no hesitation to use the ax.

The city expects such economies from him as will make it possible to reduce the rate next year. If it is not reduced, rents will be increased, for the landlords must pass on to their tenants the burden of the increased cost of maintaining their property.

Some relief can be found in an equalization of assessments. The real estate board has already begun to interest itself in this matter, and its chairman is talking about the necessity of a more careful and thorough assessment of real estate throughout the city.

Recent transfers of valuable parcels for sums ranging from 50 to 100 per cent more than the assessment sustains his statement that some owners are escaping the payment of their fair share of the taxes.

POLICE CRAFT

IF THE Police Department were above suspicion, it would not have been necessary to create a special bureau of detectives in the district attorney's office.

The public will hope that when Mayor-elect Moore appoints a director of public safety he will name a man who will clear the force of all suspected officers and make the great majority of the rank and file feel that so long as they do their duty without fear or favor they will be supported.

FOUR-CENT MEALS?

DR. HARVEY W. WILEY appears to belong in the expanding group of scientific men who, in desperation, are trying to amuse a world that they cannot help. Doctor Wiley's more or less solemn assertion that a man may live on eleven cents a day if he will invest his money in cornmeal mush and milk isn't even a good joke.

Would Doctor Wiley lend the patient citizen a stove? If you will dig a hole in the ground and reside in it you can beat the rent man. The money spent on shaving and hair cuts may be put in bank if you will let your hair grow long.

A TAX THAT FAILED

SECRETARY GLASS has discovered that there can be a tax so heavy that it will produce no revenue. He has called the attention of Congress to the probability that the excess-profits tax will defeat itself unless radical changes are made in the law.

The government itself could have averted the coal strike. It could and it should now. Had the President and Congress summoned the miners back to work and promised them fair wages during a period necessary for a sweeping survey of the coal industry, had the men been assured that final wage scales would have been based not upon academic theory but on principles of justice and that this wage scale would be made retroactive if investigation warranted it; had a nonpolitical board been appointed with a membership qualified to report to the world the rights and wrongs of coal mining, the needs of producers and the needs of the miners, there would be no difficulty about the ultimate terms of settlement.

knowledge of some of the elements of the principles of taxation.

Mr. Glass also says that it will be necessary to increase the normal income tax and the lower ranges of the surtax if sufficient revenue is to be raised to meet the war charges. If these increases are made equitably so that there is a feeling that every one is bearing his fair share of the burden, there will be little complaint, for we all know that the money must be raised to run the government and pay the interest on the war debt.

Congress as well as he is aware that the law needs rewriting in many of its sections so that its inequities may be removed. The country expects it to approach the problem with a disposition to distribute the burden of taxation so that it will fall on no one.

MILLIONS IN STRIKE LOSSES ARE AN UNNECESSARY WASTE

When Justice is Assured to Both Sides in Industry Neither Will Have the Courage to Ask for More

IF DOCTOR GARFIELD were a wiser man he would put the work of some of his representatives in Judge Anderson's court at Indianapolis high in the list of nonessential industries.

He might even deny himself fuel and light. He and his men are wasting their time at unproductive labor. What is more, they are distracting the public mind and obfuscating issues that will have to be clearly seen and thoroughly understood before industrial peace is possible in the United States.

The fuel administration has not helped to bring a settlement. Everything that the government could do to irritate the miners, to sharpen and harden their sense of wrong, has been done.

The deadlock in the bituminous fields certainly involves something of greed and opportunism on one side or the other or on both. At bottom it is a great human dilemma for all who happen to be directly concerned in it.

Patience and logic, a sense of justice and not a little of human charity will be necessary to the final settlement of the coal strike and similar strikes. The present fight in the coal fields obviously means self-sacrifice and consecration for many of the workers who feel that they have been badly treated and neglected.

The government, acting through Doctor Garfield and the federal attorneys at Indianapolis, has never gone beyond the outer fringes of the matter. Neither has Judge Anderson.

The quickest way to disarm miners or operators who may be unfair is to give them justice. No one on either side of this or any other industrial controversy has the courage to walk out in the open and demand more than that.

The fuel administration has tried an easier way and failed. Doctor Garfield announced that he would permit no increase in the costs of coal, and invited the country to be comforted by the knowledge of his resolve while it endured cold and hunger and saw its industries succumb to gradual and certain paralysis.

The logic of that course was woefully defective. If the country is not paying enough for coal to insure decent wages and a fair return on invested capital it ought to pay more. Certainly it would be willing to pay more.

