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Philadelphia, Monday, December 6, 1920

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 convention hall.
A building for the Free Library.
An Art Museum.
Enlargement of the water supply.
Homes to accommodate the population.

STREET-REPAIR OBLIGATIONS

THE "jitney squad" method of street repair is to be welcomed, but not entirely without reservations. The emergency system will, it is said, insure immediately the filling up of holes and bad ruts in the roadbed almost as soon as reported. The fast work, however, will necessarily be superficial. This newest plan will serve admirably unless the meaning of the terms permanent and temporary should become confused.

It is imperative that the durability of swift repairs should not be too severely tested. Patched-up streets will do for an emergency, and that is all.

Happily the chances that this sort of thing will prevail are reduced by the prospect that the new asphalt plant on Green street wharf will be completed next month. Beginning next January a general overhauling of the streets is promised. The speedy emergency work should be considered as merely incidental to the main undertaking, which, after a season of neglect, is one of the largest of its kind on which the city has set late years embarked.

ASSESSMENT ABSURDITIES

THE absurdity of a law the infraction of which may be regarded as in the nature of a public service is palpable. The December assessment of voters is a case in point.

Two hundred assessors have failed to take out books for this particular survey. Should the places of these officials be unfilled no harm would be done and a considerable sum of money would be saved.

The enumeration of voters at this time is an anachronism. The February election has been abandoned. Another assessment will precede the next opportunity of the voters to register on any one of the three set days next fall. But the law calls for the December fooslishness and new assessors will proceed solemnly to the performance of an utterly useless task.

Late last summer after the ratification of the woman suffrage amendment, an assessment, necessary under the law, was on the whole carelessly conducted. At this moment, when the inconsequentiality of the work can scarcely be questioned, it is probable that a futile scrutiny will be most thoroughly made.

Chief blame attaches to the statutes of Pennsylvania, in which assessment and registration regulations overlap and render a simple affair needlessly confused and tangled. Fortunately, the recent commissioners, the registration commissioners and the legislative committee on the City Charter are alive to these conditions and as soon as the 1921 body [illegible] meeting of these bodies [illegible] a revision of the state election laws.

The assessment system as it now operates is obviously antiquated. Either it should be abandoned altogether or it should be fitted to the present registration laws and election dates.

The last Legislature was so intent on dovetailing a "ripper" charter in a few unimportant changes in the personal registration rules that the main inconsistencies were ignored. Not the least of the duties of the coming Assembly should be a definite reconstruction of the laws respecting the qualifications of voters and the establishment of a long-needed harmony [illegible].

SCENERY FOR CLUBLAND

THE [illegible] enthusiasm [illegible] boom [illegible] or so ago.

[illegible] Clubs [illegible] memories [illegible] backwater [illegible] there [illegible] fence and [illegible] covered [illegible] None [illegible] in antique [illegible] It may [illegible] that the old [illegible] pendence [illegible] is inconsistent [illegible] to the [illegible].

The [illegible] the windows [illegible] between Walnut [illegible] order and [illegible] rectory [illegible] the [illegible] in the [illegible] comparatively [illegible] be revised.

Philadelphia streets have long been criticized for [illegible]. The [illegible] scenery will [illegible] change.

THREE THAT STOOD

IF MINORITIES are, as Matthew Arnold maintained, almost invariably on the right side of a question, the remarkable virtue of Columbia, Greene and Monroe counties, Pennsylvania, is indisputable. For this terrified trio of political divisions alone within this commonwealth cast majorities of votes last month for James M. Cox and Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Reasoning in the Arnoldian fashion, the consolation of rectitude is theirs. The flaw in this philosophy, however, lies in the considerable difficulty in convincing the vast multitudes steeped in triumphant error.

What the three lone Democratic sections of the state are going to do about it is not easy to prophesy. The margins of victory over Republicanism were slight. Adding together the party totals in the three counties, it is revealed that the excess of Democratic votes was but 2189.

A stout spirit is needed to derive satisfaction from these figures. Berks, Sullivan and Elk counties, formerly Democratic strongholds, turned iconoclastic, forswore their old allegiance and lined up in the Republican columns.

Pennsylvania, following the most remarkable landslide in its history, is fast assuming the aspect of a place without minorities. It is permissible to wonder whether an unchampioned cause can be right.

