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A FOUR-YEAR PROGRAM FOR PHILADELPHIA
Things on which the people expect the new administration to concentrate its attention:
The Delaware River bridge.
A drydock big enough to accommodate the largest ships.
Development of the rapid transit system.

A TASK FOR FRIENDS
PHILADELPHIANS, living in a city that is known as the center of the Quaker life in the new world, should be peculiarly interested in the report that all work of relief now being done by Mr. Hoover's organizations in Europe may be given over next autumn to the direction of the Society of Friends.

A GREAT NEW ISSUE
WHAT Senator Watson and his associates on the Republican platform committee had to say about agriculture is acceptable as far as it goes. It has been heard before. And politicians may be excused if they dodge the disquieting fact of a steadily declining agricultural output, and depend on the usual device of providing an answer to a puzzle that now seems almost unanswerable.

DESPERATE DRESSERS
THEY must indeed be desperate dressers who are in Rockaway Beach when the authorities conclude that the only way to subdue them is to arm thirty female guards with revolvers and clubs and have them patrol the beach during the summer season.

CRUELTY TO W. J. B.
THAT was a most cruel exhibition of the amenities of practical politics which Governor Allen showed in his speech nominating General Wood. He took a crack at Mr. Bryan's now famous assertion that "a million men would spring to arms overnight," with Mr. Bryan sitting in the press box just beneath him industriously "interpreting" the convention for thousands of readers.

SOUND ADVICE
WHERE does the alien in this country get his conception of Americanism? Who are his mentors and by what process is he taught? He seldom goes to a school. He does not travel. His neighborhood—and often enough it is a slum neighborhood—is all of America that he knows.

JUNE
WHEN James Russell Lowell wrote "Ode, written on the death of John Keats," he doubtless had the lovely physical attributes of the most beautiful month of the year in mind, but June has come to have an even higher sentimental value than physical, despite its sunshine and its roses.

with a serious optimism and a self-confidence which never comes again. But fortunately for them and for us all the period of inevitable disillusionment is too far off and too vague to be discerned. "The world is their oyster," but the knowledge that it is a mighty hand that cracks comes with the night of December, never in the sun-bathed radiance of June.

Let us all, then, enjoy our June while we may. There are far too few of them in life, both on the long, hard climb to the summit and on the quick descent into the shadows beyond.

OUTSTANDING signs and omens at Chicago today show plainly that the Old Guard has been jolted and that its day of complete triumph has passed. Lowden would have been the normal choice of Mr. Penrose. Wood was the preference of a number of Mr. Penrose's friends.

TEACHERS' SALARIES
THE Philadelphia public is probably as unanimous as it is possible for a large number of citizens to be on any subject as to the desirability of giving more money to the school teachers; the only question is how it can best be done.

CIVIC PRIDE THAT COUNTS
IT is a Philadelphia characteristic that when any of the city's cherished institutions are threatened the public, rich and poor, rises to their salvation as a mother rises to the defense of her young.

General Wood started ed something new in the history of Philadelphia politics when he paid a social call on "Hi" Johnson and the other presidential candidates at their headquarters in Chicago.

Atlantic City has put into effect a code for the regulation of the aircraft. As sooner or later a regular air code will probably become the law of the land and conceivably will govern the profession of a political party in the not far distant future, there is interest and significance in the summer air code.

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TALES OF THE SEA
Two Philadelphians Who Are Experts in the Telling of Nautical Yarns

By GEORGE NOX MCGAIN
ALTHOUGH it is twenty years or so since he was a newspaper worker in Philadelphia, Ralph D. Paine is still remembered by the older generation of the craft.

When he abandoned his journalistic career to take up magazine and book work as a serious occupation he chose the sea, with its tragedy and romance, as his field of effort.

There has been another Philadelphia who, in the prosaic humdrum of a busy life, has demonstrated an equal interest in the vaunting fleets of sailing craft that have gone down to the sea never to return.

With this introduction as a fanfare of trumpets announces the approach of a pageant, or the rising of the asbestos curtain precedes the play, let Mr. Sproule tell the story of a ship that was and is not.

LYING broadside on the New Jersey sands near Corson's Inlet Life Saving Station, with her six-foot marking showing forward, are the remains of one of America's once-famous clipper ships, the George R. Skiffield, which was sold twenty-one years ago and cut down into a barge for service between here and English ports.

YESTERDAY was the hottest day of the year in Philadelphia. So it was in Chicago also, although the reading of the thermometer there had little to do with it.

THE MOP-MAN
I HOTEL, in library, cafe or shop, I always encounter the man with the mop; I shudder and call him a blot on the scene.

What Do You Know?
1. When was Charleston, S. C. first settled?
2. Who was the first secretary of war "The Chief States"?
3. What is the area of the Atlantic ocean?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz
1. Maria Anne Lowell adapted the play "Ingomar, the Barbarian," from the German "Der Sohn der Wildnis" of Friedrich Heilm.

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SHORT CUTS
"All over but the shouting."
Where Johnson pictured a close-up he now sees a fade-away.

We ought to be assured of a stable government with so many dark horizons in the field.

There are apparently one or two men in town who don't know that Vane is dead.

Will the backers of the Big Three consider that they have had a run for their money?

Nominating speeches did not noticeably raise the temperature of the Coliseum yesterday.

All that is now needed to damp the platform is the approval of the Hearst newspapers.

Incidentally, it should be remembered that people do not follow diplomats to victory.

Why are delegates equipped with tongues when a cowbell so well expresses their mass emotion?

In the matter of the daily licking, it is a case of give and take with the Poles and the Bolsheviks.

The indications grow more pronounced that Johnson is finding the Hearst band wagon a hearse.

Weasel words are as prolific as rabbits. A few in a platform in just a little while may flood the country.