If it is already paying enough for coal there is organized infamy somewhere in the coal industry. The strike has been on for a month. Yet the public has no means of knowing who is at fault or where the blame lies.

The processes instituted at Indianapolis will waste more valuable time. You cannot depend upon injunctions and other methods of repression in dealing with a state of mind. Judge Anderson's decisions will settle nothing.

The government itself could have averted the coal strike. It could and it should now.

Such a course would have necessitated complete federal control of the mining industry for a considerable period. It would insure justice to producers and

miners. It might be depended upon to inspire a constructive policy of operation in the coal fields.

A federal commission, acting with the authority of Congress, might be expected to improve not only the technique of coal production, but to establish the whole business of fuel distribution upon a more efficient and even a more profitable basis.

The approach of a presidential year has left Congress dumb in this crisis. The responsibility therefore lies with the President.

Industrial disputes will have to be dealt with in a new way. They have come to be like war. They are too costly, too destructive to be tolerated quietly and left to accidental adjustment.

The country is mystified now because it hesitates to believe that coal operators are unprincipled, mad with greed, blind to the responsibilities of citizenship.

It is when you look even a little way beneath the troubled surface of coal strikes and other strikes that you become aware of the great need of the hour. That need is a sympathetic knowledge of human motives, as well as a knowledge of economics, in any one who must direct great economic readjustments.

So, in the end, there will not only have to be a federal commission to keep peace and prosperity in industrial fields where now there is battle and loss; there will have to be a permanent tribunal administering a great new code of industrial relationships.

THE ROW IN MICHIGAN

IT IS admitted that large sums of money were spent in Michigan to secure the nomination and election to the Senate of Truman H. Newberry. The statement filed according to law a year ago placed the sum at something under \$180,000.

When the case comes to trial the guilt or innocence of the senator will be established by competent evidence. If he is guilty he should be removed from his seat in the Senate.

The federal law forbids the expenditure of more than \$10,000 to secure the nomination and election of a senator "with his knowledge and consent."

When the case comes to trial the guilt or innocence of the senator will be established by competent evidence. If he is guilty he should be removed from his seat in the Senate.

The management of Pennsylvania Progress is in the hands of Robert Haight as editor.

Senator Crow belongs to the soft-spoken, light-treading, easy-going school of politics; the fix rather than fight brand. He is a political pacifist.

It will be prudent for the country to suspend judgment in the case until all the facts are known, while remembering that the charges against Senator Newberry are made by his political opponents.

A New York medical journal declares that the teeth of mankind were never in such bad shape as they are today and that what the world needs is more dentists and better dentistry.

Life is reality, says the tax assessor. Life is earnest, admits the taxpayer. And to save is not our goal, accentuates the finance committee. Dusk then and dawn thus burn out, we may remark on usages, refers to cash as well as coal, if you get what we mean.

D'Annunzio is to leave Fiume and the city will be occupied by Italian regulars, according to a recent dispatch. Which appears to be a renunciation of free verse in favor of the Italian sonnet.

The warm weather is causing grass to grow in Woodbury, N. J., while word comes from Havre, Mont., of cattle freezing to death on the plains. If a beneficent Providence could make these extremes meet beef prices might come down.

The Cuban Government has taken over the coal supply of the country, but the household cares eat at all. He can get all the fire he needs at the end of a cigarette.

When the miners' walk-out is followed by a walk-in it may be found that the sum of human happiness is in the straight and narrow path.

When a wise guy plays the deuce with the king's English in a hand with the public sometimes happens that the joker unexpectedly takes the "jack."

CONNELLEY IS COMPETENT

But Labor and Industry Commissioner May Strike Snag in Female Servant Employment Proposition

By GEORGE NOX MCCAIN
DR. CLIFFORD B. CONNELLEY, appointed commissioner of the Department of Labor and Industry by Governor Sprout, vice John D. Jackson resigned, has made an excellent impression upon those who have come in contact with him in the discharge of his official duties.

When Commissioner Jackson was granted indefinite leave of absence at the outbreak of the war to enter government service, Doctor Connelley, who had been connected with the Carnegie Institute in Pittsburgh, was appointed acting commissioner. It afforded him an admirable opportunity to familiarize himself with the work of the office so that he practically takes charge as one trained for the place.

One phase of the commissioner's work, which no doubt will be developed to its highest possibilities and to the welfare of the working classes of the state, is the state system of free employment. It contemplates the continued maintenance of clearing houses for quickly placing employees in such a way that the man suitable for a given job will be placed in that employment.