PRESIDENTS MOVE FROM PRECEDENT TO PRECEDENT

The Nature of Their Annual Messages and the Conditions of Their Delivery Have Changed With the Years

THE country will be pleased to know that President Wilson has so far recovered his health that he thinks himself strong enough to appear before Congress in person tomorrow to deliver his annual message or address. His family, it is true, do not wish him to subject himself to the nervous strain involved. We are likely to know today whether the advice of the family is to prevail. But whether he goes to the Capitol tomorrow or not, there is no doubt that his physical condition is much better than it was two or three months ago. It is important, however, that he should husband his strength in order that he may prolong his life until he has written the record of the momentous years of his presidency, a task which it is understood he has set himself.

As a matter of fact, whether he goes to the Capitol in person tomorrow or goes by message is of slight importance. The country got along for more than a hundred years without suffering any inconvenience from the custom established by Thomas Jefferson when he decided not to follow the example of Washington and John Adams, who delivered an annual address to Congress at its opening session.

It is generally believed that the influence of British custom was responsible for the appearance of Washington before the first session of the first Congress. The king delivered an address from the throne at the assembling of Parliament and the Lords and Commons made a formal reply to it. So, although we did not have a king, we had an official head of the nation who was commissioned by the constitution to inform Congress of the state of the union and to make recommendations, and it was considered fitting that he should appear in person.

Washington addressed Congress eight times and the Senate and the House of Representatives each time prepared a reply to the address, the receipt of which the President formally acknowledged. John Adams followed his example and the two houses of Congress continued to adapt their annual reply to the annual address.

Then came Thomas Jefferson. He had to deliver his inaugural address on March 4, 1801, but when Congress met in December he sent a note to the president of the Senate along with his first communication to Congress. He explained that as the circumstances under which they found themselves rendered it inconvenient to continue the practice of making "by personal address the first communications between the legislative and executive branches," he had adopted that by message, and he reminded the president of the Senate that his predecessors had communicated by message save at the opening of the session. He explained that he adopted this course out of regard to the convenience of the legislature, to the economy of their time and "to their relief from the embarrassment of immediate answers on subjects not yet fully before them."

These were the reasons assigned by Jefferson. If we believe tradition they may better be described as pretexts. Jefferson was shy and retiring. He did not have the voice or presence of a public speaker, and it is said that he shrank from addressing Congress. If he had had oratorical gifts it is generally believed that he would have continued the custom set by Washington and followed by Adams. But he was personally acquainted with Benjamin Franklin and had doubtless heard that wise old philosopher express his thankfulness that man had the gift of reason, as it enabled him to find a reason for anything he wished to do.

President Wilson revived the ancient custom. He is a graceful and persuasive speaker, and he knows that a well spoken word carries more weight than a written document. Further, by addressing Congress in person he assured himself that every congressman was informed about what he had to say, and better informed than he would have been if a message had been sent to be read by a clerk.

Whether the plan has commended itself to Congress [illegible] after Mr. Harding takes [illegible]. He has been in the Senate [illegible] greater part of Mr. Wilson's term, and he is aware of the effect [illegible] the appearance of the President at the Capitol has had upon the national legislators. It [illegible] his friends believe that it has been good he will continue the practice, but if [illegible] think that all needful ends will be served by reverting to the custom of Taft and Roosevelt and Jackson and Jefferson he will send his annual communication by a messenger and it will be read in the two houses separately.

The nature of the communication which President Wilson is to make to Congress [illegible]. It is [illegible] that it will differ radically [illegible] communications of Grant and [illegible] the Presidents before and after [illegible] the habit of sending [illegible].

The constitution directs the President to [illegible] Congress of the state of the union. [illegible] followed literally for [illegible] years. Washington, of course, [illegible] first addresses [illegible] as the [illegible] followed. [illegible] the annual messages of the Presidents contained a summary of the history of the national government for the preceding year. There was [illegible] the President himself was interested in, followed by a consideration of the reports of the [illegible] cabinet. [illegible] the cabinet officers made [illegible] to the consideration of [illegible]. [illegible] these messages [illegible] of the foreign relations of the United States, the story of the development of the army and the navy, an exposition of the financial affairs of the country, the story of the beginning and growth of national appropriations for [illegible] and an account of the [illegible] of the postal service from small beginnings.

