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CORTELYOU FOR DIRECTOR

IN CHOOSING Chief Cortelyou, of the district attorney's detective staff, to be his director of public safety, Mayor-elect Moore evidently believes that the principal qualification needed for the job is a thorough knowledge of police methods, rather than proved business ability adequate to administer a great department of the city government.

The wisdom of this conception remains to be shown in practice.

One thing is sure: It would have been difficult for Mr. Moore to pick out a man more generally liked by those who have come in contact with him in other official positions, nor one more likely to command the respect and friendly interest of the rank and file in the various large forces of men who will come under his direction.

During his long service as chief of the postal inspectors in this district, "Jim" Cortelyou became a terror to criminals breaking the federal laws, and his success in ferreting out swindlers and other fraudulent get-rich-quick schemes was universally admitted. His appointment to the directorship is a big promotion from his present position, but it is one which a wide circle of friends will hope his administration proves he has deserved. He starts with one large asset—that is a hatred of anything pertaining to crookedness and graft.

A THING TO STAND ON

CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW used to say that a political platform was like the platform of a railroad car—to get in on and not to stand on.

The chairman of the Republican national committee, however, is promising something different this year. In a speech in Buffalo on Monday night he said that "the platform will deal with the great fundamentals and when adopted it shall be the evidence of a sacred contractual obligation between the party and the people."

Let us hope that this is so, and that not only the Republican platform, but the platform of the Democratic party as well, may be something more than a mess of words intended to catch votes and then be forgotten.

VICTORY IN SIGHT

THE optimism of Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt ought to be encouraging to Will H. Hays.

Mrs. Catt has been touring the West and she reports that the suffrage amendment to the constitution will be ratified by thirty-six states before February 1.

If her forecast be correct then the women in all the states, including Pennsylvania, will vote in the next presidential election, a result which Mr. Hays has said he would do his best to bring about.

It has been a long fight and a hard one. Now on the eve of victory every gallant man will doff his hat out of respect for the heroic and undiscouraged women who have led the battle, not forgetting the late Mrs. Anna Howard Shaw, of this state.

RIGHT FOR ONCE

MR. BRYAN, who has devoted himself to prophecy ever since he was first nominated for the presidency in 1896, has usually played in bad luck, for the things which he foretold did not come to pass.

There is one exception, however. On November 15, 1916, he said that within four years the Democratic party would become a dry party and that prohibition would be the chief issue in 1920. Well, he was right about his party. It is dry, and so is the Republican party. The liquor question has disappeared from politics.

But he was wrong about the big issue for 1920. Yet one must not be too critical in this case, for Mr. Bryan should have all the credit that is due to a prophet who guessed right for once, even if his guess was wrong in its details.

REWARDS

WHEN Mark Twain said that virtue was its own and only reward automobile thefts were not so common as they are now. Yet even they ill-paid policemen sometimes had to be spurred on to do their duty by the offer of a sum of money in addition to their salaries.

not a fair division of the spoils and there is consequent dissatisfaction. There is one obvious way out of this tangle, and that is to pay the members of the police force a living wage, so they will not need the incentive of gratuities to do their duty, and to turn over to the pension fund every reward paid by a grateful citizen for the recovery of his stolen property. Then the police would not be under the suspicion of neglecting their duty until special inducements were offered, such as have to be used to make a waiter in a fashionable restaurant give decent attention to a dinner party.

CANDIDATES APPEARING FOR 1920 SUICIDE CLUB

The Country Will Grieve to See Mr. Gerard First to Enter the List of Democratic Presidential Aspirants

IF MR. BURLERSON or Mr. McAdoo or even Mr. Palmer had been first among avowed Democratic candidates for the presidency there would have been no misgivings anywhere.

Nobody cares what happens to Mr. Burler. No one would pity him. He might be mauled at the polls, he might be trounced by a noisy amateur like California's Senator H., he might be drawn and quartered politically without incurring any demonstrations other than songs of praise, in which underpaid letter carriers might lead the majority of their countrymen.

Mr. McAdoo is used to weathering storms. Misadventures and travail seem needed to complete the education of Mr. Palmer's political owl.

It is because Americans have a great fondness for James W. Gerard that they will grieve to see him first on a ticket that cannot have even a fighting chance. Mr. Gerard told the German emperor to go to the devil. He let the country know that the lunatics at Berlin had actually included the United States in their plan of frightfulness and he did magnificent service in behalf of the Americans who were unfortunate enough to be caught behind the war blockades at Berlin.

We would wish for Mr. Gerard a far happier fate than the one he has chosen by filing his own nomination papers in South Dakota. Other companies of proud and desperate men have advanced to awful defeat before now, but none ever faced odds so great as those that now seem to wait presidential candidates who go under Democratic banners in the next election.