It is a mistaken idea that this work is an outcome of the world war. The system was established under laws passed by the Legislature of 1915, and was well under way before our entrance in the conflict. The system will reach perfect operation if it succeeds in eliminating a certain class of employment agencies whose principal function is to separate the workman from a portion of his money under promise of securing him permanent employment.

When Doctor Connelley tackled the female servant employment proposition, however, he will find his hands full.

Professor Henry O. Gibbons, for years connected with the University of Pennsylvania, is greatly interested in Greek archeology. Since 1897 he has been a member of the managing committee of the American School of Classic Studies at Athens.

The war, as every one knows, played sad havoc with the American and foreign archeologists in Greece and the near East. Work was abandoned in all directions while the nations devoted themselves to the attempted subjection of each other.

Professor Gibbons's daughter, Miss Mary Fulton Gibbons, a talented violinist who spent a number of years abroad and who recently has been on concert tour through New England, has returned to Philadelphia to reside permanently as a member of the faculty of a local conservatory of music.

ALBA B. JOHNSON has entered the ranks of publishers. It is in connection with N. B. Keel, George E. Foss, Howard H. French and others in their work as officials of the Pennsylvania State Chamber of Commerce, of which Mr. Johnson is president.

The publication takes the form of a handsome four-page journal on tinted calendared paper, called Pennsylvania Progress.

It is needless to say that it is devoted solely to the interests of the state Chamber of Commerce. It is unique in having not a line of advertising on any of its pages. The editorial page carries a signed editorial by Mr. Johnson which deals exclusively with the proposed new constitution for Pennsylvania. The catholic aims of the organization are set forth by Mr. Johnson in a declaration concerning the farmer's interests, in which he says:

"Aside from the many problems to be considered in the new constitution . . . no subject can be of greater importance to the state of Pennsylvania than the improvement of the condition of its farmers with respect to improved methods of agriculture, improved transportation, improved methods of marketing and a general improvement in the comfort of living. To a realization of these purposes the Pennsylvania State Chamber of Commerce is devoting itself."

The management of Pennsylvania Progress is in the hands of Robert Haight as editor.

Chairman of the Republican state committee, whose forced retirement from that position will let a few more hours of state politics, is a former newspaperman who is now serving his fourth term as chairman of the state committee.

Senator Crow belongs to the soft-spoken, light-treading, easy-going school of politics; the fix rather than fight brand. He is a political pacifist. That's what has started the present shindy. As state chairman, this year and last too, he thought it his duty to act as peacemaker between the warring Republican factions and has met the customary fate of the peacemaker.

He was a pronounced anti-suffragist too, and had the women of the state the right to wield the ballot the gentleman from Fayette, I fancy, would find other lions, or lionsess, in his path beside the astute Joseph R. Grundy.

Although Senator Crow voted for the suffrage amendment at the last session, he was only persuaded to that action after repeated conferences with high state leaders. Since then, however, I understand he has modified his view of previous years and is reconciled to the fact that suffrage has come to stay.

William A. Patton, assistant to the president of the Pennsylvania Railroad, is an official whose loss has been keenly felt by that corporation. Mr. Patton retired some months ago to enjoy the pleasures and comforts of private life after half a century spent in the Pennsylvania's service.

For a generation and more he had kept his fingers upon the pulse of Harrisburg. Every piece of legislation directly or indirectly affecting railroad interests for forty years had been scrutinized by him. He became a perfect encyclopedia of political and legislative knowledge.

He knew every public man of importance and a good many of no importance in the state for forty years. His personality benefited Providence could make these extremes meet beef prices might come down.

Under the new order of things, when the railroad systems of this country revert to their owners, it will be a mighty good thing for those who have among their officials a William A. Patton to lend a hand in reconstruction and rehabilitation.

If English poets had the imagination of Italian poets Helgoland might be battling Fiume for position on the first page of the newspapers.

"YES, I CAN, TOO!"



THE CHAFFING DISH

OUR theology, in brief, is that the Universe was Dictated but not Signed.

Desk Mottos
Brevity is the soul of wit, no less than the soul of wit. Those lovely lyrics, swift as the note of a bird on the wing, imperishable as a jewel, haunting as forgotten melody, are the fruits of artifice no less than of inspiration.

A Garden Sonnet
GO SPIRED, so sentinelled by such tall trees, a garden was, that quietude was there. And musing moved the meditative air. Along the penative pathways of the breeze; Such peace there was that surgent mystery, And ancient beauty that was born to bear. Far knowledge hid in muted speech and rare. Tumultuously rebel, bent their knees.

