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A FOUR-YEAR PROGRAM FOR PHILADELPHIA
Things on which we should expect the new administration to concentrate its attention:

SCHOOL HEALTH FIRST
The sudden realization by the Board of Education that it is able to finance adequate medical inspection of public school children

ALL IS QUIET HERE
NEW YORK plans for housing relief under the auspices of the state government are advancing rapidly

A DESERVING CAMPAIGNER
AN ENTOMOLOGIST backed by an adequate appropriation and a competent staff beats the most improved "swatter"

SOMETHING NEW IN BASEBALL
IT SHOULD NOT be difficult for the big league authorities to find the precise origin of the false report of an accident to Babe Ruth

A WORD ABOUT PICTURES
IN A time when every new achievement in the movies or in military, in clothes or in culture, is heralded as a triumph

Autumn exhibition at the Academy of the Fine Arts. Yet it is cheering to know that a great multitude will tear itself away from jazz for a hurried trip to the older-fashioned picture shows for which the dates were announced yesterday.

Painting is not going out of style. The Academy exhibitions continue to secure an enormous number of days that were at once more tranquil and more discriminating than those through which we are passing.

Minutemen were supposed to have seen their day when the photographic camera was invented. But more miniatures are painted in this and other countries every year.

There is no substitute for the work of art that can make permanently visible the light of an inspired moment. It is a good thing for the world that there are painters who have a well-earned place in the scheme of things.

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IF U. G. I. LEASE IS VOIDABLE, WHY NOT THOSE OF P. R. T.?

Present Attitude of the Gas Company is an Enlightening Commentary on the "Sacredness" of Tractate Contracts

THE request of the United Gas Improvement Co. for a modification of its contract with the city on the ground that it has become burdensome indicates that the managers of that company have a different theory as to the sacredness of contracts from that held by the managers of the underlying companies leased to the Philadelphia Rapid Transit.

When there has been talk of modifying the leases of the underlying companies with the P. R. T., the "bankers' group," the shareholders in other corporations, and the officers of the underlying companies have with one voice insisted on the sacredness of contracts.

At a recent public hearing, a representative of those companies said on the witness stand that if the P. R. T. were foolish enough to make the contracts that was its own look-out—it must live up to them; a contract is a contract; it is a kind of sacrifice to violate it. And yet, within a few weeks of such assertion, we have the U. G. I. asking the city to relieve it of some of the burdens of its contract.

If a contract is sacred only to the man who profits by it, then it is the duty of the city to turn down the petition of the U. G. I. and insist on its pound of flesh. If a contract can be voided or modified when one of the parties to it suffers, then there is no justification for the refusal of the underlying companies to reduce the rentals paid by the P. R. T. We cannot have a contract sacred under one set of conditions and voidable under conditions exactly similar.

Under the circumstances it is about time that the talk about the inviolability of contracts affected by a relation to public interest was stopped.

As to the U. G. I. contract under which the consumer gets gas for \$1 a thousand cubic feet, out of which the gas company pays to the city twenty-five cents, it is impossible for the public to know whether, under the existing conditions, it should or should not be revised. Coal and oil and labor all cost many times more than they did in 1897 when the contract was made. No one foresees the doubling and trebling of prices. They have upset all calculations made years ago.

We know that under the lease the company is acting as a trustee for the public in its manufacture and distribution of gas. Its revenues come from the public; including the twenty-five cents on every thousand cubic feet which goes into the city treasury. We know, too, that the company is entitled to a fair return on the money it has invested in the gas plant.

Now, what we need to know before any sound opinion can be formed on the wisdom of granting the petition of the company is how great have been the profits of the company since it leased the city gas plant. How big is its surplus accumulated after paying eight per cent dividends on its capital? That there is a surplus is indicated by the statement of Mr. Bodine, the U. G. I. president, that the eight per cent dividends for the current year have been reduced in the past.

