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A FOUR-YEAR PROGRAM FOR PHILADELPHIA

Things which the people expect the new administration to concentrate its attention:
The Delaware river bridge
The largest ship
Development of the rapid transit system
A convention hall
A building for the Free Library
An Art Museum
Regimentation of the water supply
Bomes to accommodate the population.

"AMBASSADOR" VAUCLAIN

DAVID R. FRANCIS is our official ambassador to Russia, but he has fled from the country and is waiting till he thinks it safe for him to go back or until the President decides with what group in Russia he wishes our representative to deal.

Consequently, the contemplated visit of Samuel M. Vauclain to Russia is of more than commercial interest, even though Mr. Vauclain's primary purpose is commercial.

Mr. Vauclain is going to Poland and Rumania as well as to Russia in the interest of the Baldwin Locomotive Works. He will come in contact with the substantial, conservative men of these countries, the men directly connected with the development of the transportation systems. This development is dependent in a large degree on political stability.

It is difficult for any one in America at the present time to form any definite opinions about what is going on in eastern Europe because the reports from that part of the world are conflicting. Those which come through the ordinary news sources are censored. Others are sent out by propagandists of one interest or another.

When Mr. Vauclain returns he will be in the possession of information which should be valuable to the State Department, and if the men in charge of that department are wise they will ask him to give them the benefit of the knowledge which he acquires.

MILITARY TRAINING REJECTED

UNIVERSAL military training is unlikely to be an issue in the presidential campaign. Indication of this is given in the rejection by the House military affairs committee of the plans originally incorporated in the army reorganization bill.

Democrats in the House, repudiating the President's appeal for delay, registered their disapproval of compulsory training still earlier. Although the American Legion still officially indorses the policy, the subject occasioned one of the liveliest disputes in which the League of veterans has indulged.

THE "NOUVEAU PAUVRE"

A NEW class, or a class known by a new name, has begun to attract attention in Berlin. During the war the city was filled with the nouveau riche, men who had grown rich from war contracts and were spending their money in riotous living.

NEW HOPE FOR THE LIBRARY

THE history of the Free Library building has been compiled and handed to Mayor Moore. It is not an uninteresting tale. There have been suits and cross-suits, protracted debates concerning Philadelphia cut stone and imported cut stone.

labor are, of course, infinitely higher than in the days when the first contract—now abrogated because of delays and changed conditions—was let.

But the library is one of the practical and necessary plans for the betterment of Philadelphia. Public opinion is in entire sympathy with prompt work upon the project even at the inevitably increased cost.

MR. WILSON VISITS THE TOMB OF ROOSEVELT PROGRESSIVISM

Is the President, Too, Signaling for Departed Spirits and Can He Raise the Dead?

IF THERE is a dim world reserved for dead political parties the elevation of Bainbridge Colby to the secretaryship of state will cause an enormous flutter among the shades that walk therein.

Mr. Wilson seemingly is not content merely to bring back departed spirits that passed over after the agony of the national Progressive convention of 1916. Such experiments are for the amateurs.

What the President appears to have in mind is nothing less than a raising from the dead. For Mr. Colby is a most conspicuous remaining fragment of Roosevelt progressivism, a fixed symbol of an ancient unrest.

In his present aspect Mr. Colby must be viewed as the Progressive party. He it was who nominated Roosevelt for the presidency when an almost religious exaltation swept the Progressives' convention a few hours before Roosevelt turned back into the fold to support Mr. Hughes.

The political emotions of that year were profound. Passion and hope and despair ran wild together. Men were stirred to the deep of consciousness. The Progressives in convention were chanting when the bad news came.

Mr. Colby sat down like a man shot when the fatal telegram came from Oyster Bay. He packed a great weight of sorrows in his old kit bag and went from the convention bang into the Democratic party, quite as a man enters a monastery when he is sickened of the world and wishes to advertise a renunciation complete and final.

Since then large scattered bands of unconverted Progressives have wandered like lost tribes in the political wilderness, refusing to be consoled, knowing no shelter, nor hope, nor signs of promise, nor a place to rest their heads.

At a stroke that astonished the country by its unexpectedness and audacity he has lifted a representative of what was youthful, imaginative, headlong and aspiring in traditional Republicanism to a place in the national administration for a period that may be the most crucial in our history.

It is idle to deny that disillusionment and discontent are pretty general in both old parties. The Hooverites are a new type. They exist in vast numbers and they are politically homeless.