They may even be known in political history as the Suicide Club of 1920.

Party interest or party prejudice is not necessary to sustain this view. Few men think exclusively in party terms nowadays. The times are too serious; the future is too uncertain for that.

It is daily becoming clearer that the Democratic party will be at a greater disadvantage in 1920 than for a generation. It was the war party. It is associated in people's minds with all the stresses and discomforts of the last few years—with profiteers and high prices, with lightless nights and workless days, with tea without sugar and fourteen-dollar shoes.

Democrats were in power when we became entangled with Europe. They were running things when war was declared. They will be held accountable for income taxes.

The disposition of the average man to vote out a party in sheer irritation may not be wise. It may not be just. But it persists and the Democrats will suffer by it. The accomplishments of the last few years have been exclusively the accomplishments of Mr. Wilson. The President absorbed his party and in justice to him it must be said that he seemed during the war days to care little about what happened to it when the welfare of humanity was in question. Retiring, he will leave his party woefully enfeebled.

The collective mind of the Democracy will return like an exile, enervated by a lack of exercise and dazed by the sight of a world that has got ahead of it. And it is only necessary to look beyond the President to New York, to the South, or at the aberrations of the party during the last gubernatorial campaign here in Pennsylvania to see that the Democratic party is—well, the Democratic party.

A one-sided fight is not a thing that the country may view with entire tranquility in 1920. The misfortune of the Democrats may easily become the misfortune of the entire nation if affairs are permitted to drift as they are drifting now.

The prospect of an easy victory will not stimulate idealism or inspire great purposes in the men who are now trying for the control of the G. O. P. It will not help the progressive element among Republicans. Omens of a decline of Democratic prestige therefore should have a very definite meaning for all those on the Republican side who are preparing to oppose Old Guard absolutism in platform conferences and at the Chicago convention on June 8.

The Old Guard will correctly read the lessons of history. It knows the habits of the popular mind. It is aware that a saint would have a hard time to win next year for the Democrats, not altogether because of anything that the Democrats have or have not done but because of the atmosphere in which they functioned.

It wasn't a cheerful atmosphere and the country is aching for a change. The danger for Republicans is that their victory may be too easy.

Mr. Gerard's candidacy is sure to bring other conspicuous Democrats hurrying into the open with their hopes and their plans. A declaration from Mr. McAdoo may be expected at any day. It is being said that Mr. Hoover is a Democrat, and Mr. Hoover has made it plain that he would not run away from a nomination. So far he has not been clearly identified with any party. He was a long while out of the country. And Mr. Hoover is in all likelihood far too wise to run for the presidency against handicaps of the sort that Mr. Gerard is willing to contend with.

Senator Hitchcock was viewed in recent months as a possibility. But the drift of the fight in the Senate, the drift of popular feeling and what is even more im-

portant, the drift of affairs in Europe have been against him.

Lloyd George, Clemenceau and the Italian adventurer in Fiume are factors in coloring pre-election sentiment in the United States. There is a disposition in many quarters to wonder whether, after all, some of the European statesmen have been made quite safe for democracy. This question rises naturally whenever the name of D'Annunzio is mentioned.

Mr. Gerard's platform as he announced it in South Dakota consists of eight words: "Make and keep the country safe for democracy."

Only recently the official representatives of the party were thinking in more inclusive terms. Their beneficent intentions extended to all the world and to the islands in the sea and the peoples thereof. It will be interesting to observe whether the experiences of the past year have made the Democratic party more conservative and more modest in its aspirations, or whether the new limitation of effort is representative of an old and familiar characteristic which Democrats abandoned when they followed after Mr. Wilson's leadership in foreign affairs.

LET THE 80 SENATORS LEAD

THE treaty situation in the Senate calls for plain talk.

The President has shown by his third person White House hand-out statement that he is again thinking as the chief leader of the Democratic party and not as the leader of the American people. Whenever he does that he is wrong—wrong in principle and wrong in practice.

It is a case once more of his celebrated misguided appeal for the election of a Democratic Congress which he could control without question. It is not only bad taste but bad politics. The American people showed what they thought of his blunder before and they will do it again.

Mr. Wilson probably thinks that he is playing skillful politics when he tries to shift the whole burden of responsibility on the Republican party, which he was so careful to mention in his statement. But he is mistaken. It is not a proper issue for political maneuvering, and if he were not cooped up by sickness and isolated from close touch with the people, themselves he would realize it.

