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Philadelphia, Thursday, September 9, 1920

A FOUR-YEAR PROGRAM FOR  
PHILADELPHIA  
Things on which the people expect the new  
administration to concentrate its attention:  
1. Adequate water supply  
2. Aadequate enough to accommodate  
the largest ships  
3. Adequate for the rapid transit system  
4. Convention hall  
5. Adequate Free Library  
6. Art Museum  
7. Improvement of the water supply  
8. Roads to accommodate the population.

**SABOTAGE**

**I**F THE outlaw strikers in the anthracite coal fields continue to urge and force pumpmen and engineers to abandon their posts, because when they quit the mines and their interior machinery may be quickly damaged by rising water. For their own sake and because of what might be called the ethical restraints of the older labor code, pumpmen and some of the engineers were formerly exempt even in wage of labor workers.

Even in the bitterest wage conflicts of the past the miners' unions and their leaders admitted the right of pumpmen to stay at their posts, because when they quit the mines and their interior machinery may be quickly damaged by rising water. For their own sake and because of what might be called the ethical restraints of the older labor code, pumpmen and some of the engineers were formerly exempt even in wage of labor workers.

A strike policy directed not only to stop production but to ruin property represents a new departure in the Pennsylvania fields. It represents sabotage and direct action in a form that is extraordinarily dangerous and vile.

Who is responsible for this newer strategy? There is a flavor of the later European radicalism in this new method of the outlaw miners, and it happens that foreigners are extremely numerous in the anthracite mines.

The present drift and complexion of the hard-hat strike should be of peculiar interest to the buying public. The shortage created by a strike will not help to bring prices down. If the coal operators plead scarcity as an excuse for high rates what can the government or the people do?

**THE MOTOR JAM**

DURING the past twelve months approximately 25,000 new motor vehicles were added to the swarms that previously rolled in the streets of this city. There is an easing up of traffic congestion each summer. Thousands of machines go with their owners on vacations. But the return of the multitudes who have been away during the warm weather, the opening of the theatre season and increased activity in the shopping and business centers will bring the general problem of traffic regulation forward in a new and acute form.

Whatever is to be done to eliminate snarls and tangles and dangers in the streets should be done without delay. Even in the equipment for routine traffic regulation we are still far behind a great many other cities. It is a question whether the police department can escape growing difficulties by the promulgation of new and unusual rules.

A systematic and sweeping survey of the whole traffic problem is needed. The job is one for engineers. Additional traffic men are needed. Some very dangerous crossings are without proper protection after nightfall. And sooner or later the heavy horse-drawn vehicles which obstruct the movement of traffic on the narrow central streets will have to be diverted permanently to other thoroughfares.

**TWO CABLES FROM JAPAN**

THE Japanese are the most polite people in the world. Exquisite personal manners are theirs by training and inheritance. And yet the representatives of the local government at Tokio probably said no more than they felt when they assured the American congressional delegation of their profound affection for the United States and a desire to share any perils that might confront us in the future.

Ordinary folk in my country probably feel that way about other peoples whom they know to be friendly, intelligent and大方 of peace. But there are a few whose governments nowadays that do not think as the majorities think or feel as the majorities feel.

One may find an interesting lesson in foreign affairs by a reading of the addresses delivered to the American representatives in Tokio and the later cable which announced the refusal of the Japanese imperial authorities to join in any movement for the sort of general disarmament proposed by the conference of Versailles. Unfortunately enough—or fortunately—the two dispatches arrived within an hour over the same wire.

**SCHOOL LOAN DAY**

THE citizens' committee, of which George Wharton Pepper is chairman, has notified Simon Gratz that it will secure subscribers to the Board of Education loan providing official assurance is given that \$700,000 out of the million to be raised will be derived from the sale of real estate will be promptly distributed among the teachers.

This ought to mean that this time the bond will not go begging, since the plan outlined by Mr. Pepper is precisely the one which had the endorsement of Mr. Gratz, president of the board, some weeks ago. An increase or bonus of \$200 to every employee in the Philadelphia educational system is, therefore, in immediate prospect.

The Allied Teachers' Association is demanding double this amount. The aim is not exorbitant, but it is difficult to see how it can instantaneously be realized.

What it is necessary for the public to understand is that today is the date set for settling the bonds—"on the counter." Bids will be received for the next week at the

Philadelphia National Bank, 419 Chestnut street.

Doubtless, the citizens' committee will put forth its best efforts, but these should not deter the rest of the public from aiding the teachers. They have been long denied their deserts. The present remedy is only partial, but when the loan is floated it will at least mark the practical beginning of reform.

**LOWDEN'S WORK A LESSON  
FOR MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

In the Light of What He Did in Illinois  
There Is No Excuse for Seeking  
New Sources of Revenue in  
Philadelphia

THE discouraging feature in the report of President Weglein, of the City Council, on his inquiries into the way other cities increase their revenues is that it indicates that he and his associates are thinking more about getting more money to spend than about conserving the present resources of the city government.

