

NIL DESPERANDUM



What Do You Know?

- QUIZ
1. How old is Thomas A. Edison?
2. What is the correct pronunciation of the word premier?
3. Who is the new Italian ambassador to the United States?
4. What is a cadenza?
5. What is the correct name for the island of Sicily?
6. For what was Vasco da Gama famed?
7. How high is Niagara Falls?
8. What is the name of the city in the state of New York?
9. What is the literal meaning of the word nihil?
10. Of what state is Boise City the capital?

Answers to Saturday's Quiz

- 1. Abraham Lincoln was born in Hardin county, Ky., in 1809.
2. Polarization is the modification of light, radiant heat, etc., so that the rays exhibit different properties on different sides. In figurative language polarization means the giving of a special meaning or unity of direction to an idea or word.
3. Jena, in the worst defeat ever sustained in the open field by Prussia.
4. The word chancellor is derived from the Latin cancellarius, a scribe or official stationed behind a lattice, bar or chapel of Roman law courts.
5. The United States, Mexico, Guatemala, Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Cuba, El Salvador, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Chile are the American republics.
6. "The Glorious Revolution" in England resulted in the overthrow of James II.
7. The word nihil is a Latin word which means nothing.
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10. Baltimore is called the Monumental City.

Punishing tilters

Newport News has ordered all tilters within its corporate limits to get out of town. One of the town's dealers refused a job at \$8 a day and sent his wife to the poorhouse. Under the new rule it will labor to support her or else deprive himself of the pleasures of his group of habitués. It was in Virginia that John Smith warned those who would not work that they should not eat, and official Virginia has not forgotten his sternly just rule.

True as Can Be

It is better to have the police asked if they are not overzealous in protecting us from the automobile than to have them find out why they did not capture big dragnets.

Where the Automobiles Go

From Cottages. Two-thirds of all the cars sold in 1920 went to users in agricultural districts. More than half of all the cars went to towns of less than 5000 people. The greatest increase in registration has been in the South.

A Poor Recommendation

One thing that should be about the idea of revising and amending the peace treaty is the hearty approval it is receiving from Count Bernstorff.

Consolation for California

Japan doesn't raise her because Canada has no welcome for her subjects. California may interpret the fact as a compliment to her climate.

The Chief Difficulty

From the Chicago Daily News. Doubtless all the world would be willing to let Russia work out its own economy, but it is to hold investigations of the political situation of Russia, which is the chief difficulty to work at anything.

A Sad Change

From the Milwaukee Sentinel. If Peter the Great and Frederick the Great could see Russia and Prussia now how the world would sweat!

Publication Note

From the Ohio State Journal. Perhaps as good an illustration as any of the difficulty of remaining in the public eye after once getting there is Ole Hansen.

A Word for Mellon

There is this to be said of Mellon: If there is a deficit of a billion or two in the Treasury Department he can pay it himself.

AS ONE WOMAN SEES IT

Pigs is Pigs and Hogs is Hogs, but Read This and You Will Think Better of the Family

By SARAH D. LOWRIE

MY FIRST demand as a child on visiting the country was to be taken to visit the pig pen. Dr. as I was wont to put it in plain English:

"Come on, let's tickle the pig!" This was generally accomplished in my youth by going to the top of the roof of the pen and leaning over and with a willow branch flicking the sow recurrently in the yard beneath. The roof was grassy and the sow would come up and sniff at the willow branch, but she would not climb the fence to escape.

I supposed after I had grown up that I should never again see any pig, except so to speak in the retrospect after they became pork and were set before me to eat, when I do and behold! one day during the war all these pigs were imported by the Government from most of our states and a slight danger that you might slide off into the pig yard, in which case you were told you might be shot by a soldier before you could wade out of the muck and climb the fence to escape.

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I never saw such pigs! They were red, they were clean, they were huge, they had perfect teeth, and they were the center of the farm. When they were in the center of the farm they rose and grunted approbation of themselves and of me. They lived in houses without sties and disposed in beds without muck; they ate huge sacks of breakfast foods prepared with fond care by lavish attendants. Their litters were worth bags of gold, and their birth and more and more as time went on.

There was a champion that lay recumbent from too much flesh that had taken him to the ground. He was a pig of the breed of breeding. Nothing that she bore was vulgarized into sausage or scrapple. All her offspring went to breeding other like into the hands of the farmer. The pig was a clever eye and reminded me of an old Irish nurse I once loved and who spoiled me on the quiet.