Grover Cleveland disregarded precedent when he devoted the whole of one of his annual messages to a discussion of the tariff question and to a demand for its consideration by Congress. The Republicans [illegible] his tariff recommendations [illegible] of his request to inform Congress of the state of the union. [illegible] the same kind of comment to which President Wilson was subjected when he made his first address to Congress. Cleveland survived the criticism, and his successors, who saw how effective a message could be made that took a positive position on a subject and left Congress to get its information of routine business from the reports of the cabinet officers, have almost universally adopted his plan.

The annual message of the type prepared by Grant and Hayes has gone out of fashion. Roosevelt delivered himself of long homilies. If he referred to the reports of the cabinet officers, it was to urge Congress in most emphatic language to adopt their recommendations.

President Wilson's first address to Congress, delivered at the opening of the special session in April, 1913, was devoted exclusively to the subject of the tariff. He attacked the policy of protection as it was applied and demanded that we abolish everything that bore the semblance of privilege "and put our business men and producers under the stimulation of a constant necessity to be efficient, economical and enterprising, masters of competitive supremacy, better workers and merchants than any in the world." The address recalled Cleveland's precedent-breaking pronouncement.

But it may be said that this was not an "annual communication." Mr. Wilson's first "annual" address to Congress, at the opening of its regular session in December, specifically refers the legislators to the reports of the cabinet officers, and then proceeds to discuss the Mexican situation, the need for new banking and currency laws, provision for rural credits, the revision of the anti-trust laws, the conditions in the Philippines, Porto Rico and Alaska, and the need for an employers' liability law for the protection of railroad workers. He made affirmative recommendations on all these subjects while saying nothing about the state of the union.

His succeeding addresses have been of a like character. And it is morally certain that he will deliver himself tomorrow of another message or address, as the case may be, which is built after the new fashion.

Whatever it contains it will be read with care, both to discover the extent to which the mind of the President has recovered its virility and to learn just how he has adjusted himself to the conditions with which he is confronted at home and abroad.

SOME GENEVAN TANGLES

THE attempt of Charles J. Doherty, a Canadian delegate at Geneva, to have the much-debated Article X dropped from the league covenant should be pleasing to thousands of Americans. In this country objection to the charter of international partnership centered chiefly in what was felt to be the mandatory nature of the clause relating to the territorial integrity of nations and threats or danger of aggression.

But there has just now entered into the situation a factor which renders the latest current of opinion at the league headquarters somewhat confusing. In response to a question raised by the president of Switzerland, the committee on the admission of new states has undertaken to define explicitly the meaning of Article X. According to the text of this official interpretation, "It cannot be too strongly stated that Article X does not guarantee the territorial integrity of any member of the league. All it does is to condemn external aggression on territorial integrity and the political independence of any member of the league, and to call upon the council to consider what can be done to resist such aggression."

This analysis, if valid, unquestionably leaves certain commentators on the league, friendly and unfriendly, in a curious position. If Article X is not, after all, the heart of the covenant, if it is a pledge for deliberation rather than action, what is to be thought of the emphasis of Mr. Wilson and others on the coercive vitality of the provision?

On the other hand, if its alleged "teeth" are nonexistent, was Republican objection directed against pretensions made by a rival political party rather than against a menacing fact? And furthermore, if the article is so innocuous, why are some of the league delegates themselves so anxious for its extinction?

Moreover, it was pointed out some time ago, and especially by ex-Senator Rublee, of New Hampshire, that Article X was but a declarative preparation for a much more significant feature of the covenant, Article XVI. In this section the responsibilities of the league members regarding refractory nations is clearly outlined. The method of the economic blockade is explained, and in case of its failure as a penalty the war obligations of the next situation are set forth. It may prove, indeed that Article X has been overadvertised.

Assuming, however, that Article X, whether rightly or wrongly, is still held to be the offending coercive feature of the league, the amendment campaign will be well worth watching, if only because of the light it is bound to shed on the actual machinery of the league.

That Mr. Doherty's action must be embarrassing to those champions of the league who have intimated that Europe was entirely satisfied with it is undeniable. But the passage of the resolution would not guarantee an effective amendment.

