Evening Public Ledger

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Philadelphia, Monday, April 4, 1921

WHY WE WALK

MR. MITTEN is happiest when he has an opportunity to tell an attentive audience about the increasing cost of street railway operation. The upkeep of each trolley car seems to increase steadily.

The people in this city are coming to believe this. "Fares have risen 2 cents" or what one might call invisible proof exists. Walking day between the hours of 9 and 4. In that interval it appears that the cost of operating street cars has gone so large that the P. R. T. in desperation has ceased trying to meet it. So it takes its cars, as a great many of them, away and tucks them in the barns.

There are times nowadays when trolleys on Chestnut, Walnut and other streets seem about as far apart as, let us say, good deeds in the life of an old-school Bolshevist.

A WARRANTED NEW HOLIDAY

IT WILL not be necessary to whip up artificial enthusiasm for November 11 established as a legal holiday in this state. The spontaneity of the original celebration foreshadowed a formal recognition of the date.

Holidays which mean the heart and quicken the pulses are not too common. In fact, the spirit of some of these occasions has to be rather sedulously encouraged. Armistice Day will ring true.

The Legislature and the Governor have done well to put through the measure fixing an additional fete in November, a month which in Pennsylvania now contains two Thanksgiving Days.

A WISE VETO

GOVERNOR SPROUL'S veto of the Dunn House bill is grounded in sound law and logic. The measure, devised to compel the Civil Service Commission to give preference to men and women who served in the World War regardless of whether their names ranked first or second in the examinations, was not only culpable as class legislation, but as a reflection upon the consistency of the merit system.

Civil-service methods taking cognizance of special conditions apart from the marks attained in tests by applicants for positions are subversive of the basis of principles on which the commission rests. The public as a whole has faith in the Civil Service Commission and it is the fulcrum of this institution and a compelling constitutional point which the Governor's action upholds.

GETTING BY WITH IT

THE Peirce murder case is a causal incident. In New York the former District Attorney, Mr. Whitman, has been specially commissioned to probe the mystery that has developed within the mystery of the Elwell case. It has been common rumor for months that the police know who killed Elwell and that they have feared to make an arrest. Whom they fear too people seem to know.

In sharp contrast with the Elwell case in New York and the Peirce case in Philadelphia was the case of Policeman Camden bank messenger. The New Jersey authorities were confronted with a task far more puzzling than that encountered by the detectives who faced an enigma in this city and in New York. Yet within a few weeks they had the incidences and evidence necessary for their conviction. Jersey justice is more than a tradition.

URBAN AGRICULTURE

THE Vacant Lots Association is sure that the average acre to be cultivated this year was 885. Cultivating a vacant lot ground in a good city is by no means profitable as well as recreative. Vacant lot farming has been planned on a practical basis and that there is popular interest in the opportunities provided by the association is shown with increasing evidence each spring.

The first assignments of land are made otherwise he quite soon after April 1. There was no limit to the applications as yet permits. The association has found that the work is conducted to economize time, energy and material since each worker can be made to travel hand in hand.

A BOON FOR TOURISTS

THE projecting of the City Hall tower enables visitors to this monument to enjoy one of the most attractive comprehensive views obtainable of any American metropolis.

Of course, Philadelphians also can enjoy the ascent, but the predilection of natives to their scenic wonders here and elsewhere is proverbial. Neapolitans are altogether used to Vesuvius and are in the habit of smiling indulgently at the tourist eager to survey the landscape from its summit.

It is not easy for residents of the city to realize the effect made upon the stranger by a first sight of one of the tallest structures on this continent. If its dimensions are not esthetic they are at least charged with curiosity. The Penn statue can hardly be called beautiful, but it is odd and striking, worth a closer investigation.

Visitors will appreciate the chance to see the town from the tower top. The trip ought to be as indispensable to a sojourn in Philadelphia as the ascent of the Woolworth Building is to a tour of New York.

ELUSIVE THRONES

IN THE half century that has elapsed since that dramatic 4th of September on which France repudiated the tinsel Napoleon, the market for damaged thrones in Europe and elsewhere has not been flourishing. Spain, it is true, restored the Bourbons in 1875, after two years of patriotic struggle with republicanism under the lead of the high souled, impractical Castelar. If a good rule is fortified by a single exception, the prospect for kings in exile is not encouraging.