There were other things to look at on the farm: a dairy, a berry garden, and a vegetable garden and pastures and crops, besides the quarters for the farm unit of the pig and holding the pig. I knew the pig was a pig, though I knew the red were all they ought to be and that the land army girls would enjoy themselves and work hard.

Coming back to town with Mrs. Fritsche, I discovered, incidentally, that her husband was one of the firm of the automat restaurant and was in the line of the American automaton, and that her turning farmer and pig breeder had been a sort of harking back on her part to country things. She had looked on the farm as a sort of instinct handed down from her forebears, and had been for generations farmers of Chester valley. That is, she did it for recreation and not for money, and with country industry would garden or hunt or raise chickens. Only in her case she made the farm pay!

Since that experience I have followed the Berkshire pig, and I have discovered other pig farms ever nearer home: the Perryville farm, the farm of the late Mr. Ashton, besides those down near Wilmington belonging to the du Ponts, notably the one of Pierre du Pont.

From one of these, this enthusiasm there is to be a very notable Berkshire pig congress on the 10th, 17th and 18th of this month in the 17th Regiment Armory, Broad and Calloway streets. There will be sixty-four exhibitors will place before the public's delighted gaze some of their finest animals. No one is allowed to exhibit more than one pig, and the prize class is a very high one. I looked down the list of the wonders upon which we may feast our eyes and such names as Royal and the late Mr. Ashton, who is a very good pig breeder, which two, I think, are Mrs. Fritsche's.

She told me not long ago a funny and sad story of a prize sow she sent down to an exhibit in South America. The sow was a very fine one, and she went away down; five of her litter were born north of the equator and five south. Not long after the event a storm swept over the sow and her litter, and she was the same of the exhibits overboard. Indeed, the man in charge of her feared that she was lost, when lo and behold! as the water receded she was found wedged tightly against the rail with her back to the incoming waves and protesting and, indeed, suckling her litter, of which by some feat of agility she had managed to save all but two.

I was told that this sow and the whole North American exhibit were photographed in the movies down in South America, and their dignified perambulations are to be thrown on the screen as part of the program of the meeting of the congress. I looked over the rest of the program and saw that Dean C. F. Curtis, who is head of the great agricultural college in Iowa called Ames College, is to make a speech, as is also another Iowa farmer, Kenyon. We know a little about Iowa, or at least we know a little about Kenyon, who is the senator in this quiet town, but that is not saying they are not well known in the world of farmers, and it is interesting to know that the department of Washington well known. He will speak on the science of breeding. P. D. Elliott, of Piping Brook Farms, is to make a speech on the pig, and his subject sounds sociological, "Loyalty to the Herd."

From our own agricultural college at the State College, Prof. Tomlinson is to come down and do his great scientific stunt of cutting up a hog. He cuts one half one way and the other half the other way. The real action of the hog is on the last afternoon, at 1 o'clock, and the speaker was told that one of the greatest authorities in the world on hogs is to be there—E. Z. Russell, chief of the U. S. A. Swine Department.

SOME ONE asked me the other day: "Why Berkshires? Aren't they breeds of mixed blood?" I said: "No, they are not. Well, I know about it, the Berkshire is a kind hog and a healthy feeder and a good breeder and not so heavy a feeder as some of the other breeds. It is a pig that is friendly with a Berkshire, and yet in the end he gives you more sausages for your money. But I will know ever more about him next week."

English as She Is Taught. The cost of living has gone up in India, too. An Indian teacher put in for a raise in salary in a letter which read in the following: "It is possible that I may have an increased compendium, and I find it difficult to glide my days peacefully on the herby mentioned amount."

The Floating Cherry. A national legislator recently said in a speech: "There was a time when the cherry was a necessity. Floating over the top of an old-fashioned cocktail, it was both soothing and inviting. Powerful liquor in these parts the cherry, we are informed, invariably sank to the bottom of the glass."

Advice. Before you love, Learn to run through snow leaving no footprints. Buckle, Provost.

Perfect Self-Control. From the Charleston News and Courier. It is said that Senator Fall, of New Mexico, will be put in the cabinet to please the South. Still, we don't believe that the South will go into hysterics of joy over it.

plan of the Public Health Service, in accordance with which vessels failing to comply with the quarantine regulations of this government will be denied clean bills of health by the consular agents.