Article XXVI is brief but highly important. "Amendments to this covenant," runs the text, "will take effect when ratified by the members of the league whose representatives compose the council and by a majority of the members of the league whose representatives compose the assembly." In other words, although revision may be initiated in one of the league's two bodies, the eight nations represented in the council and the forty-odd with delegates in the assembly must take unanimous action. The withdrawal of the Argentine delegates from the assembly may be due, in addition to the specific causes given, to a sudden realization of this fact.

The case is somewhat similar to that of the states of the American Union regarding constitutional amendments. Obviously, therefore, amending the league cannot be a swift process, a fact which, among others, may serve to explain why the special committee by its interpretation so promptly proceeded to take the alleged offense out of an existing article.

CABLE TWISTING

THE impression that the current cable conference promised a reasonable way out of an inconvenient situation resulting from the war is rudely dispelled by the announcement from Washington that the American Government has about reached the limit of its concessions.

What these are is not yet revealed, but that the general attitude of the United States on this subject is in accord with public sentiment can hardly be doubted. The seizure by the British and French of the German cables during the war was plainly a legitimate protective measure. At the time the United States was forced to tolerate the doctoring and censorship of news from abroad.

But the return of peace altogether alters the complexion of the case. It is preposterous that such control over messages, or rather the opportunity to exercise it, should exist now.

The American contention on behalf of cable rights is based upon a sound understanding of protective rights. It is sincerely to be hoped that no final disposition of the affair will be made until a substantial measure of wire freedom on this side of the ocean has been secured.

Captain Horween, of the Harvard football team, won every toss for position during the season, a curious sidelight on "the law of chance." If the chances are fifty-fifty for heads or tails at the first toss they will, of course, remain fifty-fifty for every succeeding throw regardless of previous results. But there isn't a gamester in the world who believes it.

AS ONE WOMAN SEES IT

Woman and Her Pedestal Expertly Discussed Following a Straight Talk on Politics by the Mayor and His Directors

By SARAH D. LOWRIE

THAT was a very good idea of Mrs. George Dunning's and Mayor Moore's, that conference between the executives of the city and the organized political women of the city!

It let in light on a number of hitherto darkened corners. I should say the Mayor and his directors saw light, and the open-minded among the women saw light; that is, they saw the difficulties of the political situation of the city government, as well as the opportunities, in a somewhat clearer medium than heretofore.

The reason I know that the Mayor and his directors saw light is that they talked business. They just waded in and gave facts without palaver. As some one remarked, they talked across, not over or down. Which was a relief, for most of the women who were there were persons of affairs, who were not there to be complimented or to compliment.

THE pedestal about which we used to hear so much, and which the fearful-minded among the antis set up as a kind of altar before which they were wont to croon and to lament Cassandrawise, has evidently been removed to the scrap heap of the centuries. Never again will any early Victorian figure have to pose sweetly and complacently upon it.

It did a good deal of harm in its day—that pedestal! It deceived a lot of persons. There was a kind of man that enjoyed placing women on it and then going off and forgetting them. There was a kind of women who rather fancied herself on it. It gave her an advantage with some men over other women.

Men were always threatening to stop giving women seats in cars if they dared get off of it, but, impatient souls that they are, they could not wait for women to actually take up the dare before they tried out the penalty. They stopped giving women seats in cars whether they stayed on or got off the pedestal, if they felt too tired to rise or could look the other way, or did not know the woman.

IN A remote little village in the Adirondacks it once fell to the lot of a woman I know to teach the men and boys proper manners toward the women and girls of the little place.

By some Colonial tradition now lost, it was not the custom among the men to be polite to their women. They had lost any semblance of a greeting on the street, and they never took off their hats.

After much probing the woman who had undertaken the job discovered that the men and boys did not understand the significance of removing the hat while greeting a woman. They thought such an attention subservient and even silly. It was as foolish to them as kneeling down to a king would seem to most Americans.

After a good deal of amusing propaganda, the women got it into their stubborn, prejudiced heads that it was not because a girl was pretty or a woman was good or worthy or thought herself important—it was that all women were in a sense the potential mothers of the race, and as such deserved the respect and homage of their men. Every man because of his own mother took off his hat to her sex!