The foolish Carlists of Hungary are said to have taken hope from the successful recovery by Constantine of the crown of Greece. Such optimism was grounded in misconception. Greece had undergone merely a change in rulers, not a revolution in the fundamental principles of its government.

Portugal, Brazil, China and France are safer indices of the truth. Within a little more than fifty years each of these nations has cast out royalty. And out royalty has remained, despite plots and secret juntas, despite all the activities of romanticists and the zeal of merely selfish subscribers to the polity of the Middle Ages.

Ill-advised and purblind Charles of Hapsburg is reported to have conditioned his departure from Hungary on permission to issue a proclamation to the Magyars explaining that the collapse of his plans was necessitated by "unfavorable circumstances." The ex-King and Emperor may be inclined to cheer himself by viewing these conditions as temporary. That attitude betrays his inexperience. Ask Manoel of Braganza. He knows.

WHO WOULDN'T BE A BULL ON PHILADELPHIA?

A City Growing at the Rate of More Than a Third of a Million Every Ten Years Will Make Fortunes for the Judicious

THERE has been talk about filling in the flats in South Philadelphia for more than twenty-five years, but little has been done.

Hundreds of acres have been reclaimed at League Island by the federal government and the city has built the League Island Park. But beyond that the district from Oregon avenue southward is very much as it was a quarter of a century ago. Truck farmers own some of the land and they raise vegetables on it. The greater part of the district lies idle awaiting development. It is within three miles of the City Hall and is reached by several car lines.

It is proposed that the city borrow money to pay for filling in the land and bringing it up to the grade of the streets on the city line.

The truck farmers have objected to this improvement because it would cover the fertile soil they cultivate and make it impossible to raise any more vegetables.

But no argument should be needed to prove to them that land within three miles of the business heart of the city is too valuable to be used for truck raising.

When tens of thousands of families are without proper housing accommodations it is little less than a crime to permit this land to be cultivated.

If there were more men here who were bulls on Philadelphia this district would be covered with houses within the next five years, and the men who built them would be millionaires.

No stock market bull ever speculated on so sure a thing as the future of this city.

Look at the record for a moment:

In 1820 the population was 119,000.

It had grown to 258,000 in 1840, or more than double the size of twenty years before.

In the next ten years it expanded till its population was 408,000, or an increase of 58½ per cent between two decennial enumerations.

In the next fifty years it grew from 408,000 to 1,293,000, or an increase of more than 215 per cent.

Between 1900 and 1920 530,000 has been added to the population.

It is morally certain that the city will have between 350,000 and 400,000 more population in 1930 than it has today.

This is as if the whole city of Cincinnati or New Orleans or Minneapolis should move bodily here within the next nine years, or as if three cities the size of Scranton or four the size of Camden should be moved within our corporate limits.

When one considers the business activities of Cincinnati, for example, the banks needed to accommodate the merchants and manufacturers, the big factories engaged in preparing things used by the people, the big retail and wholesale stores prospering through the patronage of a little short of half a million people, the drug stores, the grocery stores and butcher shops needed to distribute food for them, and thinks of what it would mean to bring the equivalent of all these things here within ten years, one can get some conception of what the future holds for this city.

The man who is not a bull on Philadelphia is a man without the ability to see what is before his eyes.

One has only to look at what has been going on here within the last twenty years to get a definite idea about what is going to happen in the next twenty.

Since 1900 the biggest retail store in the world has been built here to accommodate a business which expands with the growth of the city. Plans are made for building other magnificent buildings to replace those now occupied by other big retail merchants who find their present quarters overcrowded. Within two years a big addition has been made to the store occupied by a firm which was in a small way twenty years ago. A lot of little shops have grown into big ones within the memory of men not yet out of high school.

The banks and trust companies are putting up magnificent new structures paid for out of their profits and more are contemplated.

One of the egg & mailorder houses in the country has made this city its eastern headquarters and has erected a warehouse and distributing station of splendid proportions and fine architectural beauty in which employment is given to hundreds of hands.

The finest publishing building in the world has been built here within about ten years, and its team will soon be under way.

If these things cannot justify confidence in the future of Philadelphia, then nothing can justify it.

The fortunes of the next twenty years will be made by those who speculate on the steady certainty of the continued expansion of this city.

The bulls will reap the profits and the bears will pocket the losses.

Now, to come back to the South Philadelphia problem. The opportunity there awaits the man with imagination and a little cash.

The history of the fortunes made in Brooklyn by men who had the enterprise to provide accommodation for the hundreds of thousands of persons who were overflowing from Manhattan into the communities across the East river might profitably be studied by ambitious young Philadelphians.