Italy, now in control of Trieste, whence the vessels bringing the thirty-five typhus cases to this country have sailed, has, however, been insisting that examination by her own medical inspectors was sufficient. The facts disprove this.

TURNING THE SPOTLIGHT ON INDUSTRIAL CONDITIONS

A Worthy Attempt of the Chamber of Commerce to Help the Situation By Examining the Facts

THE experiment which the industrial relations committee of the Chamber of Commerce is to make this week may or may not succeed. But it is worth making.

Conditions in the construction industry are unsatisfactory. No work which could be postponed has been done for three or four years. The cost has been so high as to make it necessary to refrain from everything possible.

As a result, there is an estimated national shortage of 1,200,000 buildings for housing the people, the railroads are using old rolling stock run on rails that are fast wearing out and the producers of rails and rolling stock and the manufacturers of all kinds of building material are running on short time.

Further, the cost of all materials as well as the cost of labor is so high that investors are unwilling to lend money for new work, for they fear that when normal conditions return there will be such a slump in values that they cannot get their money back.

Now, as we understand it the industrial relations committee of the chamber thinks that the cost of high prices has been passed and that there has been such a decline in the cost of construction in all its branches could be resumed in the near future.

The circular of invitation to its conference beginning tomorrow in the Mayor's reception room in the City Hall announces that "conditions must be made economically sound and stable."

We do not suppose that the committee thinks that anything it can do will have any material effect on economic conditions.

The most that it can do is to exhibit the conditions. It can discover whether there is evidence of approaching stability. If it does not know the laws which regulate stability it can seek to learn what they are. But it must be admitted that those laws operate with little regard to conferences and congresses.

The exhibition of conditions is to begin on Tuesday morning with a consideration of the responsibility of public officials with regard to industrial activity. This will be considered particularly in connection with public works. By engaging in such enterprises the city and the state create unemployment and create a demand for raw materials used in construction.

There has always been a feeling that the government should do what it can to relieve industrial depression when private corporations and individuals are unable to do so. The fact that the cost of public works may be high does not prevent men from urging that such works be undertaken.

Of the two evils, it is regarded as better that a public building or highway should be built and paid for out of the tax payer's pocket than that money should be appropriated directly out of the treasury for the relief of the idle. Public works can start the wheels moving and the money paid for them will be returned to the treasury in the form of a demand for the product of a score of different industries.

The city or the state can get all the money it needs if it will pay the price. It is not the city or the state that is the cause of high or low prices, but it is the cause of an income from its investment, under penalty of bankruptcy.

The private employer may be able to get money at a price, but he cannot afford to borrow unless he can see how to pay it back out of its earnings.

The conference will consider the relation of the money market to unemployment. The situation will be discussed by holders and architects, bankers and representatives of building and loan associations. Costs of transportation, fuel and building materials will be examined and compared with the cost of food and clothing and with the rates of wages and the hours of work. And charts will be exhibited showing the price conditions that existed before the war, the peak of war prices and the present levels.

It is announced that at the final session on Friday resolutions will be adopted embodying the findings of the conference, and committees will be appointed to carry them into effect.

It will be noted by the discriminating that wages are to be considered along with the prices of commodities used in construction work.

Those who have no confidence in the discrimination of the Chamber of Commerce may be disappointed to say that the undertaking is for the purpose of hammering down wages of men engaged in the building trades in order that builders may find it possible and profitable to begin active operations in the spring.

Those who suspect such a purpose will follow the discussions with great care, confident that that purpose, if it exists, will be straddled itself before the conference adjourns.

Not wages are one of the obstacles in the way of a resumption of building operations on a large scale. And wages are high because everything else is high. If it can be demonstrated, not on charts prepared by statisticians, but by the prices one has to pay for the things, that the cost of living has fallen materially, then a reduction in wages will come about automatically. Working people discovered during the war, if they did not know it before, that the value of a dollar depends on its purchasing power.

day's work. Dollar wheat is not yet in sight, but dollar-and-a-half wheat would set the wheels of industry in motion, as soon as the scale of prices for other commodities was adjusted to it.

The conference deserves the attention of the public because it is an attempt to do something, even though slight, to bring relief to those who have had to suffer from the profiteering landlords for the last three years.

LIQUOR AND THE TREASURYSHIP

BEFORE Senator Harding announces the list of his cabinet appointments he ought to insist that each member publicly repudiate and refute all imputations made against him and his availability, whether these be inspired by purely partisan motives or the utmost sincerity.

