

New Mayor Pledges Nonpolitical Rule

Continued from Page One
The administration will not be so favorably considered.
We can all afford to be courteous and civil to the people, whose servants we are, and we will best win their favor by doing whatever we are called to do in a workmanlike manner.

combine against the city, or undertake to prevent fair competition, the interests of the city may be safeguarded.
The Broad Point of View
The point of view is extremely important in considering municipal problems. The narrow and restricted point of view will not do in a city like Philadelphia.

an expenditure of public money and are of such importance to the taxpayer, as well as to the city, as to merit the most careful consideration of the incoming administration.
The Delaware Bridge
Construction of a bridge across the Delaware river connecting Pennsylvania and New Jersey at Philadelphia and Camden is another of the big projects that looms up in our contemplation of the city from the broad point of view.

respect to colored people in order that they may have a voice in the solution of the problems that affect them, and as the foreign born who, if properly encouraged, will become good citizens.
Welfare work among women and children is also contemplated. It is substantially true that one-half of the world does not know how the other half exists.

our working people and give them adequate housing facilities. To this end we shall hasten the construction of sewers and the installation of such municipal improvements as will enable those who are ready to invest their capital in dwelling construction to proceed as rapidly as may be.
As to Building Improvements
In the matter of street improvements it is timely to refer to a rush of street opening ordinances passed by the city.

"In conclusion, I would say that the import of the oath of office recently administered was fully understood. I did not quit the important and congenial station occupied by me at Washington without carefully weighing the consequences of success or failure in this great municipal enterprise.
I have sought out the best men available to accomplish results in the new service. I have faith that all of the directors who will be my associates will be keenly their share of the responsibility in the great work we are about to undertake, as does the Mayor.

I have asked each of them and all of their assistants to stand courageously and manfully by the task we have jointly assumed. They will be held to the same strict accountability as will their chief. Their known characters in this community and their splendid performance in every work they have undertaken justifies the belief that the Mayor has chosen well and that they will not fail to support him or to uphold to the utmost of their ability the honor and integrity of the city.

and we stand unalterable against the crook; we care for those who build us and against those who tear down; in short, we stand for the progressive municipality and the human side of government. We are against the corrupt and the vicious.
We have too much at stake, we associates in the new government and myself, to willfully or negligently permit this experiment to fail. It will not if we have the support and the confidence of the people.
May our big undertaking be guided by the blessed light of reason, as it comes to us from the Most High."

Contract Government to Go
A much-discussed reform in administration politics is the subject of contracts in Philadelphia. The intent of the law as to contracts in all departments is clear. The interests of the city are to be safeguarded against unfair contracts and against self-interest entering into contracts, against contracts controlled by politicians who unduly influence inspectors or public officials which has long aroused the ire of our citizens.

We need improved transportation facilities. We need more houses for an ever-increasing population. The necessity for broadening our conveniences and means of approach is upon us. People from outside Philadelphia are taking up their abode in Philadelphia and we must be prepared to meet them, whether workmen or capitalists, in a big way.
It is essential to the health and happiness of the community that we spread out, give more elbow space to those who desire to relieve themselves from congestion in the city; build up the suburbs and open up new means of communication. When we get the proper point of view we will grow in influence.

Health of the People
While on the subject of the health and happiness of the people, I would direct attention to the great importance of an early inquiry into the present water supply system of the city. It is evident we are running short and must find increased means of supplying the people with water for drinking or business purposes and to protect ourselves against epidemics of typhoid, cholera, and other diseases which are closely built-up wards.
We must protect ourselves against epidemics of contagion, and early in the administration expert information and advice will be sought as to ways and means for adequately meeting this situation.

Welfare Department Work
A new department in government authorized by the new city charter is the department of public welfare, which, under the department of health, will enter upon a wide field of activity as speedily as funds may be provided for the encouragement, protection and development of human life and character.
Many voluntary associations, some of them inspired by the war, have been urging the formation of such a department, which now, for the first time appears as a part of the official life of the city.

It will be the effort of the department of public welfare and of the department of public health to reach out after those who are drifting, who are helpless, who are at unrest, and by suggesting remedies or offering assistance, ameliorate conditions that have in some of the congested districts gone unheeded for too long.
Encouragement and a helping hand to those who are in distress; to those like the colored brother who is sometimes troubled with problems which other men cannot understand or analyze; to the immigrants, and non-English-speaking residents who have not yet come to comprehend the spirit of America, will assist, we believe, in bringing about a better civic feeling and a happier prospect for the restful and the unfortunate.

"It is proposed to specialize with respect to colored people in order that they may have a voice in the solution of the problems that affect them, and as the foreign born who, if properly encouraged, will become good citizens.
Welfare work among women and children is also contemplated. It is substantially true that one-half of the world does not know how the other half exists.
We have the aged, the infirm and the helpless with us, and we will add to our own happiness and to our own good health by making them as happy and as healthy as possible.
The department of welfare and the department of health will deal with housing, with unsanitary conditions, with unwholesome congestion and with other problems which have been thrust upon us by reason of the general increase of our population.

Another matter to which the attention of the city solicitor will be drawn is that of mandamus. The issuance of mandamus may have legislative sanction, but the system has grown to such an extent as to endanger our financial structure.
The new charter provides for a budget, the purpose of which is to compel a showing of city finances which the people can understand. The budget is to comprehend every form of receipt and expenditure. When it is complete and the people believe they have provided by taxation for the requirements of the city, along comes the mandamus by direction of some authority apart from the Mayor and Council, directing that money shall be paid for expenditures authorized without their knowledge and consent.
It is not just to the taxpayer, the special attention of the new administration and may require legislative action, viz., the creation by the Legislature of employes for county offices for whom the city taxpayers must pay. Home rule for cities of the magnitude of Philadelphia is no unfair demand. It pays a large proportion of the state taxes. It yields to the commonwealth much revenue collected from special sources as in the case of corporations, automobile licenses and mercantile taxes. It is not reasonable that unnecessary employes should be thrust upon the city without its consent, especially if done for political reasons.

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Putting House in Order
It is largely a question of putting our own house in order, of doing big things in a big way, of putting down faction and selfishness and grinding them under our heel. In the part of Philadelphia, which is not Philadelphia about, but the lower half of New Jersey, the eastern half of Pennsylvania and the whole of the state of Delaware, we have a national, nay, an international asset. We must develop that part to the utmost of our financial ability. We must keep the channel of the Delaware deepened. We must encourage the improvement of its tributaries north, east, south and west, and we must provide here terminals that will attract and accommodate trade with the world.

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