We have indicated in these columns how petty and piffing Senator Lodge's Beacon street self-importance appears to the average man in the street. He seems to think the accident of senatorial seniority has given him an indisputable right to play schoolmaster himself, but he is quite as mistaken as the President.

Both Mr. Lodge and Mr. Wilson have forgotten that primarily they are not in office to represent their own personal views. They are there to represent the views of the people of this country. Those views today are unquestionably in favor of a speedy ratification of the treaty in the best form obtainable, and they should not place obstacles in the way of an agreement as they are now doing by their stubborn punctilio.

Eighty senators have shown by their votes that they are in favor of ratifying a treaty in a compromise form. Only sixty-four votes are needed. It is ridiculous that these eighty should let either a false sense of fealty to their respective party leaders or a desire not to injure personal feelings interfere with their duty as free-thinking, responsible representatives to use their own judgment in terminating the disgraceful deadlock.

Already there are promising signs of something like this outcome. Mr. Underwood seems to have a better practical grasp of the treaty situation than the nominal leader of the Democrats, Mr. Hitchcock, who has been forced to play the marionette to the White House strings; while Mr. McCumber on the Republican side has shown a far greater insight into true statesmanship than Mr. Lodge and his few familiars of the foreign relations committee inner clique.

Why do not the eighty pro-ratification senators get behind Mr. Underwood and Mr. McCumber respectively and settle the treaty as they wish and have the power to do? Then the sulkers would quickly come out of their tents and the country could turn its attention to the long-neglected business of restoring peace.

Philadelphia is not the only place where faith in the ability of the police to protect life and property is receiving a severe jolt. A New York bank has erected a pillbox which commands the whole ground floor and where the riot guns of a watchman may be poked through the slits whenever the hold-up men get busy. This shows us how far we have advanced since the days when citizens went abroad with guns and kept a wary eye for Indians.

Nobody is willing to take responsibility for having killed the peace treaty and shot it all to pieces; and therein lies acknowledgment of its worth. And the fact that it still has a chance for life, after being patched up a little, is evidence of a good constitution and excellent blood circulation.

Henceforth no graduate of a New York high school will receive a diploma until he has first made a pledge of loyalty to the United States. The regrettable feature is that circumstances should have made the rule necessary.

It is generally conceded that there is possibility of an increase of freight rates when the railroads are turned over by the government to their owners. These rail birds have long bills.

Sooner or later, now that the strike is over, differences between miners and operators will be readjusted. Discussion is sometimes windy, but the winds blow away misunderstanding.

The rest of the country appearing fairly well reconciled to the Supreme Court decision, Old Man Gloom took up his residence on Broadway.

MAYOR-ELECT MOORE'S LETTER

Presidential Booms of Sprout and Palmer Promise Interesting Possibilities in Pennsylvania

Washington, Dec. 17.

IN DUE course presidential booms will be bursting in Pennsylvania. Talk of Governor Sprout as a possibility, with the interesting suggestion that it nominated he might be opposed by his old schoolmate, A. Mitchell Palmer, brings the Keystone State into the political sun. The General Wood boom is already putting in an appearance, which may account for the activities of some other booms. The Wood boom comes along with the McKinley boom did in 1880, when Kinley agents left out Pennsylvania without very much success. Senator Quay, the old political watch-dog of the state, was on guard and finally announced his candidacy, with a view of closing out all intruders upon Pennsylvania soil. The McKinley boom was based upon the prominence of McKinley as a protectionist, which at that time strongly appealed to most Pennsylvanians. The Quay men endeavored to beat it down from the local pride point of view and they succeeded in interfering to some extent with a much heralded McKinley meeting at the Academy of Music, at which Senator Thurston, of Nebraska, was the principal speaker. The McKinleyites continued their agitation through the activities of the late Mark Hanna and proclaimed Judge Thomas J. Clayton as their first convert. Senator David Martin, from the heart of the Kensington district, where protection is a household word, was the first Philadelphia to fall in line. Christopher Magee and William Flinn, of Pittsburgh, also helped to give McKinley a standing in this state. Delegates to the national convention have not yet been agreed upon in Pennsylvania, but if they were now known, it is safe to say the Wood boomers would be knocking at their doors. It is the knowledge that the state is being politically invaded that may hasten a declaration from one or more of the home talent.

CONGRESSMAN GEORGE P. DARROW'S MEMBERSHIP ON THE NAVAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE HELPED ALONG THE EFFORTS OF HIS COLLEAGUES AND OF THE PENNSYLVANIA AUTHORITIES IN SECURING A SCHOOLSHIP FOR THE PORT OF PHILADELPHIA.

