

Evening Public Ledger

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MAYOR MOORE
MAYOR MOORE'S inaugural address consisted of a repetition and summary of the pledges that he made during the election campaign.

FACTIONALISM IN COUNCIL
THE men selected by the caucus of the majority members of Council for president, chief clerk and sergeant-at-arms were elected yesterday when the new Council met for organization.

THE RECEDING OASIS
THE second Supreme Court decision on prohibition is in line with the first. The court decided some weeks ago that it was within the war power of Congress to pass as a war measure an act forbidding the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquor.

TRAINS FOR EDEN
"ALL aboard for Babylon!" may soon ring through the waiting room at Basra. Regular passenger train service is shortly to be established between that port and Baghdad, locale of most of the Arabian nights.

EVERY INCH A SOLDIER
MARSHAL JOFFRE continues to live "in character." One certain mark of a great soldier is his generosity in measuring the ability of his foe. The savior of France credits General von Klueck with "masterly tactics" in saving the German army after the defeat on the Marne.

AN INTERPRETER OF SPAIN
THE recent awakening of American interest in modern Spanish literature came too late to be enjoyed by Benito Perez Galdos, who has just died in Madrid.

OPTIMISTIC SHIPPING BOARD
THE United States shipping board contemplated disposal of the former German liners is as optimistic as a political platform.

THE FLOWER OF FLAME
FOAMLESS the gradual waters well from the sheer deep where darkness lies, till to the shoulder rock they swell.

wholesale consumption abroad, there are smaller scale performances of his which will increase our respect for a great literature of which far too little is generally known.

HARDING'S FRANK ANSWER
SENATOR HARDING'S explanation in response to a labor union inquiry of the reasons for his support of the anti-strike provisions of the Cummins railroad bill is admirable for its frankness.

AFRAID TO LET GO
PRESIDENT WILSON has signed the bill continuing government control of sugar sale and distribution for a year in the hope, doubtless, that when that time has passed some way will appear by which the government can get out of a difficult and embarrassing situation.

BUSINESS SPEAKS UP
TREATY obstructionists who may have any notion of serving the business interests of the country will not be exactly flattered by the plea for immediate ratification drawn up by the Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce.

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Manila and Singapore be tapped. If the scheme is workable, its consequence will be of the first magnitude.

There is, of course, always the chance that pessimism about the merchant marine has been overdone. We have the ships now and some of them, like the Leviathan and the George Washington, are among the finest passenger steamers afloat.

American enterprise in shipping has been stimulated prodigiously. The shipping board is now about to test this re-awakening to the full.

There will be arguments for revising them if there is a prospect of our withdrawing our now far-flung flag from the seas.

General Crowder is opposed to General Wood's presidential candidacy, alleging that his election would mean the undoing of all the work the department did during the war.

As I view the succession of the liquor tax by the income tax, remarked the Bibulous One modestly, it seems to me that the government money formerly provided by the fool is now duffed up by the wise guy.

A year ago the world was shocked to read of the death of Colonel Roosevelt. It is interesting to conjecture what, if he were living, would have been his attitude on the many big questions that are facing us.

The danger of the raid upon the Reds lies in the fact that it may be succeeded by a crusade against the Pinks, the Mauves and the Blues.

Turks and Greeks are said to be battling in Asia Minor and grave losses inflicted upon the Turks. "Grave losses" might also describe the Turks who got away.

An Indian man claims to have discovered that jazz music encourages hens to lay eggs. They probably wish to throw them at the performers.

The Young Lady Next Door But One says she supposes the "severing of old ties" refers to those that are out for patchwork quilts.

Is it possible that Secretary Daniels has sent the pilot who has hitherto steered him clear of the sloughs of criticism?

Wonder if the band of bandits that robbed fifty cottages at Ocean City are incorporated under the laws of New Jersey.

The lives of many eminent statesmen are spent in futile efforts to make patriotism and partisanship interchangeable terms.

The fact that great quantities of anodyne are being sold as rum cannot be considered as mentally soothing.

Girls who contemplate availing themselves of this year's privilege would best look before they leap.

The latest fashion note seems to assure us that women's stockings in 1920 will be bare necessities.

Though other wines may be taboo, no sea captain will get into trouble for making port.

Even the parlor Bolsheviks may be swept out when Dame Columbia starts "redding up."

