

Evening Public Ledger

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ART AT CITY HALL

IT IS rather startling to remember that a city like this, which already is in possession of some very valuable collections of paintings and in a way to acquire other collections that are priceless...

NEXT WINTER'S COAL

THE Anthracite Bureau of Information, maintained by the coal operators, reports that "barring unforeseen circumstances, it will be predicted confidently that there will be no shortage of anthracite this year..."

THE MILLAR BILL ESCAPES

THE Harrisburg wrecking crew seems to have overslept. While it was rubbing the dust from its eyes the Millar bill, providing that the Public Service Commission shall have power to determine the reasonableness of rates paid by the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company...

THE REVISION PROGRAM

THERE is little doubt that the Governor will sign the bill providing for a constitutional convention which has passed both houses of the Legislature...

FEMINE HUMOR

MOST men, accustomed as they have been in recent years to doubt their fitness for lordship, will read with gratification and relief Miss Agnes E. Spiller's assertion that their actual are monopolists of the peculiar wisdom that is manifest as a sense of humor...

SENATORIAL RUBBER STAMPING

SENATOR NORRIS has denounced his numerous conferees who have ignored the treaty with Colombia to the extent of passing it yesterday as "rubber stamps of the White House..."

MR. BRYAN RISES TO SPEAK

"PROHIBITION," said Mr. Bryan in Washington, "is now the settled policy of the country. It will be settled to my doubts, that prohibition is the settled policy of the government..."

Byran, ingenious as he is about many things, must know that they have not done this. How can they be convinced? How can they be made to understand what is best for them? In other words, how can prohibition be enforced and permanently established?

The tireless Nebraska man had a great deal to do with formulating the sentiment that at last took visible form in the Volstead law. Now that the law is on the books he cannot decently evade his share of the responsibility which it implies...

THE "YOU TICKLE ME AND I'LL TICKLE YOU" POLICY

Those Who Wish it to Continue Are Opposing the Bill to Put the Support of State Charities on a Scientific Basis

THE real objections of the opponents of A. Governor Sproul's plan to create a Department of Public Welfare, embodied in Senator Woodward's bill, have not been confessed.

Every member of the Legislature, however, knows that this charge is merely a pretext to excuse hostility to the measure and that the bill is objected to not because it will strengthen the Governor, but because it will take from the legislators themselves one of the sources of their own political power.

A large proportion of the members of the General Assembly exert themselves every session to secure as much money as possible for the charitable institutions in their districts. They engage in log-rolling and vote for appropriations in one district which they know there is not sufficient justification in order to secure votes for an appropriation for the institutions in their own district.

The purpose at the bottom of the Governor's plan is to put the appropriation of money for philanthropic and educational purposes upon a scientific basis and thus to conserve the money of the state.

This end has not been and could not be accomplished under the present system, where supervision of such institutions is divided among the Board of Public Charities, the Committee on Lunacy and the Prison Labor Commission...

The concentration of supervisory authority over these matters in one body is in line with the best modern practice. It tends to economy and to the application of the most advanced methods of relief for the persons confined in the institutions brought under the control of the State...

The intent of the bill is that these recommendations should constitute the official charitable and correctional budget for the State. It is assumed that this budget would be prepared and the money apportioned on the basis of the work done by the different institutions and not in the haphazard manner now prevailing...

The per charities of a few influential politicians would then have to surrender their district and control by such a proportion of the appropriation as the work they did entitle them to.

The measure ought to be welcomed by the politicians who think their political life is dependent on the amount of money they can get out of the state treasury for their district, and who relieve them of the pressure now brought to bear on them because they can refer solicitors for funds directly to the Public Welfare Commission created expressly to guide the Legislature in the distribution of state money...