THE GOWNSMAN

THE University's Dilemma
THERE is a charming little poem of Mr. Frost's in which he tells how, on a woodland walk, he came to the forking of the paths and, ever after, he had made his choice, was haunted by the probable superior beauties of the way that he did not take.

Now, the Gownsmen does not believe that whatever is right; the realization of how men are lodged in opinion both politically and as to the world to come makes that quite impossible.

THE Gownsmen remembers that he blushed, very unnecessarily for the person concerned, on one occasion, when he heard a college president congratulate an institution on the circumstance that of late a larger proportion of its students were coming from households in which the annual income was above \$5000 per annum.

Very exciting, very diverting, is all this. It has always been known that Mr. Wilson wishes to see in this country a new political consciousness of the sort that is being expressed in the great, slow, progressive, liberalizing movement of England.

WHAT IS THE BEST WAY?
THERE is absolute agreement on the importance of preserving Hog Island as a railroad and ship terminal. But the best way to do it has not been demonstrated.

THE problems at the University are many. Certain subjects are overcrowded because they deal in essentials which are being crowded in too many of our schools.

EX-SECRETARY LANE tells a story about his former Indian wards in Oklahoma. The United States Government, acting for the Indians, leased the oil lands to producers and paid the Indians the royalties.

THE Gownsmen holds that a university which has been suffered to take the popular way of Pennsylvania over a obligation to the public; and that the state likewise owes to the University a continuance of the means to uphold and foster its approved usefulness.

THE old chief's ideal was a parody of the world's ideal. The ideal of recent generations has not been to "eat a lot and do no work," but to consume more and more and produce less and less effort.

THE action of the New Jersey Legislature in passing a bill to legalize the manufacture of beverages containing 3.50 per cent alcohol may be the work of press agents anxious to further the construction of bridges over the Delaware and Hudson.

FROM DAY TO DAY

IN SPITE of Attorney General Palmer and all his fair-weather friends, the cost of living mounts.

Official figures show that it went up 2 per cent in January. Mr. Frank A. Vandenberg says it is because the Federal Reserve system is under political control and has permitted the inflation of our currency.

But inflation does not explain \$10-a-day wages for snow-shovelers in New York. There has been inflation, but inflation of the currency is only a small part in it.

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Time drags in Congress, there is so little of importance to attend to. The cut of General Pershing's coat and trousers was up for debate on Tuesday.

IF the opinion of the Democratic women meeting in Albany, N. Y., is correct, the political note is to be soprano.

IRON BIRDS

IRON birds floating in the sky
Prey remorselessly
On the tiny obscure dot
That is some great city.

I have flown a hundred miles
Over the blurred plain.
Dropping devastation and death.
Blotting men's nerves with pain—
Their miserable cries were tiny as insects
Calling their god in vain.

The sound of their oaths and lamentation
Could not even reach up to me.
The clouds were at peace, no tribulation
Disturbed the sky-harmony.
Only my buzzing changed
And my heart beat dreadfully.

I laughed as I silently tossed blind Death
Down on that insect people.
Dreadful it was in the peaceful sky
To murder that insect people,
And never to hear a sound or cry,
Or a bell toll in a steeple.

Ah! it was blue there, wide and clear.
Dancing alive in the sun.
And millions of bright sweet cymbals rang
Praising the deeds I had done.
And millions of angels cheering stood
Deep-collared around the sun.

And then I stood erect and cheered,
Ay! shouted into the sky.
I filled the vast semicircle round,
There was only the sun and I.
The round, red, glittering sun
And a fluttering human tie
—W. J. Turner, in "The Dark Wind."

It is a cinch that Crane won't do any talking this time.

What Do You Know?
QUIZ
1. How long did it take to build the Brooklyn bridge?
2. What is the salary of the associate justices of the United States Supreme Court?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz
1. Scotchmen in their native kilts may be said to wear skirts. A short pleated skirt is worn by men in Albania.

THE thing has stopped—our faith tells us temporarily—but some who may be natural pessimists or who may have their own interests to serve tell us permanently.

"WELL!" "WELL!!" "WELL!!!"

FOR the moment, at least, we are checked. Nature is strongly intrenched.

IN AMERICA our victory over nature always had a certain unreality. It was never so great as it seemed.

Men have met the secret doubt that the final victory would rest with nature and not with man variously.

THE defeatist policy of Hohenzollern or that of Lenin gets mankind nowhere. What is needed is a twentieth century James Watt.

It is significant that some newspapers failed to see any point in Clemens' joke, even though there were fourteen of them.

These political conferences in the Mayor's office are calculated to give Senator Martin the cold shivers.

The police must find these jewel robbery terribly monotonous.



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