MAYORS AND MARRIAGES

The Office and the Ceremony Know Intimacy and Matter of Fees is Sometimes a Problem

BY GEORGE NOX MCCAIN
EX-GOVERNOR STUART is a brimming reservoir of rare experiences. The advent of a new administration for Philadelphia was the occasion for a reminiscence mood in which the reservoir of remembrance happily overflowed.

The Mayor of Philadelphia is called upon to perform the marriage ceremony at infrequent intervals. Where there are differences of race or religion, or where the contracting parties are aliens and a civil marriage is required under the statutes of their native land, the Mayor, or oftentimes a judge, is called upon to officiate.

It is an unwritten law recognized by the clergy, I believe, that a marriage fee is a perquisite of the minister's wife.

It was Mayor Stuart's custom to donate it to some worthy city charity. Sometimes no fee was forthcoming. Nothing but a "Thank you kindly, sir."

On one occasion a nascent view over the phone insisted on an appointment between 12 and 1 of a certain day, when the Mayor could perform a marriage ceremony.

The groom-to-be was so persistent that the day and that particular hour were fixed as he desired.

The couple, by their dress and appearance, were in good circumstances. They were departing after the fateful words, without any suggestion of a fee and a rather indifferent "Thank you," when Secretary Beiler, who ushered them out of the reception room, inquired curiously:

"Why were you so particular about being married between 12 and 1 o'clock?" Without so much as a smile the groom replied: "Well, you see, it's lunch hour, and I didn't want to lose the time from work."

MAYOR STUART, like all of his successors down to J. Hampton Moore, was the target for office-seekers. The most persistent was a widely known Irishman of the name of Murphy, who had risen from the humble walks to wealth and prominence. He never asked anything for himself; always for some friend or old associate who had been unsuccessful in the struggle of life.

In this respect he answered the description Francis Murphy, the apostle of temperance, once used: "He had a honor in him as big and as warm as a cooking stove."

"Yer Honor," said the Irishman in question one day to the Mayor: "Ye must be givin' a job t' me ould friend, Jawn MacMahon. He's a fine man. He's Past Gr. and Suprem. W. M. and he's got th' Companions 'av th' Purple Shield 'av th' United States 'av Ameriky."

"But, my dear Mr. M—, a man like that should hold high place. A directorate, for instance, and I have no such vacancies," replied his honor.

"Oh, I dunno," was the enigmatical response. "What kind of a position did you have in mind for the gentleman?" asked the Mayor.

"Well, I was thinkin' 'mebbe ye' end give 'im somethin' like watchman on a bridge."

THE indignant public protest against the new defunct Councils' proposed grab of desks and the appropriation for a Valkyrin wassail is the last of its kind, I presume, we shall see for years.

In connection with the early projects for improving the Delaware I recall a story in which the state was asked to make an appropriation. Of course, it demanded investigation by a committee from Councils, as I recall, they were to spend the money on the Delaware—and other things, through glasses.

A river steamer was chartered and elaborate plans laid to entertain the statesmen from Harrisburg, particularly in the way of moist refreshments.

Harry Huhn, who was then speaker's clerk in Philadelphia, was instructed by the legislative committee to see that everything was arranged in good taste and abundance for the state capital sojourn.

"EVERYTHING'S FINE! NOW LET'S GET SOMEWHERE!!"



THE CHAFFING DISH

Our Musical Department

IS OUR favorite movie organist taking a vacation? The other evening we stopped in at our most cherished cathedral of celluloid and found the screen announcing another artist at the organ.

Imagining myself to be a music critic, we might say that we found the substitute's execution admirable. Her cadenzas were magnificently reverberant. Every time Miss Dorothy Dalton was registering that quaint sideways bulge of the optics that is so prominent in her repertoire, the organist was there, in a manner of speaking, with the throaty grumble of the big tubes, implying tense emotion and ecstasy.

The afternoon sunlight slants in through the glass roof, shining among the strange fans and glossy leaves of the palms and rubber trees. Admiring *Arancaria Bidwillii* and *Ravenna Madagascariensis* and the rattan palm (from which one would like to steal a walking stick) and listening to the tinkle of moisture down through the sun-guided jungle of strange foliage and netted ferns, it seems curiously as though some heavy thunderstorm had just passed over.

Up in the gallery one looks down on all the miniature Garden of Eden. Benumbed skaters come in to throw their noses and fingers. And in the gallery, lurking behind the thick boskage of the giant rubber tree, hardy sailors have found Edenlike privacy for a little muttered wooing.