There is a young man who made a million dollars before he was thirty years old by putting up houses for the people. He built block after block of them and sold them about as fast as they were finished, because he was wise in the selection of the sites and because he built houses with a few more improvements in them than his competitors.

But the land on which he built was no more accessible to the business center of New York than the South Philadelphia land is to the center of Philadelphia. And his profits were large because he built block after block of houses in the same neighborhood and thus practiced the economies of quantity production. It took capital to do it, but he got the capital, for he could demonstrate that he knew how to use it.

There is an opportunity in South Philadelphia for a group of men to repeat the success of this Brooklyn builder. They could afford to reimburse the city for all the money spent for filling in the land if the city would carry out its general program for improvements.

A boulevard along the Schuylkill connecting Fairmount Park with League Island has been projected. Its completion would increase the value of every square foot of land in South Philadelphia west of Broad street, even if it had no effect on the land east of that great thoroughfare. The city would be reimbursed for every dollar spent on the boulevard by the increased sums it could collect in taxes on the improved property. And when this happened former Mayor Reyburn would get the praise that is due him for conceiving the splendid projects that brought him much ridicule in his lifetime.

The water approach to Philadelphia from the south can be made as picturesque, but in a different way, as the water approach to New York. All the physical features are there. The Delaware river makes a wide sweep around the end of the peninsula formed by its junction with the Schuylkill, so that the city seems to project itself into the river. A district with boulevards on the waterfront and tree-lined streets filled with residences with the sky line broken by church spires would impress the passengers on every steamship coming up the river from foreign ports with the fact that they were approaching something that was really American. And the vision of the City Hall tower up the vista of Broad street would fill them with admiration for the genius of the men who believed that architecture should be the handmaiden of industry.

But the bulls on Philadelphia are aware that the development of South Philadelphia beyond Oregon avenue is not enough to accommodate the population that is surely coming here. Indeed, they know that it would be only about enough to provide proper accommodations for the population already here. All that is needed is to persuade men with capital that there is no safer place for them to invest it than right here at home.

WOMEN IN THE NEWS

IF AMERICAN women were so class-conscious as some of the people who nowadays lead conspicuous groups representative of labor or capital, or if they were so quick in their suspicions as governments and statesmen are apt to be, they would have appointed committees long ago to complain against "secret and unfavorable propaganda." Very properly they might ask why general attention focuses automatically on all the small and mean and trivial things done by misguided representatives of their sex, while all the great endeavors and achievements of women go usually unnoticed.

"Girls," said United States Attorney McAvoy, "are addicted to drinking nowadays because of the ban placed on liquor." He said nothing of men who, if memory serves, were not unfamiliar with liquor before the days of bans and who didn't need a revolutionary federal law to pique their curiosity and arouse their interest. Two men may fight like demons in the street and the exhibition will attract only the casual attention of the police. If two women did anything of that sort the community would feel scandalized. You hear a great deal about vamps and nothing of the far more detestable vampees. And those who write about dress reform and the frivolous tendencies of feminine dress proceed to rail and reason as if bad taste and a disregard of all old-fashioned and admirable rules of deportment were common to virtually all women. As a matter of fact, the woman who overdresses or underdresses and those who get into scandals and divorce suits and by such routes into the spotlight are, to their sex at large, about what the corner at Broadway and Forty-second street is to the United States. It is as reasonable to suppose that they represent any definite social trend as it would be to accept the London Morning Post as the mirror of present day British feeling or to look in at the *Cafe of the Cat Black* and believe that you were viewing life as it is lived in France.

For one American woman who cannot be happy unless she is wearing at least a pound of diamonds there are millions who wouldn't wear diamonds if they had them. Women in America are doing what they have always done. They are holding life together and maintaining and advancing civilized standards of ethics in every part of the country. To view an occasional unfortunate woman in a courtroom or any overadvertised jazz queen as if she were in any way typical of newer feminine minds and tendencies is to be stupid and abysmally ignorant of the life of these times. It isn't in the dressmakers' shops or among the more conspicuous dinner-givers that you can learn what women are doing and thinking about. You will have to go out from the isolated places where existence is a conflict of vanities for a limited and conspicuous few and look about you in the colleges, on farms, in the smaller communities and among the women whose aggressive and intelligent tactics in relation to public affairs ought to be an inspiration to the routine politicians if these same politicians hadn't forgotten long ago how to be inspired.