Darrow, Moore and George F. Sproule, the new director of Wharves, Docks and Ferries, had this matter in hand, and evoked the aid of "Tom" Butler, the Pennsylvania chairman of the naval affairs committee. The maritime matter was strongly to Secretary Daniels, who had first assigned a vessel which did not come up to the Philadelphia expectations. They then made a dead set to obtain the bark Annapolis, which had been temporarily assigned to California. Secretary Daniels and Admiral Coontz were appealed to in this matter and asked to put California to the test. Was the Golden State prepared to take over the ship and use it at once? The Californians were communicated with and it was ascertained that a sufficient appropriation had not been provided and that more than a year would elapse before the state would be ready to meet the federal appropriation. "In that event," said the Philadelphians, "we are ready to proceed. Our state has made the necessary arrangements and we are ready for the ship right now." This argument won, and the Annapolis has been ordered to Philadelphia. The navy is short of men and to furnish a crew to make the long trip round via the Panama canal would probably disorganize the force of some other ship. Therefore, it has been agreed to tow the Annapolis down the Pacific coast to the Panama canal and up the Atlantic coast for delivery to the Pennsylvania authorities.

A fit of economy some years ago when Tener was Governor, Pennsylvania withdrew its nautical schoolship appropriation. Through the activities of J. S. W. Holton, president of the Maritime Exchange, and members of the commissioners of navigation, the appropriation was renewed last year under Governor Sprout. The boys who want to study navigation and who can qualify will, therefore, soon have a chance, subject to the ship's limitations.

STUART PATTERSON, president of the Western Saving Fund Society, will have in Robert J. Brunker, who has just been elected vice president, an assistant who has been in harness filling almost every position in the company from a junior clerk up since 1881.

Mr. Brunker started with the society when its assets were about \$5,000,000, but has seen those assets grow until now, under Mr. Patterson, they amount to over \$48,000,000. The career of the new vice president is something like that of Francis B. Reeves, another prominent Germantowner, who began work as a clerk in the Girard Bank and worked his way up until he became president.

MRS. J. WILLIS MARTIN presides over a meeting with the dignity of a veteran. Her many activities, particularly in the matter of the Emergency Aid of Pennsylvania, have given her an ease and grace in the chair which many of our fellow citizens might accept as an example. Mrs. Martin has some right to take a hand in our civic discussions, for her father had so much to do with the consolidation of the city of Philadelphia after the old district system had worn out the patience of the people.

ADMIRAL CLARK, the hero of the Oregon, which made the long trip around the Horn to reach the Atlantic coast in time for service in the war with Spain, is the father-in-law of Admiral Hughes, the commandant at League Island Navy Yard.

The admiral, who was better known in Philadelphia as Captain Clark during the peace jubilee period, has many friends in this city. When he comes over, which he often does, League Island naturally, has first place in his affections.

EX-SENATOR DAVID BAIRD, of Camden, is feeling good over the selection of Richard Collins, of Collinswood, N. J., as vice president of the Delaware River Bridge Commission. Mr. Collins belongs to the old Jersey family which has helped make Camden a thriving suburb of Philadelphia. Many people remember when Edward C. Knight, the sugar refiner, had his home in that vicinity. Vice President Collins has a little speech something like Mayor Ellis's favorite about the big things Camden is doing. He knows the factories and the shipyards by heart.

FORMER Congressman Joseph E. Thropp, who has large furnaces in the western part of the state, is also a Philadelphia taxpayer. He was educated in this city, graduating from college here. Mr. Thropp knows enough about the city, therefore, to advance some ideas with respect to its development. He thinks we should have an art gallery at once, that the Parkway should be completed, and that a little more advertising might be done like that on Fifteenth street, between Market and South Penn square. But it is as a shipper that Mr. Thropp is also interested. He believes our port facilities capable of great advancement.

MISS MARGARET HAS THE FLOOR. Mr. Witter Ryner states that he recently received a letter from a popular magazine editor for contributions, which said: "Our

ANYHOW, THEY'RE BITING



THE CHAFFING DISH

LIKE our favorite burlesque theatre, the Dish gives a matinee every week-day; and 10,000 ladies attend without a perceptible blush.

We Were Better Men Than You Were, Gunga Din (In answer to the Grease-Hound)

The mademoiselles of Clermont. They did not weep nor sigh When the (non) fighting Ninety-seventh Went flying home on high.

I know, for I saw there that day, Ready to kiss their tears away.

The mademoiselles of Clermont. I had quite the proper bunch; They much preferred a poet To a Grease-Hound of Gravenches.

This elemental fact I know: The girls themselves have told me so.

Speaking of those mademoiselles, they were all right. Only the other day one of them sent me a beautiful pink silk thimble (the use of which I have not yet discovered), and all I had to do to get it was pay \$1.75 duty on it.