The Burning Question
The morning dawns, the day arrives, And forth to busy little lives Of industry and marts of trade Go slaves, who toil till sun rays fade— Six days a week.

By nine a. m. work has begun Most earnestly, but quips of fun Crop out anon the day to brighten And otherwise the minds enlighten Of those who toil.

Throughout the day these slaves are seen A-worning Lady Nicotine; Other slaves for divers reasons Have "rotation of the seasons" Wherein they smoke.

Though many smoke, and some are known To carry smoke-stuff of their own, Permit us to present the bloke Who springs the little hourly joke—"Have you a match?"

In this great world there may be those To whom the world a living owes; At least that is the creed they preach; Too tight or tied to even reach For their desires.

I sing, however, of the bloke Who needs a match to start his smoke; With bland assurance—"tis no jest— He'll find an answer to a match request, And GET it, too. SMOKE.

LAST night my heart was heavy with despair, And sad my soul, for I had suffered long; And then, like starlight through the clouds of Care, I heard your song.

I THRILLED a chord within me. Long before I heard your voice, I thought I'd seen the End; But lo! within this newly opened door I found a friend!

MYPEN had stopped; I thought the Muse had fled; My work undone . . . I had no other choice; But when my fondest hopes were cold and dead I heard your voice.

I GAVE me strength. Ambition's dying coils Were fanned to flame. In Verse's silver net I wove a masterpiece. And then our souls Reached out—and met. ROBERT L. BELLEM.

The old internal combustion we used to hear about seems to have been supplanted by international combustion.

Perhaps Germany signed the peace treaty with the same mental reservations as the modern bride who promises to "obey."

After we had written a book with much labor and pain, and it was just ready to be published, the printers went on strike.

And on the very day that a play in which we were interested was to open in New York the government ordered all electric signs to be doused.

Life is just like that, is our surly comment. SOCRATES.

GHOST-RADDLED

"COME, surly fellow, come! A song." "What, madman? Sing to you? Choose from the clouded tales of yore And terror I bring you.

"Of night so torn with cries. Honest men sleeping Start awake with glaring eyes. Bone chilled, flesh creeping.

"Of spirits in the web-hung room Up above the stable. Groans, knockings in the gloom The dancing table.

"Of demons in the dry well That cheep and mutter, Clanging of an unseen bell, Blood, choking the gutter."

"Of lust, frightful, past belief. Lurking unforgetten, Unrestrained, endless grief— From breasts long rotten.

"A song? What laughter or what song Can this house remember? Do flowers and butterflies belong To a blind December?" —Robert Graves in The Owl.

It is a safe bet that those who attended the Franklin Institute last night and saw pictures of French coal mines destroyed by Germans will have no sympathy with Germany's latest gesture in refusing to sign the protocol.

Interpretive reservations may be entirely proper in the United States Senate, but Mr. Polk has hastened to let German representatives know that Hun reservations are still barred.

What strikers apparently fail to realize is that every drop of idleness sends the cost of living up another notch.

The staunchest prohibitionist may with a clear conscience boost the local port. Its ways are waterways of peace and prosperity.

The sun of the prohibition-beater rises in the east.

What Do You Know?

QUIZ

1. Who is the Mexican ambassador to the United States?

2. Who succeeded Diaz as president of Mexico?

3. Who was Simon Pure?

4. When did the great eruption of Vesuvius, which destroyed Pompeii, occur?

5. What are agenda?

6. What school of literature was known as the "Silver-Fork School"?

7. Who was the "Rock of Chickamauga"?

8. To what race did Emile Zola belong?

9. Where is the Dead Sea?

10. What was the "Suicide Fleet"?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

1. Dr. Albert Einstein is a noted Berlin physicist, whose new "Theory of Relativity" somewhat calls into question Newton's theory of the attraction of gravitation.

2. Lord Robert Cecil is a noted English champion of the league of nations. Andre Tardieu, of France, is a conspicuous advocate of the same project.

3. Natch girls are East Indian professional dancing girls.

4. The French gold coin called a napoleon is worth twenty francs.

5. Bukram or buckram is a coarse cloth of linen or hemp stiffened with size or glue, used for keeping garments in shape, for wrapping merchandise or for binding books.

6. The President signed the declaration that a state of war existed between the United States and Germany on April 6, 1917.

7. A spalpeen is a mean fellow, a rascal. The word is Irish.

8. Facultative means permissive, optional, contingent, of a faculty.

9. Kabul is the capital of Afghanistan.

10. Wolfe, commanding the British forces, defeated Montcalm, commanding the French, at the battle of the Plains of Abraham, which decided the fate of Quebec.