Only those who wish to play favorites can oppose the measure. It ought to be supported by every one who welcomes the beginning of the work of abolishing the numerous commissions now managing various phases of the public business and the concentration of authority in as few hands as is consistent with efficiency.

critical of small things than men are and far more apt to take unimportant things seriously. Yet it will not do to assume that they are humorless. To be careful it is, perhaps, because men are notoriously careless, and some one certainly has to be the steady force in the social unit called home. It has been said that women will always board food and money. That is because instinct tells them that if they do not somebody is very likely to go hungry or in want, since a man, living as he does in the moment, often will fling his money and his food broadcast and forget his own children...

As professional humorists women do not shine so brightly as men do, and that may be because they have not had time to develop a habit of expression. There has been no feminine Dickens, no feminine Mark Twain, no feminine Charles Christian Andersen. But behind every great woman who will perceive the work of a woman who in obscurity did her share to make the world laugh. She was the one who made the genius happy, who ordered his life for him, kept him from catching colds and dying before his time, collected the propensities of his scattered things and did all the hard and dull and thankless services without which the mind of her lord could not have glowed at all.

OPERA OUT OF BONDAGE

"I ENJOY grand opera if I knew what they were singing about." As in some circles this is considered cultured to sneer at this familiar phrase, the proponents of lyric drama in English had anything but an easy time. Perhaps they overplayed their hand. Propagandists of all hues exhibit a tendency to do this.

In any event, the unavailability of grand opera to all save polyglots was generally regarded as a permanent barrier. It was the German tongue underwritten by the ban of numerous other things Teutonic. Peace, however, raised the old question concerning the devil's monopoly of the good tunes. It was seen fit to pursue one of the most interesting Wagnerian melodies were recaptured, and the opera of "Tristan and Isolde" and "Lohengrin" appeared in lucid Anglo-Saxon. In their new linguistic dress, Philadelphia may have heard both of these works this season.

"Lohengrin" wound up the series at the Academy this week, and the audience followed the details of its action with the zest and genuine interest that is accorded a worthy new play. For opera in English is not only an outrage to the sensibilities, but a revelation of long-deferred common sense.

Of course, there are old-fashioned librettos in need of editing, but the task is not insuperable, and what has been done by Sigmund Spaeth with the old, stilted translation of "Lohengrin" can be limited in other lyric plays.

English is not the most mellifluous of tongues, yet that it is slappable and so proved in the Gilbert and Sullivan operettas and other similar works. Moreover, the German language can scarcely be called dialect.

The difficulty of obtaining artists to sing in the vernacular has not existed for some time. Mr. Gatti-Casazza possesses plenty of stars in his organization to whom the English tongue is native. Mme. Easton, Mr. Harold and Mr. Whitehill showed what lyric eloquence and clarity it was capable of in the interesting Wagnerian performance given here on Tuesday night. Geraldine Farrar, Thomas Chalmers, Charles Hackett are also available, and Mary Warden and numerous others in the opposing camp. Caruso has mastered English and several of his compatriots on the operatic stage have overcome the same barrier.

Opera in English may come to prove that the war was a liberating agent after all. Once out of bondage, the lyric drama stands an excellent chance of escaping also from exoticism.

The emergency which brought about this reformation has passed. There are rumors that "Die Walkure" is to be revived next season and that it may be presented in German. This feature of the restoration might well be spared.

ROYALTY BURIED IN BERLIN

NORRIS' spectacle in Europe appeared so variously to the ordinary imagination as the funeral of the former German empress in Berlin. As was expected, all the remaining available properties of royalty were gathered hurriedly by the militarists, the junkers and the reactionaries for a special funeral, obviously to revive in the people the old mood and to recreate the old spell under which Germany gave itself unquestioningly to the Hohenzollerns and doom.

Some one brought from hiding the purple funeral cloth of royalty. Flare flags and silver helmets, glittered in the sunlight, bore streamers of black crepe. Uniforms blazed in a way that, in other days, would have moved the sentimental Berliners simultaneously to pride and tear. The old crowd turned out with about 30,000 mourners to reassert their allegiance to an old and terrible color tradition.