Trends observable in the great women's colleges, for example, are far more dramatic and significant than any of the social phenomena which, visible in the few places where people have too much money and too much leisure, inspire uplifters to dolorous sermons and frantic meddling. Wherever intelligent and devoted work is being done in the interest of women and children in industry you will find college girls laboring in the background. Why do women's colleges manifest signs of a better social consciousness than is discernible in universities organized by and for men? Bryn Mawr was supposed to have done something new when, recently, it prepared to open its doors to working girls and provide them even with means for study. Yet for years Bryn Mawr and its graduates have pioneered in fields where working women and working children were without other champions. Similarly, in politics women already have shown themselves to be a force for reconstruction and enduring reform.

It is perhaps as idle to expect public recognition of such work as this as it is to expect people in the street to stop and wonder with a sudden thrill at the thought of the priceless service that millions of women render in silence and obscurity to those about them every day of their lives. It is enough to reflect for a moment and imagine what existence would be like if all women departed even for a day from their ancient habit of patience or forgot for an hour their instinctive and changeless devotion to all decent and vital and gracious things.

If women, listening occasionally to the uplifters, have reason to feel that they live and labor in vain, it is chiefly because the world at large has a curiosity like a child's. Familiar things do not interest it. A green rose, a fight in a church or a woman or a girl who departs from the traditional routine will be the center of attention because such phenomena are rare and strange. Strange, certainly, is feminine patience, the courage and fortitude of the feminine heart, feminine adherence to all the saving rules of life and the newer feminine will in politics and in matters of social evolution. But you have to look twice and devote a moment to ordered thought to be aware of this. And these are hurried times.

A taxicab was found waltzing on Broad street. Director Cortelyou arrested the driver and charged him with intoxication. And up to the present moment no one has thought of calling the machine a taxicrab.

AS ONE WOMAN SEES IT

"What Is the Emergency Aid Doing?"—Well, Here's the Answer—A Noble and Beautiful Work in Helping the Distressed

By SARAH D. LOWRIE

MORE than one person has asked me, "What is the Emergency Aid doing?"

There is not so much criticism as curiosity in their tone, but there is a little of both, as though an activity brought into existence by the war ought to have rocked itself to sleep or into innocuous desuetude in times of peace—if these days can really be described as "times of peace."

As a matter of fact, the Emergency Aid fills a long-felt want in Philadelphia and utilizes the special talents of an energetic group of workers, whether the times are filled with news of wars or just rumors of wars and plans for peace. Emergencies will arise even in the best-regulated families, and the unexpected in the affairs of a big city is the rule, not the exception—Irish as that sounds.

An organization for help that can function rapidly; that can deal with special cases; that has funds or can procure funds rapidly to tide over a crisis; that can get in touch with the municipal and philanthropic powers of the city to bring them to bear on an unforeseen dilemma, and through the press and through its membership can give the situation the amount of publicity which it needs in order that those in power may be backed "to take arms against a sea of troubles and by opposing end them," is an organization that should never go out of existence.

IN A long experience of philanthropic workers I have come to divide them mentally into four groups, viz.: the administrators, the executors, the plodders and the spurters. Each type has its very special value. It is sometimes the habit of the plodders to despise the spurters, and for the executors to be miffed at the administrators, and for the administrators to be impatient of the plodders and bewildered by the spurters, but as a matter of fact no organization for accomplishing work can function without all four types.

A routine organization, like an endowed orphans' asylum or an established day nursery, can do with an administrator or two and a board of plodders with a paid executive and only temporary spurters when extra funds have to be raised. A national charity bazaar requires more spurters than plodders and more executives than administrators. The war philanthropies called for a tremendous number of executives and plodders and made short shrift of spurters. The influenza epidemic made a great haul upon spurters and found them very useful.

NOW to deal with an emergency one always must call upon spurters; persons who like a short, swift job with a human appeal, with scope for a special talent, for quick sympathy and instant adaptation. And there are a great many mighty smart spurters among us, who either cannot "because of their husbands" or will not because they know themselves too well take a plodding job or map out their daily occupations from year's end to year's end by fixed engagements punctuated by board meetings. They will not do it for pleasure any more than they will do it for charity or for business. They like to "sit loosely" to their obligations. They are capable of intense effort and intense indifference. They are at their best in emergencies.