IT STRUCK me that the Mayor and his cabinet were fully awake to the fact that they had in that great gathering of women a new political force of great potential value because it was vitally interested in the results of their labors from the viewpoint of the mothers of the race, not as pedestal ladies!

As though to illustrate it and confirm it now and again, one could hear the voice of a child in the great room. One mother near me had a sleeping baby in her arms.

Nothing that was discussed but was pertinent to that little child's future.

In fact, I found myself listening to the directors' reports with that child, and all the others that had been left at home or were at school, in my mind.

THE Mayor seemed relieved, I thought, to further ventilate his views on the hampering provisions of the civil service laws in the matter of getting rid of an undesirable official.

It was like getting a mistake on a monthly bill corrected in the department of accounts at a department store. The machinery is meant to do, not to undo.

He was also glad to throw light on the success he had had in balking the shyster lawyers who have gathered in harvests from damages against the city because of accidents due, or claimed to be due, from ill-paved streets. He gave a very pretty acknowledgment to his predecessor, Mayor Blankenburg, for the care and particularity he showed in signing contracts—or rather, in studying contracts and seeing to their correctness before signing. Indeed, the present Mayor gave us to understand that the tradition of Mr. Blankenburg's probity in this respect, as well as others, was still sacred in the departments.

FINDING his audience sincerely interested in all the things he was, the Mayor—always speaking in the third person, but never overstepping the mark by the editorial "we"—then informed his hearers what he was not: for instance, a member of the Board-of-Education, or one of the assessors of taxes. The last two bits of information must have been very disappointing to two-thirds of his fellow citizens in that assembly, since if he is shorn of power in these two directions Mr. Gratz, who is both assessor and head of the Board of Education, holds an almost portentous balance of power.

I do not know if Mr. Gratz was seeable by the guests of the Mayor, as I had to leave after Mr. Caven, director of public works, and Dr. Furbush, director of public health, had made their admirable and comprehensive reports and before the other directors were introduced. I know that a committee of women has tried to see or to communicate with Mr. Gratz relative to the use of the school buildings for community purposes, but he will neither see nor hear them.

It would be an interesting question whether this attitude is due to his ignorance of their very reasonable wishes in the matter or a misapprehension of his own powers as a trustee of the people's property.

ON THE whole, after the day's experience of the Mayor's good faith toward the public and his directors' evident ability to make good his promises, one could wish that one of his cabinet and an appointee was the director of public education.

Mr. Gratz might find scope for his marked energy in valuing property with a mind at leisure for the tax rate if he let some one else mind school.

"Two Love in the First Set"