And speaking of dinners reminds me of those well-worn lines that run something like this: So many fetes, so many feeds. So many calls for public bath: When what a feller really needs Is beaucoup cash, is beaucoup cash.

Sometimes we rub our eyes when we see how glibly humanity talks of the possibilities of future wars. Have the filth, the weariness, the anguish, the thwarting of every human impulse that is worth while—all these been forgotten already? We have a horrid suspicion that there are a lot of folks about growing up with the idea that it was all just too fine for anything.

It is said that the finest compliment a widower can pay to his deceased wife is to marry again. And perhaps the finest compliment humanity can pay to war is to contemplate more of them. Maybe people really enjoy wars?

A Generous Offer (In reply to "Lieut.") DEAR Lieut.: I've read with interest your letter most pathetic—Concerning Rita's ravine hair, And Ann the Energetic.

I F MODESTY did not forbid (In my more solemn moods), I might discuss as well as Ann Life's grave vicissitudes.

ILL vie with Rita's rampish ways, Though it must here be said: I cannot match her midnight hair. For mine, alas, is—(Well, asuburn!)

YOUR problem's not so hard to solve, And were I not so shy, I'd say the answer that you seek, Maybe, perhaps, is—(No, can't say it!) PEGGY.

We have an idea that the reason Peggy found it impossible to say was not shyness, but because it should have been "me" and not "I."

M. V. N. S. sends us a nice chatty letter, duly franked with a Red Cross seal, in which she asks how many of Mr. McPee's writings are required for good standing in the Dish. We reply, two: "Casuals of the Sea" and "Aliens." But the most exciting feature of M. V. N. S.'s letter is that she says she is a former client of Susannah Corcott. We ourselves, as a perfect 66, welcome her to the inner circle.

MISS MARGARET HAS THE FLOOR. Mr. Witter Ryner states that he recently received a letter from a popular magazine editor for contributions, which said: "Our

LAZY MAN'S SONG

I HAVE got patronage, but am too lazy to use it; I have got land, but am too lazy to farm it. My house leaks; I am too lazy to mend it. My clothes are torn; I am too lazy to darn them.

I have got wine, but am too lazy to drink; So it's just the same as if my cellar was empty. I have got a harp, but am too lazy to play; So it's just the same as if it had no strings. My wife tells me there is no more bread in the house; I want to bake, but am too lazy to grind. My friends and relatives write me long letters; I should like to read them, but they're such a bother to open.

I have always been told that Chi Shu-yeh Passed his whole life in absolute idleness. But he played the harp and sometimes transmuted metals, So even he was not so lazy as I.

—Po Chu-l, A. D. 511. Translated from the Chinese by Arthur Waley.

A decision of local druggists denies John Barleycorn a chance to soothe his battered nerves with a dose of paregoric.

It now appears that Uncle Sam has a constitutional objection to strong liquor.

Those who prophesy the end of the world will never have a chance to say "I told you so."

What Do You Know? QUIZ

- 1. What Turk of war notoriety has just been crowned a king?
2. Who was GI Blas?
3. What is the meaning of the musical term "moll"?
4. What Democrat, formerly in the diplomatic service, has entered the race for the presidency?
5. Distinguish between Socrates and Isocrates.
6. Why is a sailor called a tar?
7. What is the meaning of the word chints, and from what language is it derived?
8. Who is Luis Cabrera?
9. When was Christmas Day celebrated on January 6?
10. What is the characteristic of dry wine?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

- 1. Gabriele D'Annunzio in fifty-five years old.
2. Port Darwin is a harbor in the northern territory of Australia. Captain Rose Smith, winner of the airplane race from London to Australia, recently landed there.
3. Samuel Pepys, the great diarist, was born in 1633 and died in 1703.
4. Belladonna is derived from the deadly nightshade.
5. Christmas wails are beads of pearls, singing carols, etc., on Christmas. The word is derived from the old French, "wait," a stentor.
6. Paddy is rice in the straw or in the husk.
7. The Locofoco composed the equal-rights or radical section of the Democratic party about 1835. The name was given in allusion to an incident at a stormy meeting of Democrats in Tammany Hall in 1835, when the radical faction, after their opponents had turned off the gas, re-lighted the room with candles by the aid of lucifer or "locofoco" matches. The matches were so-called from the Latin, "locofoco," in lieu of fire.
8. Sir Lucius O'Trigger is a swashbuckling Irish duelist in Sheridan's comedy, "The Rivals."
9. The planet Mars has a reddish appearance.
10. Constant Troyon was a noted French landscape painter. His dates are 1805-1881.