When we know these facts, the city authorities will be prepared to decide how far it will be fair to compel the company to pay for its lean years out of the profits of its fat years, and after getting the best information obtainable on the number of years that must pass before prices of all kinds will fall to something like the pre-war level we shall have the data on which action can be based.

But the outstanding fact which should not be ignored is that a contract affecting a relation to public interest is revivable at any time when the equities demand it. This is a rule which works both ways. It works in the interest of the consuming public when the rates charged for gas or electric light or railroad fares or telephone rates are reduced as they have been reduced in the past.

The principle has been established by court decisions and in practice that the owners of all public service corporations are trustees serving the public under rigid regulations. Commissions have been established by the national and state governments to make these regulations and to modify them from time to time.

This brings us to the P. R. T. and its leases. The right of the Public Service Commission to inquire into those leases is disputed by the underlying companies. They have gone into court to question the jurisdiction of the commission, and it is their evident determination to fight to the last ditch against an investigation which will set the facts on formal record.

They forget, too—or ignore—the fact that the sums paid to them on account of the leases come from the people who ride in the cars of the P. R. T., and that the rate of fare is directly affected by the amount of the payments made to them.

The Public Service Commission, commissioned by law to regulate the transit system in all its ramifications, cannot perform its full duty unless it can inquire into every element entering into the cost of carrying passengers on the street railroads. If inequitable contracts have been entered into, it must have power to examine those contracts or the theory of trusteeship becomes a howling farce.

It may be argued that the U. G. I. is seeking a modification of its contract with the city through negotiation. But even if that is admitted it merely strengthens the position of those who are insisting that it is not sacrilege to change a contract the

terms of which affect the public, nor blasphemy to demand that those terms be modified. The lawyers and corporation trustees, who have been arguing to the contrary, are likely to see a great light before many years have passed. It will be when they discover that the public has decided that it has rights superior to those delegated to any creature of the state.

BEAUTY AND THE 'QUAKE
THE earthquake-shaken district between the Apennines and the Mediterranean coast is one of the loveliest in all Italy. Messina, fated some years ago to experience one of the most fatal dislocations of the earth's crust in modern annals, was set in a scene of exquisite beauty. It is, tragically smitten by a 'quake and a fire mountain, was justly proud of natural surroundings, unmarred in picturesque contour throughout the West Indies.

It is a sinister fact that regions on which nature seems most to have lavished her wealth of physical attributes are the most frequent victims of her devastating whims. The obvious and correct explanation is that the beautifying is the result of previous upheavals in a volcanic land.

Far in the remote past prodigious elemental forces unquestionably agitated the greater part of Italy and shook her into existence. In California, if the truth be admitted, a similar operation took place.

Sympathy for sufferers from the ungodsend powers which have displayed their might in Italy for centuries is accompanied by the entirely human recognition that there are compensations for scenic barrenness.

THE case of Sir Wilfrid Powell, former British consul in this city, who recently moved from England to Italy to escape the high cost of living, will draw attention to a new class of involuntary expatriates that tends to grow rapidly larger.

Sir Wilfrid is British by birth, training and sympathies. But he cannot afford to live on British soil. In Italy the value of his pounds is automatically doubled because of the present low value of Italian money in international exchange. An American, using a similar experiment, would be even better off. His dollar in Italy would almost invariably have a purchasing power three times greater than it would here had he been in the war. Tourists know all about the peculiar advantages to them—of existing exchange rates.

But what of the French and Italian people whose money has so declined in purchasing power? They, of course, are the sufferers. They are paying for the war in ways that Americans do not understand. And yet there are people who believe that new and aggressive groups of imperialists on the continent actually speak in the interest of the people when they bubble of new conflicts.

SHIPS WORTH THEIR NAMES
ONE of the most impressive naval programs ever devised is taking practical shape in the completion of contract awards for the great guns to arm the new fleet that will be floated in the latter part of 1923.