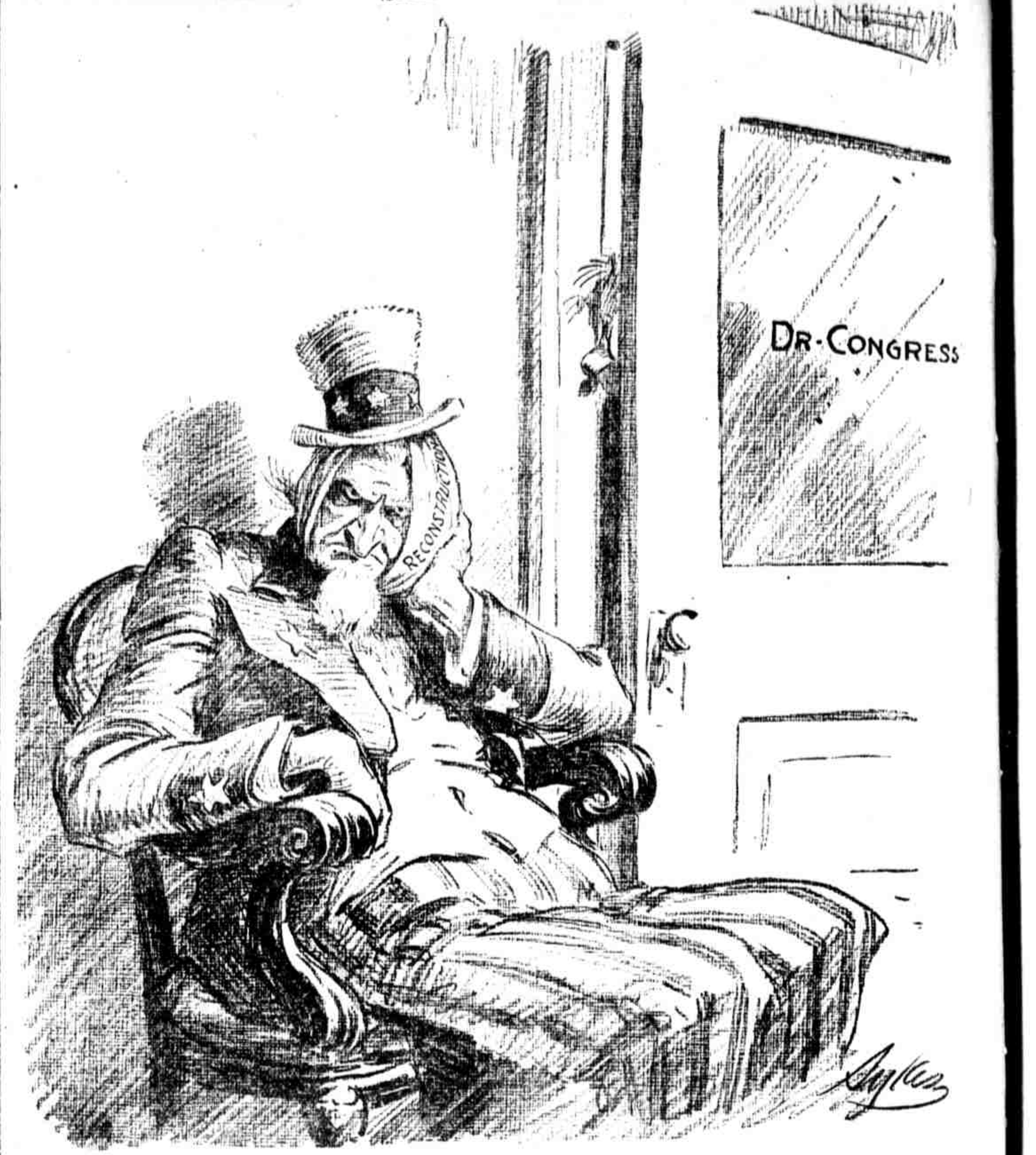
LITTLE Dolly Dennis
Was so very keen on tennis
That she entered for a tournament
At Somewhere-by-the-Sea;
She was only a beginner
But was thought a certain winner
By her father, mother, sister, brother—
All her fami-lee.

But alas, for her ambition!
A superior tactician
In the first round she encountered
And—great heavens and power above!—
Poor little Dolly Dennis
Found her garden-party tennis
Wasn't up to the occasion
And went out "six-love, six-love!"

Yet, though her hopes were blighted
She was very much delighted
With the glowing admiration
Of her partner in the "mixed";
Who fell such a willing victim
To her charms, that Dolly picked him
For all subsequent engagements—
And the wedding day is fixed!

—London Mail.

STILL WAITING



NOW MY IDEA IS THIS!

Daily Talks With Thinking Philadelphians on Subjects They Know Best

DR. EDGAR A. SINGER

On the Progress We Have Made

IN THE midst of two thousand or more years of civilization and untold years of existence, the world war, the greatest cataclysm in history, has set many to asking the question, "What progress have we made?" Dr. Edgar A. Singer, professor of philosophy at the University, asked the question, reminds us that in all philosophical discussion we must, as Plato says, "seem to ramble," even though our thought be definite.

However, for the guidance of the uninitiated he develops several philosophical findings, which he says for basic purposes we might use as conclusions.

He holds that in order to determine whether or not we have progressed we must first define progress. Having done that, we must seek the direction in which it lies and then move toward it, no matter how great the distance to the goal.

"The measure of progress," finds Dr. Singer, "is the measure of man's co-operation with man in the conquest of nature. Essentially having one common aim, happiness and contentment, we find two elements within ourselves, or, to put it more generally, there are two parties—those who would achieve their ends by war and those who would find the same result in peace. Probably we must recognize both as necessary, but we should seek a rival worthy of our steel. Why should individuals and nations quarrel with each other for slight material advantages, when there is so much greater an adversary from whom there is so much more to be gained? Why, like the two children, fight for the penny on the ground at the mouth of the cave, when there are such infinite treasures to be found within?"