It was clear from the first that the funeral of the ex-empress would be made the basis of renewed Hohenzollern propaganda. Through it the junkers hoped to excite first pity and then general sympathy for the absent Wilhelm. But the crowds, worn and disillusioned, looked on without emotion and turned away before the spectacle ended.

The correspondent who wrote that the royalties of Germany buried their last hopes with the body of their former empress put a great deal of truth into a few words.

FOLKS AND FANCIES

Glasgow as the Miners' Chief Counsel, Henry Kirke Porter's Lifework, Miss Grundy and the Anti-Suffragists—Judge Thompson's Dilemma

By GEORGE NOX MCCAIN

WILLIAM ANDERSON GLASGOW, JR., of this city, succeeds the new secretary of state, Charles E. Hughes, as chief counsel to the United Mine Workers of America.

Mr. Glasgow is a widely known member of the bar of Philadelphia. He has been practicing here since 1884, prior to which he practiced in Boston and New York. He was chief counsel to Herbert Hoover, national food administrator, during the war, with headquarters in Washington.

The peculiar significance attaches to the selection of Mr. Glasgow as chief of the legal department of the United Mine Workers is that he is a corporation lawyer of the highest standing in his profession.

His work, however, has been largely upon constructive lines in the way of compelling great corporations to observe the law. In this he has been most successfully against some of the brightest minds in the country. His most prominent work was his handling of the celebrated Pennsylvania Railroad coal cases some years ago, in which he qualified as one of the ablest legal minds of the country.

John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers, himself an exceedingly able, conservative man, was his business partner. He hit upon Mr. Glasgow to succeed Charles E. Hughes.

When Henry Kirke Porter, of Pittsburgh, died the early part of last week, that city lost one of its finest citizens and the state one of its most progressive men. Let Kirke Porter, as he was popularly known, and his wife, be remembered for the same extent as some other men who have been less closely identified with its manufacturing interests.

For forty-four years he was one of Pittsburgh's leading manufacturers, philanthropists and civic reformers, and with a consistent Christian gentleman.

He wore eyeglasses and Burnside whiskers was an active, nervous temperament and spoke with a slight Yankee accent.

He thought his partiality for the side-whiskers was due to his own experience, when he was a young man, in the style of hirsute decoration was in vogue during the Civil War. General A. E. Burnside set the style.

Mr. Porter's religious activities assumed the form of Sunday school work, in which he was an enthusiast.

A NEWSPAPER editorial proclaims that the death of H. K. Porter completes a coincidental trio of deaths of three great Pittsburghers—Andrew Carnegie, John A. Brashear and H. K. Porter, whose birthdays fell upon the same day.

There, however, the comparison ends. Andrew Carnegie and John A. Brashear were agnostics to religion. H. K. Porter not only believed in but supported, with the utmost liberality as to financial aid, the doctrines of evangelical Christianity.

In the business world he was a manufacturer of narrow-gauge and light locomotives, and it is a safe venture to say that the product of his mills and factories is to be found in practically every country today.

ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL



NOW MY IDEA IS THIS

Daily Talks With Thinking Philadelphians on Subjects They Know Best

THE REV. ROBERT NORWOOD

On Religion and Art

A RELIGION that disregards the beauty of created things, to hedge its ministers with dogma and choke spiritual growth with ancient beliefs, is a religion that cannot survive. This, in effect, is the opinion of the Rev. Robert Norwood, rector of St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal Church, Overbrook.

"My idea of religion is that religion is life, human relationship," he said. "It is belief, and revelation, and is the child of vision. The human soul will find it difficult to obey the Master's injunction love your enemies without that vision, because only with that vision will it be revealed that what is 'enemy' in the other is always a thing of beauty. Unless religion has in it the thrill of the vision, the artist has who sees beauty in what he creates, the form of religion becomes unreal."