Specifically, there comes to mind the charge of the New York World in the case of Andrew Mellon, the Pittsburgh financier, that he is heavily indebted to the Government personally in the Overholt Distilling Company, which is said to have \$12,000,000 worth of whisky still in its bonded warehouses.

Under no circumstances should any man directly connected or peculiarly interested in the whisky business be made secretary of the treasury, the post assigned by the correspondents to Mr. Mellon. The reason is patent. The enforcement and administration of the Volstead prohibition law is under the jurisdiction of the treasury, and at this stage of the country's affairs it would be folly to leave even the slightest colorable grounds for charging that the secretary might be swayed from his duty by selfish concerns.

Thus far Mr. Mellon has not answered the charge of the World. Perhaps this is because he does not wish to embarrass Mr. Harding by seeming to anticipate his choice in any confidential post. Yet it does seem as if too much nicety or etiquette ought not to stand in the road of reassuring public opinion.

Mr. Mellon's most influential backers have been Senators Penrose and Knox. Not so long ago the senior senator was quoted as saying that his principal concern over the cabinet was to hope that "the right kind of man be selected for the treasuryship." Evidently he puts Mr. Mellon in that category. It is well to know that the great industry will have enormous power both administratively and in the form of patronage, and if Mr. Mellon were chosen it is not hard to see how much of a figure the hand of Mr. Penrose would cut in placing the right kind of man in the prohibition enforcement offices. The senior senator has never been exactly regarded as an enthusiastic opponent of the liquor interests.

Many years ago, when President Grant wished to appoint A. T. Stewart, one of the ablest merchants this country ever produced, to the treasury office, the statute disqualifying any one engaged in the importing business for this post was invoked against him. That law was adopted because Congress, respecting public opinion, had prohibited any possibility of taint from the collection of customs, also a principal function of the treasury. While there is now no similar law preventing any one financially interested in the liquor business from holding the office of the pig, though I knew the red were all they ought to be and that the land army girls would enjoy themselves and work hard.

It would be a disaster for President Harding and the Republican party to begin the new administration, from which the American people expect so much, with a taint, whether real or only imagined, on the treasuryship. That is an office which must always be above suspicion.

MR. GOMPERS' DISCRETION

SAMUEL GOMPERS' opinion, emphatically expressed at the former forum the other night, that the people of the United States would have overwhelmingly endorsed the peace treaty had a clean-cut opportunity of considering the case in its merits been provided, is undoubtedly reflective of a strong current of public sentiment.

It is generally admitted by partisans and nonpartisans alike that a solemn referendum on the Versailles treaty was impossible in a presidential election. There are no subjects so difficult to mix as international policy and party politics.

Above all, it is dangerous to attempt to force them by pressure according to Mr. Wilson's formula. But the fact that no correct decision on momentous themes was made is cheering, even though the road to clear thinking has been blocked at many turns.

Mr. Gompers is merely one of many advocates of the league and the treaty whose words have not been heeded by a disastrous attempt to change the character, wholesome but unyielding, of American elections.

THE WAY OF THE WORLD

WOULD you like to view a simple demonstration of the way of the world? Go to any government and leave them open to much angry and violent questioning nowadays?

Congress, against the protest of the army boards, has been ordered to consider the suggestion for the land branch of the military organization. It has, in the words of the leaders, "cut to the bone." When the committees are finished with their work only about \$200,000,000 or \$300,000,000 will be given to the army. Even Congress is disposed to consider these sums miserably.

The navy fares better. Some of the vessels now building will cost \$300,000,000 each. The Sheppard-Towner maternity bill was introduced in the House in the last session and it is stated that the navy is willing to devote a little effort to saving the lives of women and children. It was inspired by a humane concern for young mothers who have to toil for a living, often in the grave yards of their children.

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"SHARP IS THE WIND"

SHARP is the wind today— Now, in the middle morning, Its gusty eases by. Its loud hounds that join the burning of bugs at a chase—

Yet, mixed with these shrill calls, I listen at each returning A finer measure falls. Across this time of yearning, The summer's rose-shod pace—

Within my soul no woe refrain Dwellers evermore in lither vein On purple banks of violet, Whose chains of fairy fragrance nets. It the greenwood pathways with its green And woe's a song from snail's pace! —William Strathern in the Boston Transcript.

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