But let us follow Dr. Singer's advice and ramble whimsically with him:

"We little realize," he said, "until we have met them socially, how engaging the manners of cannibals can be. It is unfortunate that so many obstacles lie in the way of our making their better acquaintance—they live so far out of town for one thing, and for another are so clannish a set that only occasionally is one of our sort welcomed to their inner circles.

"Herman Melville, who safely returned some years ago from their welcoming arms, finds something very winning about the lives of these people.

"The lives of the Types are cast in pleasant places. Dwelling on an enchanted island in the Pacific, the asperities which civilization seems rather to have aggravated than softened do not roughen their way. They toil not to cover what nature has conceived in innocence, and spin but lightly to adorn what nature has fashioned fair. Little thought do they take on their housing. Yet the morals of these people do not seem to have been so far below our standards as their benighted condition might lead us to expect.

No Rogues in Types

"'There seemed,' said Melville, 'to be no rogues of any sort in Types. In the darkest nights the natives slept securely with all their worldly wealth around them. The dispiriting thought of theft and assassination never disturbed them. There was not a padlock in the valley.'

"I had gone so far in my readings of Melville, and was beginning to wonder in the back of my head what a Types introduced into our civilization could find to say of us half as pleasant as the things their guest had noted of them, when I recalled that another had long ago put the like question to himself when the New World was very much newer than it is now. At that time, in a country surnamed Antarctic France, there dwelt a people of cannibals, the very counterpart (as I judge) of our friends the Types. Montaigne records that three of these people were at Rouen in the reign of King Charles IX. The king, after talking with them at length, showed them the wonders of the city and comment was demanded. Montaigne was particularly impressed with one answer in which they said, as he records it: 'They had perceived there were men among us full gorged with all sorts of commodities and others which, hunger-starved and bare with need and poverty, begged at their gates; and found it strange these moieties so needy could endure such an injustice and that they took not the others by the throat or set fire to their houses.'

"Montaigne in his reflections says: 'There is no reason why art should gain the point of honor over our puissant mother Nature. We have so much by our invention surcharged the beauties and riches of her works that we have altogether choked her, yet wherever her purity shineth she maketh our vain and frivolous enterprises wonderfully ashamed.'

"Referring to the so-called barbarous nations, he says: 'What in these nations we see by experience doth not only exceed all the pictures wherewith licentious poesy hath proudly embellished the Golden Age. It is a nation that hath no kind of traffic, no knowledge of letters, no name of magistrate nor of political priority, no use of service, of riches or of poverty, no occupation but idle, no respect of kindred but common, no apparel but natural, no measuring of lands, no use of wine, corn or metal. The very words that import lying, falsehood, treason, dissimulation, covetousness, envy, detraction and pardon were never found among them. How dissonant would he find his imaginary commonwealth from this perfection?'

"In winning the prize offered by the Academy of Dijon on the question 'Whether the progress of the arts and sciences had contributed to the corruption or to the purification of life?' Rousseau wrote: 'One cannot reflect on the ways of life without finding pleasure in recalling the image of its first simplicity.'

"It is natural that certain conditions arising out of the progress of science should make gentle souls anxious for what is to come. Science is power, and as no man can commit the sins he is impotent to commit, there is a certain safeguard in ignorance. Yet must man go on gathering unto himself knowledge with all its power for harm, and no warning gesture of the fearful can stay him.

"But I am dreaming a dream and one should not forget how to laugh the while. Yes, I know, the stars are rather big for our little hands to play with, even as all Nature once played with us.

"As time went on that Nature which had been so cruel and capricious became, through man's science, more and more his slave. A Greek slave called to his fellows: 'Why call ye upon the gods? Ye have hands; wipe your own nose.'

"Let us dream then and laugh with Aesop at his frog. It is certain that neither our laughter nor our dreams can hurt our worldly wise neighbor very much, and if we go the toilsome way toward the conquest we dream of, he or one that comes after may some time look back on us and say, 'Yes, that was progress!'"

What Do You Know?

QUIZ

1. Who said "The world's mine oyster"?
2. What is the number of the Congress which sits until the end of the Democratic administration?
3. What is the correct pronunciation of the word Bolshevik?
4. How many Presidents have read their annual messages to Congress?
5. What was the name of the last tariff act passed by the Republicans?
6. How many children of Henry VIII ascended the throne of England and what were their names?
7. Who were the two great liberators of South America?
8. When did the Boxer uprisings in China occur?
9. What is a nenuphar?
10. What is the literal meaning of the word Mediterranean?