Perhaps the friendliness of Penrose to Sproule will acquire warmth and virility before the convention adjourns.

Not a soul in the country will find fault with the plank condemning Burleson's administration of the postoffice.

The Arkansas delegate who sat on a tack in the convention hall says it is old stuff, but still good for a rise out of a man.

The Young Lady Next Door But One says she supposes the weasels in the platform are the Boras from within.

In making a League of Nations plank please everybody the Republican convention included the Democrats.

Borah and Johnson, having demonstrated that minorities rule, may consider the feasibility of establishing a dictatorship.

The Blunt Guy avers that no strong candidate will be able to stand on the new platform. He'll have to stand under it and hold it up.

If Johnson has the making of the candidate is a cliché it won't be heard. But there is an off chance that Hiram won't have any say-so.

V. Blasco Ibanez says the Republican convention is the most interesting and inspiring spectacle he has ever witnessed. As a trained seal, V. Blasco is a smooth diplomat.

Perhaps it was the excitement of the convention that caused summer to arrive ten days ahead of schedule and immediately proceed to have a hot old time.

And there will always be those in the party firm in the belief that though the making of the platform meant a lot of hammering, there were darned few nails used.

There is a popular fiction abroad that man is a reasoning animal. National conventions are probably designed to prove this a fallacy. Man is a noise-producing instrument.



ALLEN LOSES HIS CHANCE TO BE SECOND GARFIELD

Kansas Governor's Speech for Wood Fails to Hit Bullseye and Opportunity Passes Him By—Probably Too Self-Conscious

By CLINTON W. GILBERT
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Chicago, June 12.—A Harveyized League of Nations plank in the Republican platform is one of the oddities of this strange convention. Colonel Harvey is an old Democratic editor belonging to the now nearly extinct Thomas F. Ryan faction of the Democratic party.

Allen was. Allen had hopes.

THE CRITIC TALKS TO MUSIC LOVERS

Weekly Comment on Things Musical in Discriminating Philadelphia

THE attendance at the three performances of the Puccini Opera Company, at the Academy of Music last week, was a gratifying one, although it was by no means so large as the excellence of the performance deserved.

Notwithstanding this handicap, the work of the "assistant artist" is often of a high standard. The writer has heard concerts in which the assistant considerably surpassed in musicianship the work of the soloist. But could he make the audience believe this?

OF COURSE it is not to be supposed for a moment that any star, capable of filling the Metropolitan and the Academy, is going to have an "assistant" who will attract too much public attention. When this occurs, there is no longer an assistant, but the affair becomes a "joint concert."

FOR this reason, when the smaller companies come to the city, they should be received by audiences as large as possible, and into the auditorium of the places where they play.

There has been a steady increase in the number of smaller companies of excellence which are touring the country and they certainly should be encouraged.

Thus far, the West has been more responsive than the East to the reception of these companies, perhaps because their opportunities, to see the great companies are smaller, but more likely because they have the western enthusiasm which makes them take up more movements with greater vigor than we do on the Atlantic coast.

Grand opera at popular prices is entirely feasible and when the opportunity comes to hear it, it should be encouraged. The "star" system, which is meant the filling of a single role with only one great singer, often means an ill balanced performance.

nearly equal vocal equipment of the cast.

BUT opera is not all singing and acting. In the performances last week, the principal feature was the enthusiasm of both cast and chorus. This rare attribute is not often found among companies containing the greatest stars.

The enormous cost of opera, even where there are no stars of the first magnitude to eat up most of the admissions in fees, is the main drawback to its general acceptance by our public. A modern opera requires an orchestra of at least forty-five or fifty, many of whom must be musicians of great skill and experience, and as such, must be highly paid.

The main trouble is not the lack of money on the part of the public, but its failure to realize what even a short season of opera will do for their musical culture. When this knowledge is acquired, the problem of audiences for the smaller companies will be effectively solved.

Few concert-goers appreciate the disadvantages under which the "assistant" realizes quite keenly that the large audience is there only to hear the great "star" and that alone he or she could not draw more than a corporal's guard. This feeling in itself is a great reputation, and the confidence that is necessary to a first-class performance and it is frequently aggravated by the unintentional attitude of the audience, which often shows a marked unwillingness to be "assistant" to a soloist. When this occurs, borne while the popular idol rests between the groups of songs and bunches of encores which make up his every appearance.

Notwithstanding this handicap, the work of the "assistant artist" is often of a high standard. The writer has heard concerts in which the assistant considerably surpassed in musicianship the work of the soloist. But could he make the audience believe this? They came to hear some one with a great reputation, and that reputation, fully as much as the performance, governed the applause.

OF COURSE it is not to be supposed for a moment that any star, capable of filling the Metropolitan and the Academy, is going to have an "assistant" who will attract too much public attention. When this occurs, there is no longer an assistant, but the affair becomes a "joint concert."

In this case, there is a division of money and applause, a situation repugnant to most stars.

But it must be said for the stars that they are usually anxious that the "assistant" shall draw a goodly share of the attention. Very few of them go to the length of singing a song with an instrumental obbligato and sharing the pleasures of the house with the instrumentalist, but they are perfectly willing that the player shall score what he can "on his own." The point is that the assistant often does work of a musical caliber which deserves far more recognition than it ever gets with a heavy drawing card as the chief end of the concert.

These assistants are used almost exclusively by singers and for two reasons, one to give the vocalist a rest and the other for variety. American audiences are Oliver Twists in demanding "more," and the singer who gives three or four songs and as many encores every time he appears on stage needs little rest after a couple of groups. If the encores are not forthcoming, the singer is deemed ungracious, with bad box office results the next time he comes. A famous Italian baritone had a taste of that this last season. Therefore the assistant has been usually avoided on account of the more