Among the newcomers, each with its historical thrill, will be the Lexington, the Constitution, the Saratoga, the Hanger, the Constitution and the United States. Our hardly needs to be told that she stands for the United States will be a monarch in her class and an engine of majestic power, equipped by the mightiest modern guns. That the name has seldom been used for a major vessel in the navy since the war of 1812 is a rather curious instance of national reserve. A ship so called is not boastful, but dignified, inspiring, consonant with her armed equipment now in the making.

LAMBERTON KNOWS HOW
IN accepting the pay increase program outlined by the Civil Service Commission for his employees, Sheriff Lambertson set an excellent example to his fellow department heads.

The Griffenhagen report is scientifically compiled and its recognition of facts may be assumed to be without political bias. That Sheriff Lambertson, a county official, receives it in the spirit in which it was prepared is evidenced in the increase in appropriation which, he said, he will demand for his department.

Of the \$13,000 additional, \$12,000 will be devoted to the payroll and \$1000 for automobile maintenance. Wasteful superfluities are thus reduced to zero.

By similar methods can salary increases be made in other city bureaus, notably in that of water, concerning which the Civil Service commission has also made important wage recommendations.

The city can be said to pay its employees a rather generous wage with current economic conditions. It is the multiplication of new offices and fancy experiments which is subversive of ordinary justice.

LIGHT ON THE FERRIES
THE refusal of Samuel Rea, president of the Pennsylvania Railroad, to restore the old rate schedule under which the controlling company profited enormously before the recent increase will automatically solve the whole question of ferry rates and service in this region up for review by the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Nothing better than the outcome of the recent conference between the Pennsylvania officials and the Camden committee could be asked by the people on both sides of the river, because it should fairly and squarely bring out the facts where now much is guesswork.

New light on the conditions of intercity traffic on the Philadelphia ferries and a closer general contemplation of the profits and losses involved, for the operating company and the public respectively, should provide just the sort of stimulus that is needed to master universal support for a bridge of the most modern type between this city and Camden.

The effort of the telephone company to readjust its rates satisfactorily causes one to wonder why the corporation has never sought to get rich quickly by revising the rules that govern party lines and charging the stop-for-nothing talkers by the hour.

When Mr. Blair, testifying before the Senate campaign fund investigating committee, defined "bull" as "expanded truth," he might have added that as such it is only convincing to contracted intelligences.

The uncertainty about running the Gloucester ferry suggests the days when it was theoretically operated.

THE GOWNSMAN

"Those Wild Young People"

IN THE current number of the Atlantic Monthly there is a clever article on those Wild Young People of Them. It is in nature a reply to several "indignant treatises" depicting our extravagance, the corruption of our manners, the futility of our existence, pointed out in stiff, scared, shocked sentences before a sympathetic and horrified audience of fathers, mothers and maiden aunts—but particularly maiden aunts; thus writes one of them. Evidently the Gownsmen's outburst is a reaction to his own generation in their frankness, in their folly, in their Philistinism even. From the beginning there has been friction between the old birds and the fledglings after their first flight. We who are of middle life hug ourselves in our wisdom and think that all things come by experience. The young, with impulse and instinct strong within them, see by some intuition how little we have really learned; and it irks them to be lectured by those who invoke only memories and live in the pride of efforts long past.

OUR young friend, "one of them," is highly indignant, as well he may be, at the message we have made of things in the broken, mutilated world which we are handing down to him and his generation. And he reproaches alike the idealism that could not deliver the seeping and the belching dog-in-the-mangerism which prefers national obsequy to not being able to do the thing itself. "One of them" has seen the makings of manual work in his own mind, and he is disillusioned at a time in life when he and I were dreaming altruistic dreams. He at least is not to be fooled, and he proposes to take the material joys that come his way, to get out of them and live his life. He wants the real thing. Disillusioned people always do; as if there were any real things. And he wants it now. The disillusioned are always impatient and they sail perilously on uneven keel. He resents our forethought in providing to guard his morals by way of prohibition and otherwise in his absence, and he resents that it is never so contradicted that at one of the League conferences before the war, America stood out in favor of the use of poison gas in warfare. Can you see one of our young friends contradict this? Or must we bow our heads, already bowed enough, to this further historic disgrace?