We admire race horses more than carriage horses and carriage horses more than draft horses; but race horses are spurters and draft horses are plodders, so why should we be impatient of the spurters when they are humans?

"All stars are not the same stars. One star differeth from another star in glory," as St. Paul aptly remarked.

It would be a dull, dumb world without the spurters, even for the plodders, so it is a matter of congratulation that there is one organization here in our midst which, to be successful, must utilize the swift and temporarily enthusiastic worker as well as the stately executive or the responsible dependable.

THE administrators of such an organization as the Emergency Aid must have a sympathy for all types of workers and a very quick power of decision and diagnosis. They must perceive the emergency in time to gauge its seriousness and to invent a policy to meet it, so that they have to be, in a sense, always on the job. They must have to count upon certain executives that can be utilized to carry out a given plan without waste and with haste, and these executives have also to be on their job to the extent that they are within call and free; and besides the energetic host of emergency workers there must be a dependable number of steady workers who can be counted upon to stand by after the emergency is over to make the final adjustments or, if necessary, to keep the temporary plant running at a lower pressure in order to take care of certain cases that the particular emergency has made chronic.

A CASE in point is the relief work which has been carried on by the Emergency Aid since the influenza epidemic of the autumn of 1918. At that time many children were stranded without the care of either fathers or mothers who were stricken down and carried off to temporary hospitals. In some cases both parents died; in many the wage earner of the family died.

At the time of the epidemic the Emergency Aid undertook the temporary care of these children, all other agencies being swamped with the tide of want and trouble that had swept down upon them. As the epidemic waned, many of the children were able to go back to normal households, but many were not. They were either orphans or one parent was so crippled or set back by the catastrophe that help had to be given in order to get the family back to self-supporting ways.

IN SOME cases the interest on building and loan mortgages had fallen into arrears, and in order to save the family home that interest had to be forthcoming temporarily from the carefully dispensed funds of the Emergency Aid. In some cases, where the father of the family had died, state aid for the widow and children had to be applied for and the family helped until that was forthcoming.

The administrator of this help is a singularly able and kind woman who is chairman of the relief committee of the Emergency Aid, young Mrs. John Wanamaker, 3d. Her judgment and her sympathy and her steady sweetness as an executive have made the office of the Emergency Aid a very present help in time of trouble to hundreds and hundreds of bewildered and sometimes desperate mothers. It is also a place where the "alumnae of disaster" come back to tell of their good fortune and of their safe arrival into their desired haven.

BY NOW nearly all the influenza families have graduated from trouble, but the Emergency Aid's very success as a relief committee has brought new responsibilities. Not long ago I threw out a question in this column as to what happened to the families of widows who were held on to wait their turn on the Mothers' Assistance Fund, or who did not get all that was needed, or who were disqualified for receiving any pension. My question was answered immediately. This relief committee of the Emergency Aid tides many of these families over this particular time of stress, to the number of at least 300 families in the course of a year.

A weekly check to about thirty-five families a month covers some expense that is in the nature of an emergency. It is not the same family every month or every week, but there are more than 300 families who in the course of the year come on the lists to be visited and tided over until the pension comes or the work is found for the pensioned mother or for the mother who, having applied, fails of a pension because her case does not fill the specified requirements.

In one sense it is emergency work because its beneficiaries are continuously changing; in another sense it is never-ending work because the emergency is continuously arising. **In every sense it is a beautiful and good work.**

"PSHAW! JUST FUSS AND FEATHERS!!"

NOW MY IDEA IS THIS

Daily Talks With Thinking Philadelphians on Subjects They Know Best

JOHN CHRISTOPHER
On Examinations in Schools

THE death knell of the time-honored form of examination in the schools, which caused countless gallons of the midnight oil to be burned in an eleventh-hour desperate effort to pass, has been sounded in recent years, according to John Christopher, chief examiner of the Board of Education.

"From now on the more scientific, exact and just appraisal of the student's progress, on the basis of the achievement and intelligence tests with their standardized levels, that have proved their worth in recent years, will be the principal methods used by school systems.

"Examinations have been with us always. They have been generally accepted until very recently as the sine qua non in determining the growth of knowledge and intellect on the part of man, woman and child. For centuries they have been accepted as the means of estimating the fitness of a student either in school or the race of life for further steps in his or her development.

"There have even been examinations for examinations or as a preliminary to the taking of a new course. Those among us whose minds run back over so short a period as a decade will remember that our school days seem to have been a long succession of examinations. At short intervals we were literally examined in everything.