"It then becomes what Paul really meant when he described the 'sounding brass and tinkling cymbal.' Religion is love. The thought of love as between soul and soul has been made by many a mere family rector, even what is meant is what Browning describes as 'that first, fine, celestial rapture.'"

Follows Paul's Words "Theology and theologians err in that they defend that notion of the rediscovering of life in terms of beauty and power. If by their fruits we shall know the truth, the truth, then, we shall know the truth must always best express itself in creative power, as Paul said, 'That I may know Him and the power of His resurrection.'"

What Do You Know? QUIZ 1. Where and what is the Sorbonne? 2. Who wrote the poem, 'The Man With the Hoe'?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz 1. The last action in the Civil War occurred in the State of Georgia when the Confederate raider Sherman destroyed the vessels of the Berling sea whaling fleet, which were the last whaling vessels to be captured by the Union Navy.

HUMANISMS

By WILLIAM ATHERTON DU PUY

SAM LUNSFORD was a "boot" at Paris Island, which means that he was a marine recruit. He went "around the loop" with Edwin Denby, now secretary of the navy.

"What kind of a boot was Denby?" I asked Sam. "He was a hard guy," was the reply. "He never asked for the easy end of the rope. He always had money and it was awful easy to borrow from him."

Dr. W. J. McGee, profound government scientist, who died few years ago, could use his left hand as well as his right, and his right as well as his left.

He revealed a peculiar thing about those who are over-ambitious. They are dreamers. He had never had a dream in all his life. None of his ambitious friends ever dreamed. Dreaming comes from the fact that one part of the brain is awake while the other part is asleep. The ambitious brain works as a whole and knows no twilight zone in which dreams come.

When Tasker Lovendus Oddie, of Nevada came down to Washington to swear to do his duty as United States senator, he had something of a feeling of returning to his place. He had never before been in that place, to the fact that over in the Navy Department hangs the picture of Benjamin Stoddard, its first secretary, of whom the man from Nevada is a direct descendant.

Another ancestor, used to preside as chief executive of Maryland at Annapolis, not far away; and that the name of William Frazier, another ancestor, appears in the records of thousands of properties in Washington, for he used to own all the land away to the east of the Capitol Building.

W. L. Bruckart, who writes the Associated Press dispatches about the doings of the House of Representatives that every body reads in his newspaper, the other day did a good deed.

He was going home on the street car and a small boy next to him was telling a friend that he had lost his job as page in Congress because the member whose page he was, had been re-elected. The boy was pretty hard because he was the sole support of his mother and his little flat.

The boy got off at the same corner as the newspaperman. He went into the apartment house. Bruckart observed the number on the door he entered. He called up the manager of the building and confirmed the boy's story.

Next morning the front leader, and told his story. This gentleman was once an orphan boy without even a mother. The magnificence was waved that restored the boy to his place, and the kettle hums happily on the little gas stove when he goes home to his mother in the evening, but to them the man in which the miracle was worked is still a mystery.

Senator Thomas Heflin, of Alabama, has never declined an invitation to speak before him by a group of the community from making the major portion of his address on the call may come, no matter how primitive the means of transportation, no matter how wet or dry, hot or cold, or whether the senator accepts and sets out on the journey.

Sometimes he arrives late. He is not punctual man. But regardless of the hour, despite the fact an audience has been assembled for hours, Mr. Heflin repairs to a barber shop. There he carefully lathers, carefully shaves, carefully arranges his hair, and then he is ready to appear in his snow-white suit, gleaming shirt front, wide-brimmed hat. Even in winter he wears white, starched vests. He arrives at the somewhat Heflin, perspiring freely, but immaculate.

And his country constituents like it. He has long served in the House from the congressional district which covers the United States. He admits it, but explains the delay as being due to the preponderance of colored population. But the courtesy of him crew for showing them the courtesy of being met for the coming of the Germans to get their gold suggests that they are not paupers.

James M. Heck's idea of a monument to the fallen confederates suggests another convenient way of honoring it without necessarily obeying it.