IT IS a bad enough case that "one of them" makes out against us and we have not bettered it since the war. But are we that of the older generation—turn to blame? Did we not have in our youth the same parents who insisted on an admonition when what we needed was some understanding of our youth—for we, too, were sometime young? Did we not inherit early Victorianism, which, the Gownsmen takes it, means serious very grim and snug and awful? Were not we, too, preached to and scolded for our untraditional manners? For the licenses of the cotillon and the German, an outcast banishment to cards and tobacco, for potations when potations were not legally a crime, and for our dreadful slang which, resuscitated now, is so much more antiquated than Chaucer? No, no, my young friend, you are not to experience life, however your dose of it has been much more concentrated than was ours. We, too, have lived, if all that is meant by the word is that which our youth escaped, the fates he praised, was just much.

LET us face the facts; this is a wicked old world and a foolish; and its wickedness and its folly are not to any one time of life or to any one generation. It is the tale of one continuous sprinting event between the wrongdoer and the long arm of the law, and for a large part, the tale of the tip of the iceberg, the tip of the iceberg. What we do not escape is the irrevocability of the effects of our acts upon us. We may tear down our coat of arms, we may burn our own religion, we may throw down the barriers of our conduct, throw reticence, civility and a part of our decency to the winds; it is only we who suffer the punishment. We cannot escape our religious and moral obligations. We may throw down the barriers of our conduct, throw reticence, civility and a part of our decency to the winds; it is only we who suffer the punishment. We cannot escape our religious and moral obligations.

INDEED, each generation is responsible to the next and it could scarcely be otherwise. We who were grown to ante-bellum days will soon go our way, leaving to these "wild young people" their inheritance, buildings and ruins alike. The one hopeful thought is that the young will be wiser than we. It is his recognition, his zeal for work, his long ago declared that work was worship. The Gownsmen would humbly suggest in such an august presence, that we shall have the right to be left alone without odium theologum our only salvation. Wherefore let the young folk jangle that recreates them for the work of the day. Let them be left to pay their employees a rather generous wage with current economic conditions. It is the multiplication of new offices and fancy experiments which is subversive of ordinary justice.

Russian peasants, by ignoring bolshevism, are keeping it alive; but, by and by, they will kill it. If Italy catches the Russian madness it will probably demonstrate the futility of bolshevism before the Russian peasantry gets round to it; for Italy cannot live without the products of the outside world, and the first involuntary move of the scourge is to paralyze commerce.

Young men in the Chicago stockyards, according to reports given out at a current wage hearing, wear silk shirts that sometimes set each other back not less than \$18. In Washington the city fathers are patronized exclusively by women who give up half of their space and attention to them. The dreadful consequences of the war seem endless.

Insurance underwriters report that 11,000,000 people are hurt in accidents in this country each year, while 105,000 are killed. Speed has its uses. But it costs pretty heavily.

"When is a woman old?" asks the Board of Education. The answer is easy. A woman is never old until she loses interest in the movies.

The only failure which any political party is ever eager to acknowledge is the failure to collect funds.

There is nothing quite so chilling to self-respecting intelligence as the heat of a political campaign.

The earthquake zone is grimly classifiable as the temperate.



NOW MY IDEA IS THIS!

Daily Talks With Thinking Philadelphians on Subjects They Know Best

DR. CHARLES K. MILLS On "Sleeping Sickness"

THE SO-CALLED "sleeping sickness" disease which has been prominently in the news during the last few months has some connection with Spanish influenza and grip, and can generally be found to follow closely after epidemics of the latter, according to Dr. Charles K. Mills, prominent Philadelphia neurologist, who has himself handled a number of cases of the strange disease.