"Old Central High boys will recall Prof. Houston, an inspiring, lovable teacher and friend of every boy, heralding the approach of the 'midyears' with the sonorous warning, 'Now is the time to get scared.' But he smiled when he said it.

Was "Scare" Time for Many

"And to most students it was a scare time. Even with work well done during the term, one could never be sure of the type of questions that would be asked, and to the earnest at least it really meant midnight oil spent in cramming textbook or lecture notes, which were quite likely to be forgotten after the examination was concluded.

"Examinations then were a source of strain to the nervous system, under which condition the student did not necessarily indicate what he had learned or knew or how well he could think. They also tended to place undue emphasis on the value of memorizing, and indeed this was often the effect which they had on students throughout the periods of preparation and assimilation of their school year.

"I have indicated that the examination system went unchallenged for years. But the modern scientific spirit is a restless one. The status quo does not exist in its creed. So consequently it has been unable to let anything alone. It came to pass quite naturally then that traditions or no traditions, even such a usual thing as examinations came under its critical eye. Surveying the field in its usual unemotional, comprehensive way, it soon brought the acknowledgment from itself that it was not necessary to put all students through the nerve rack of examination.

"Quite logically it proceeded to the conclusion that it was nothing more or less than a waste of time to examine those who had shown continuous advancement from day to day under the teacher's eye. Hence came into being the system of exemptions that is now in vogue.

Spirit Has Gone Further

"But lately this scientific spirit has gone further. It was probably well enough to have examinations, it argued; probably they could not be altogether avoided. It had also become evident, in order to truly synchronize the pupils' work in school with the work and life they would have to meet in the world outside, that a more complete and exact measurement of their achievements and ability should be secured. It was also found by experiment that such methods also gave invaluable information in fitting the school systems to the pupils' needs.

"The present system of examinations, which has almost crystallized into something like a permanent form after a wide series of experiments, does not discard the old form of examinations as such. It sets up new types of examinations and utilizes them for other purposes than mere checking up on the student from time to time.

"Roughly, these new types of examination may be termed achievement and intelligence tests. The achievement test, as its name indicates, concerns itself with standardized tests and scales for measuring the achievements of school children in the various subjects of the curriculum.

"Based upon the performance of a large number of children under given normal conditions, these tests set actual standards for pupils and for grades. From these results it is possible to determine this standing in relation to other children of the country. It is probable that the time is at hand when the progress of children in most subjects can be rather definitely measured.

"In spite of their drawbacks, however, the old-fashioned examinations were not wholly without merit. They set a goal for the student, compelled him to organize his knowledge and to give the instructor an accounting which it is hard to get in any other way. Above all, it furnished an impersonal element in estimating the progress of student. For this reason civil service advocates have clung to the old forms, because they offered an effective antidote for the strong personal flavor of political preference.

"It will be seen that success of individual pupils in achievement tests may be due to native ability or good instruction or both. The intelligence test, on the other hand, attempts to measure native ability only.

"Its beginnings were found in the necessity that arose for diagnosis of the status of feeble-minded children. Hence we had the tests of those well-known Frenchmen, Binet and Simon. They proved to be excellent in their way, but they were all individual examinations and time-consuming. It was therefore natural that this form of test should have remained in its restricted field.

Saw Need of Mental Test

"With the coming of the war and the formation of the great army of the United States overnight it was found necessary that some form of mental examinations be given that could test men in large groups. Through this necessity the famous army tests were developed. Of their value and utility there has been some discussion, but in the main not much doubt.

"By these tests, modified, of course, to suit the experience, training and mental stature of school children—it is possible to get an intelligence rating for every child in our school system. Experiments have already shown its usefulness and pointed the way toward the betterment of our schools in the line of learning.

"By these tests children can now be adequately classified into their proper intellectual groups, be they backward, average or superior. Adequate changes in curriculum and time allotments on school programs can also be made to meet the new situation.

"One of the best things of all, we are beginning to see the dawn of a new day for that hitherto most neglected of all school children, the superior child. With this point recognized, that we owe a distinct duty to the superior child, we may in the near future see the foundations laid for other generations of great men such as have given this country its proud traditions of the past and enabled us to take our place as one of the greatest countries in the world."

Humanisms

By WILLIAM ATHERTON DU PUY

MANY years ago John Jacob Esch, representative in Congress from Wisconsin, had a brother who ran on the train as an express messenger. One day there was a frightful wreck and this man gave up his life in an accident that might have been averted.