Answers to Saturday's Quiz

1. An espalier is latticework on which trees or shrubs are trained; also a tree so trained.
2. The Daily Courant was the first British newspaper. It was begun on March 11, 1702.
3. Heraclitus was a celebrated Greek philosopher of the sixth century, B. C., and is regarded as the founder of metaphysics. Because of the lonely life he led and from the extreme profundity of his philosophy, and because of his contempt for mankind in general, he was called the "weeping philosopher," in contrast to Democritus, the "laughing philosopher."
4. The senators from Pennsylvania are Boies Penrose and Philander C. Knox.
5. Admiral von Scheer commanded the German high seas fleet at the battle of Jutland.
6. Fjord should be pronounced as though it were spelled "fee-yord," with the accent on the last syllable.
7. Previous to the war Fiume was a possession of Hungary.
8. Blaise Pascal, the famous French philosopher, lived in the seventeenth century.
9. Two languages besides French, spoken by considerable elements of the population in France, are Breton and Provencal. The former is spoken in the extreme northwest and the latter in the south, especially in the Rhone valley.
10. Fort Monroe, not Fortress Monroe, is correct.

SHORT CUTS

The chariot of progress is now run by gasoline.

The assessors are at least demonstrating how not to do it.

Nineteen twenty has broken all records as a crime year.

It would appear that D'Annunzio's war refuses to function.

It looks as though Greece would have to pay dearly for her baubles.

It isn't always easy to bring home the bacon at sixty-five cents a pound.

The pocket nerve is the nerve most susceptible to woes that never happen.

"Fight hate with food!" urges Herbert Hoover. 'Tis a slogan that makes for world peace.

Looking regretfully at D'Annunzio Italy decides that she will first try choking him with butter.

When Jack Frost joins the party the front porch conference will adjourn to the front parlor in Marion.

When one politician says of another, "He is a good man, but—" the butt signifies that he may be the goat.

Socialism has received a severe blow in New York. Socialist legislators are to be allowed to take their seats without a fight.

Talk of a fund to aid Brindell suggests the thought that workingmen are as loyal to their enemies as they are to their friends.

Uncle Sam will do credit to himself by extending credit to Europe. Nor will such an act be pure altruism. Call it rather enlightened self-interest.

The fact that a Republican Vice President-elect mourns the passing of state rights is simply another indication that the old party lines have disappeared.

The President and his secretary are to write books when they leave the White House. Both are ready to give their enemies all the chances in the world.

A mail plane has traveled from Chicago to New York in five and a half hours. This gives Mr. Burleson an awful lot of time to waste between the aviation field and the postoffice.

Secretary Daniels has rescinded an order made in 1905 for simplified spelling in the navy. It is with pleasure that we record the latest of the secretary's great constructive measures. When he is "through" he wants to be "through" not "thru."

There is little comfort for the wets in the fact that only one-sixth of the physicians of New York state have applied for permits to prescribe liquor. But the strongest excuse for prohibition continues to be the saloons that fight it.

Brockton, Mass., supplies shoes for the world, but fifty of its children are unable to attend school because they are unshod. What's the matter with the town's Board of Trade? The price of fifty pairs of shoes would be cheap to kill a piece of publicity like that.

A New Yorker who recovered an overcoat which had been stolen from him doesn't know whether to be glad or not. The coat was traced to its owner by a letter it contained; but the letter was one his wife had given him to mail and which he forgot. Is the overcoat worth the explanations he will have to make?

With the passing of the coal passer, as a result of the introduction of oil as fuel on steamships, a picturesque feature of transatlantic travel will henceforth live only in literature. Weird and wonderful stories, few of them exaggerated, have been told of men working their passage in stokeholds; and the regulars, for the most part tough "blokes" from Liverpool and wiry little Welshmen from Cardiff, made a striking picture as they dumped the heavy cans of clinkers over the lee side at the end of their watch and later washed and dried their grimy faces and torsos with "sweat rags" that later served as neckerchiefs till shirts were donned immediately before (or after) "scoff."