Doctor Mills emphasized two points particularly in commenting on "sleeping sickness" or "endemic encephalitis" as it is called in the scientific world. One is the fact that the disease is not by any means a new one, and the second is that it is not to be confused with the real "sleeping sickness," which is common only to Africa.

"The connection between 'sleeping sickness' and influenza is almost certain, although there is probably no positive proof. It may be that the influenza poison so reduces the resistance of the individual that the encephal can get to work."

"At any rate, there has been no overwhelming increase of rate, but people have just begun to notice the disease which has caused its recent publicity. There is, by the way, a kindred disease called 'noma,' which has lethargic symptoms very similar to this. The disease, as you know, in this city is pretty well scattered over the earth's surface, and, let me say right here, it has shown no alarming increase."

"It can be treated, the main theory being to keep the patient mentally and physically quiet and to use drugs to reduce the inflammation. The public should be told about the disease, but there is not the slightest alarm over it."

A charity guest at one of New York's municipal lodging houses has just died, leaving an estate of \$125,000. Here was evidently a man who did not let his right hand know what his left hand stowed away.

Not African Disease "It is best to speak of it by its pathological name as 'endemic encephalitis,' with such a qualifying statement as 'with left hand' is not desirable to call it 'sleeping sickness,' despite the fact that it is accompanied by the accustomed somnolence because, when doctors and pathological biologists refer to 'sleeping sickness' they refer to the well-known disease of Africa, which is always fatal, occurring over large areas and discovered to be due to the poisonous tsetse fly.

"Just as some kinds of mosquitoes carry the malarial germ and spread disease by biting men and animals, so this tsetse fly carries the germ of the 'sleeping sickness,' and the disease of that name in Africa is now known to be due to one particular form of germ, the 'trypanosome,' carried by this fly, whereas the disease occurring here and in England is known not to be produced by this particular form of germ. Just what does cause it has not yet been exactly determined."

"The lethargy in this disease is of a peculiar type in most cases, as the patient is not continuously somnolent or lethargic, but can be aroused temporarily, only to sink back again."

"Those interested in tracing the disease know that it may assume various forms, sometimes misleading. The clinical form of the disease is dependent at bottom on the part of the nervous system which is attacked by the inflammation coming from the original poison. A great many cases are lethargic because the midbrain is attacked with the inflammatory disease which arrests impressions and stimuli from the outside world."

"The midbrain, it may be explained, is situated between the spinal cord and the higher regions of the brain and is the place where the various nerve-tracts and centers for cranial nerves are located."

Shows Many Forms "There are other symptoms than lethargy, however, all according to the part of the brain attacked. The disease may attack any part of the brain or spinal cord, causing locally or spreading over large areas. It may come as a palsy of the nerves of the head and face, all dependent on just what parts of the brain are inflamed."

"It may come in a form very much like infantile paralysis, or, on the other hand, it may come, and I have seen such cases, in such a form that the patient exhibits catalepsy, and even insane manifestations."

SHORT CUTS

Pharaoh's daughter has nothing on New Hampshire. Come to think of it, the greatest pessimist in the world is the cynical optimist.

Perhaps the candidates are holding their very best arguments until the last minute. There are as many thrills in the present presidential campaign as in a game of checkers.

Tomstone literature in the work of pessimists who believe that all the good men are dead. It would appear that the sanity of a public utility contract depends entirely on whose ox is gored.

La Follette has lost Wisconsin. Full congratulations for the state are withheld until Wisconsin has lost La Follette. Judging by the number of investigating committees in existence, the sovereign citizen considers himself monarch of all he surveys.

That Italy should be the victim of earthquakes and bolshevism seems to clinch the old-time assertion that misfortune never comes singly. While there is no wild scramble to adopt the baby bond, there is no reason to suppose that the little protege of the schools will be homeless.