This is unfortunately the habitual attitude of the public official. The exceptions are so few that they stand out like a light-house on a rocky promontory in a dark night.

Governor Lowden, of Illinois, was recently of presidential size this year because he has proved to be one of the brilliant exceptions. He applied business methods to the state government and persuaded the Legislature to consolidate 125 state departments into nine and to introduce more economies by the establishment of a budget system which created harmonies between the governor and the Legislature which makes the right to vote.

With the exception of six divisions, reports of the recent assessment in this city are complete. It is announced that 452,642 men have been enrolled and only 251,467 women. By no juggling of figures can the disparity of totals be made to disguise the fact that injustice has been done and upon a wholesale basis.

It is true that in some instances the summer vacation exodus was responsible for the failure of women to have their names placed upon the assessors' lists, this line of reasoning wavers before the revelation that wards containing the greatest numbers of comparatively well-to-do residents show the largest totals for the women.

The best record is made in the Forty-sixth with 21,984 males and 15,901 females assessed. In political character, moreover, this ward is noted for its independence. On the other hand, in regions where the Vare machine control is not seriously challenged, the feminine representation is almost negligible.

He urged these reforms in the interest of economy. But this was no novelty. Many other reforms have been urged for the same reason, but when they were adopted the new plans cost more than the old. Governor Lowden's reforms worked.

In 1916 the people of Illinois paid a state tax of \$20,016,635. In 1919, the first year in which the governor's plan was in operation, the state tax was \$30,440,639, a reduction of \$3,375,000, or 17.45 per cent. There was included in the \$30,000,000 appropriated \$2,000,000 more for schools for waterways. Subtracting these two items and we find that the governor's plan made it possible to pay the ordinary running expenses of the state for a little more than \$15,000,000, whereas under the old system it had cost \$20,000,000.

And yet the men in the City Hall are looking for new sources of revenue and are even talking of a tax rate next year of \$3.55.

They have discovered, for example, that Los Angeles levies a license tax on about 350 different classes of business and corporations, and that in other cities a tax is levied on all vehicles, whether motor-driven or horse-drawn, and that in still others half a cent is collected on every gallon of gasoline sold within the city limits.

But present indications are that the old gang machine has been seriously embarrased. Politically the women are an unknown quantity. Has it seemed simpler to disfranchise them temporarily than to experience the nervous tremors of a novel situation?

Judge Ferguson tomorrow will hear petitions from men and women whose names are not on the assessors' lists. Some changes will, of course, be made, but they will not materially affect the present ratio of the assessors. Experience has shown that the number of these eleven-hour revisions is never large.

The ugly truth is that whether willfully or as a result of incompetence the assessment has been scathingly botched. Women not upon the final lists will be delared from registering and hence from voting in November. They are victims of a law long abused that makes them ineligible to vote.

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constituency and the people generally better by doing this than by trying to put some one in a hole.

And then when the loan bill is passed the executive officers will be without excuse for failing to do the work for which the money has been provided. There are great public projects that are lagging because no one has the courage to push them to completion. Among them are the Free Library Building, the Convention Hall, the enlargement of the water supply system, the drydock and the Delaware river bridge.

Money must be borrowed for these projects. Some of it will run against the debt limit and some of it will be invested in revenue-producing improvements, the cost of which will not prevent the city from spending all that is necessary for improvements from which no return in cash is received by the city treasury.

The amount of money to be spent on these things for the next year must be fixed by the men responsible for the conduct of the city government and agreed upon in the orderly manner prescribed by the rules of the City Council, and not on the initiative of a member of a faction of Council engaged in slyly trifling the plans of the Mayor and his associates.

This is unfortunately the habitual attitude of the public official. The exceptions are so few that they stand out like a light-house on a rocky promontory in a dark night.

**THE ASSESSMENT FARCE**

DISFRANCHISEMENT of some 200,000 women of Philadelphia follows upon the heels of the constitutional amendment in theory granting all American citizens the right to vote.

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The best record is made in the Forty-sixth with 21,984 males and 15,901 females assessed.

It was the individual sensation of that meet, with the putti-putting little twenty-five horsepower engine—was not so likely with Graham-White, who had big Fairman biplane and a speedy Blériot monoplane, each equipped with its then sensational fifty horsepower Gnome engine. Willard was held to the ground by a fifteen-mile breeze; the Englishman could negotiate a thirty-mile wind and think little of it.

The fiasco made by Willard—inevitable in his day when he had only a gingerbread machine with a putti-pulling little twenty-five horsepower engine—was not so likely with Graham-White, who had big Fairman biplane and a speedy Blériot monoplane, each equipped with its then sensational fifty horsepower Gnome engine. Willard was held to the ground by a fifteen-mile breeze; the Englishman could negotiate a thirty-mile wind and think little of it.

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