So, when Mr. Esch came to Congress there was one subject which, above all others, was always on the top of his mind. He asked himself and he asked Congress one question: "What can be done to prevent railroad accidents."

Eighteen years ago he introduced a bill requiring the use of steel cars. Unthinkable, impossible, said the railroad people. He kept reintroducing it. Finally one railroad built some steel cars experimentally. They were so superior that they have displaced wooden ones without legislation.

Mr. Esch fathered legislation requiring examination and report on accidents to the Interstate Commerce Commission, the law which prohibited an employe working more than sixteen hours, the law authorizing the Interstate Commerce Commission to order the installation of the block signal system when it thought it wise, and many other safety measures.

He went out of the field of railroading in his campaigns for safety. He made it illegal to use in match manufacture the poisonous substances and saved the lives of fifty babies a year who were dying from sucking matches. Every session he introduces some new safety legislation.

So, he holds, did his brother not die in vain.

SHORT CUTS

The Government is learning that many prohibition agents are not fitted for their jobs. The bootleggers might have told the Government this a long time ago.

The Bolshevists still ask for American aid toward reconstruction in Russia. For Russia and the United States alike reconstruction must always be like charity. It ought to begin at home.

The newest threats of war come from the Little Entente. A few years ago there was no Little Entente and the governments that lead it were not even in existence. Still they will tell you that the world isn't making progress.

Cork helmets and dizzy gray uniforms will look well on the mounted police. These are good omens. In the course of forty or fifty years the folk at City Hall may find a way to provide some sort of comfort for the semaphore men—even though they may dole out nothing but umbrellas.

"I'll see you soon," wrote Grover Bergdoll gleefully to the hotel keeper who entertained him and his retinue when he went a-hunting his pot of gold. Grover has some right to call himself a prophet, though, for the sake of accuracy of meaning, he should have changed the form of his sentence. "You," he should have said, "will see me soon." For it is to be presumed that Grover's former host will be among the spectators.

Wasted Sympathy

From the Birmingham Age-Herald.

A good cigar can be had for a nickel in Mexico, and the rents charged for homes and apartments are "ridiculously low." Isn't it about time for us to quit thinking about "poor Mexico"?

When Spring Comes In Arkansas

From the Baxter Bulletin.

We refer you to the same old sign of spring this year again. When Bill Brixey cuts his whiskers, plant your garden. Bill's whiskers have got the frogs, the birds and amateur prophets skinned a city block.

Their Native Heath

From the Indianapolis News.

If the Queen of Rumania merely wants "to see cowboys and Indians, to go down in the mines, to visit factories, police courts, slums and hospitals, and to see a motion-picture laboratory," the New York movie magnates will, no doubt, be glad—with the understanding that their press agents are to be hampered by no promises — to cover the whole program for her majesty on a one day's trip to the New Jersey movie foundry.

What Do You Know?

QUIZ

1. Who is the present Lord Lieutenant and Governor General of Ireland?
2. Who created the famous fictional character of Dupin, the detective?
3. What three nations have the most ocean passenger ships?
4. What is the name of the ex-Emperor of China?
5. What is the meaning of "Le Matin," name of one of the most prominent French newspapers?
6. In what century did Catherine the Great live and over what country did she rule?
7. Name three Presidents of the United States who wrote autobiographies.
8. Where is the county of Angola?
9. When did the first battle of the Somme occur in the World War?
10. Which is the Blue Grass State?

Answers to Saturday's Quiz

1. A cantar of cotton is 99.05 pounds avoirdupois.
2. Madame Curie discovered radium.
3. Rene Viviani is a native of Algeria.
4. The diplodocus is a gigantic extinct land reptile discovered in the western United States. The first scattered remains of a skeleton were found by Prof. S. W. Williston near Canon City, Col., in 1877. The cast of the reconstructed skeleton measures eighty-four feet in length.
5. The story of Jonah is narrated in the book of that name in the Bible. The incident of the whale has parallels in Egyptian, Babylonian and Greek mythology.
6. A razee ship is one reduced in height by the removal of its upper decks.
7. The paca is a large rodent in Central and South America.
8. Sir Kenelm Digby was a noted English natural philosopher and student of the occult sciences. His dates are 1603-1665.
9. Byzantium was the ancient name of Constantinople.
10. The court cry, "Oyez!" is the imperative of the French verb hear.