The United States special livestock commissioner to Argentina is a commercial diplomat with powers that may eventually reach the American dinner table. One of the most wholesome things that can happen to a man is for him to discover when he returns from his vacation that no body knew he had been away.

"It pays to wait for the right man," says a Baltimore applicant of seventy who has just married. "His a Sunday at least characterized by more patience than progeny."

Banking commissions for floating railroad bonds have risen from half of 1 per cent to 3/4 per cent. A man who has been a member, traveled exactly the same road but in the opposite direction.

The Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce in Washington has on display a suit, American in make, that shows a suit of that kind would make a man feel like thirty cents. The League of Women Voters has recommended to the county commissioners that better places than cigar stores and barber shops be used as voting places. Why not substitute military stores and cream parlors—a frivolous suggestion, by the way, which in no way ignores the evils the ladies wish to correct.

Brooklyn street-car men say they are striking for the right to arbitrate guaranteed by the company in August, 1919. Competent legal authorities decide that this right was nullified by a superseding contract entered into in December, 1919. The possibility that a strike which has already caused loss of life and damage to property is wholly due to a misunderstanding is another excellent reason for the establishment of an industrial court—which this paper persistently advocated long before the idea met with general favor.

There has been some question how women voters shall give occupational description of themselves when they are engaged in an awful work and cannot be correctly classed as housekeepers. This last inhibition applies particularly to the wealthy woman who employs a housekeeper to manage her servants. It is true that she might use the abbreviation "gent." allied to the names of some male voters' surnames "gent." might well stand for gentleman as well as gentleman; but there are diplomatic objections of a social nature to the use of the word in this connection—the same objections, though somewhat modified, that make "lady" undesirable on assessment and registration lists. We, therefore, suggest "Home-keeper" as a term that might meet the need of the hour. "Home-keeper" is a term that might fitly be applied to most women, and it is one which all women should be proud to have applied to them.

What Do You Know?

QUIZ

- 1. What two states of the United States have "panhandles"?
2. Who was the most conspicuous and gifted early advocate of the policy of protection in the United States?
3. What was the first name of Huxley, the English biologist and philosopher?
4. In what terrible flood of modern times were a million people drowned?
5. How does tweed get its name?
6. What is a "vade mecum"?
7. What were werewolves in medieval mythology?
8. What was the Danish word without which the world would be a different place?
9. When did Hiram Johnson run for the vice presidency?
10. What was the name of the second voyage of Columbus?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

- 1. According to recent researches the word Dixie is a corruption of the French word for the Civil War the United States Citizens Bank of Louisiana followed the bills which were engraved with the name of the state known as Louisiana. Dixie and the term was later broadened to apply to all of the southern part of the nervous system which is attacked by the inflammation coming from the original poison. A great many cases are lethargic because the midbrain is attacked with the inflammatory disease which arrests impressions and stimuli from the outside world.
2. The midbrain, it may be explained, is situated between the spinal cord and the higher regions of the brain and is the place where the various nerve-tracts and centers for cranial nerves are located.
3. There are other symptoms than lethargy, however, all according to the part of the brain attacked. The disease may attack any part of the brain or spinal cord, causing locally or spreading over large areas. It may come as a palsy of the nerves of the head and face, all dependent on just what parts of the brain are inflamed.
4. It may come in a form very much like infantile paralysis, or, on the other hand, it may come, and I have seen such cases, in such a form that the patient exhibits catalepsy, and even insane manifestations.
5. The lethargy in this disease is of a peculiar type in most cases, as the patient is not continuously somnolent or lethargic, but can be aroused temporarily, only to sink back again.
6. Those interested in tracing the disease know that it may assume various forms, sometimes misleading. The clinical form of the disease is dependent at bottom on the part of the nervous system which is attacked by the inflammation coming from the original poison. A great many cases are lethargic because the midbrain is attacked with the inflammatory disease which arrests impressions and stimuli from the outside world.
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