Nothing is more perplexing in this unquestionably interesting existence than the complications of conflicting loyalties in a virtuous human bosom. John Patterson, the genial Judge, is both a staunch admirer of the late T. R. and the leading Dickens fan in these parts. Now what we want to know is, What are the turbulent emotions that assail the well-paneled breast of the jurist when he reads the following in Theodore Roosevelt's "Letters to His Children":

"Dickens was an ill-natured, selfish and hoar, who had no understanding of what the word gentleman meant, and no appreciation of hospitality or good treatment." Naturally, he would think there was no gentleman in New York because by no possibility could he have recognized a gentleman if he had met one.

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were lusty smokers, but they evidently did not use safety matches, for their garments were not even singed.

Our Own Census Questions
1. Can you remember the plot of a movie you saw more than three months ago?
2. What do you say when you have waited fifteen minutes for a Pine Street car and then the motorman runs by you without stopping?
3. Why do floors that are perfectly silent all day begin to squeak when the baby is asleep?
4. Do you ever use more than one match to get your pipe lit?
5. When looking up something in the encyclopedia, do you ever get down the wrong volume? For instance, if you want to look up Diana, let us say, do you always, after careful consideration, pull off the volume *Coleoptera Desiderius*?
6. Do you forget your handkerchief?
7. Do you ever wonder what it feels like to be an undertaker?
8. When you have settled yourself comfortably for a little sewing, does the button basket tumble off the arm of the chair?
9. Is there always a line waiting at the postoffice window when you go in a hurry for some stamps?
If you can answer these in the proper way we have no hesitation in enrolling you in our own private census of All human beings.

A City Notebook
On a cold Sunday afternoon, when the ponds in the Park are eddying with skaters and cheeks are pink with frost, Horticultural Hall is a pleasing place to stop in for a little warming. That delicious, damp, earthy smell, familiar to all frequenters of greenhouses, is a pleasure in itself. After a little rambling round among the enormous palm trees—one of them, which has been there

A SONG

LOOK your head upon my shoulder so— Look in my face, to yours I'm bound low; And love, love sweetest, for Love's moments go.

Lean back your head until our lips shall meet In one long kiss, that shall the sobquets feet Stay in the hurry of their swift retreat.

Let your head rest so that your scented hair Strays on my cheek, and straying, trembles there; Like some bright web aquiver in the air.

Lean back your head so that mine eyes shall gaze Deep into yours: and love, for Love's own ways Alone are sweet in all our length of days.

Cling your soft arms, and a walled kingdom make For us to dwell; and of thy mercy's sake Love me, ah! love, lest of time you overtake.

Look, love, our breath in the still evening air Rises as one, and rising, mingles there. A sighing breath ascending as a prayer.

A sighing breath, contentment scarce content: Ah, heart of mine! when Love's short hour is spent What shall our life have for its ornament? —A. E. Lloyd Maunsell, in the English Review.

What Do You Know?

QUIZ

- 1. At what age did Dr. William Osler die?
2. What is the correct pronunciation of his surname?
3. Name a domestic fowl which is native to America.
4. Who were the Tudor monarchs of England?
5. Who is the ruler of the Jugo-Slavs?
6. What is the largest Gothic church in the world?
7. What celebrated satirist-philosopher was known as "Jean Paul"?
8. What were the corsairs?
9. Who is the present speaker of the House of Representatives?
10. How long do elephants live?
Answers to Yesterday's Quiz
1. The final paragraph of Article V of the league of nations covenant is as follows: "The first meeting of the Assembly and the first meeting of the Council shall be summoned by the President of the United States of America."
2. "Jack-o'-lantern" is another name for the will-o'-the-wisp or "faucis fatuus."
3. The word nikado means "august door."
4. A never is a set of stabling around an open yard.
5. The three divisions of Dante's "Divine Comedy" are "Hell," "Purgatory" and "Heaven."
6. "In loco parentis" means in place of a parent.
7. "Lob, or Lob-Lie-By-The-Fire" is a kind of rough brown or house elf supposed to haunt North Country homes; stands in England, where he does the work of the farm laborers if the owner's work is set out for him. Milton calls him the "Lubber-fiend" and Shakespeare describes Puck as "the lob of spirits."
8. Esthonia has signed an armistice with the Bolshevik Government of Russia.
9. Appomattox, where Lee surrendered to Grant on April 9, 1865, is twenty-four miles east of Lynchburg, Va.
10. King Solomon is ascribed to the tenth century, B. C.