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Philadelphia, Thursday, July 14, 1921

LEASE LESSONS

DIRECTOR TWINING'S detailed report on the proposed councilmatic changes in the transit lease definitely permits the inference that many of the suggestions made were obstructive. Three months' delay in opening the Frankford line is forecast unless the city and the P. R. T. come to terms under which the latter party will operate the new line.

TOKYO'S RELUCTANCE

THE delay of Japan in answering the American disarmament proposal is significant, but need not be construed as alarming. Indeed, the reluctance exhibited in Tokyo, coupled with the eagerness of Great Britain, France and Italy to enter the party, actually creates a clarifying effect upon the situation.

PRICES AND MILK BOTTLES

THE head of one of the large milk-distributing companies says that milk bottles worth half a million dollars are broken in this city every year, and that if this loss were stopped milk would be cheaper.

THE UNTEACHABLE

ALREADY it is possible to foresee the character of the opposition that will be organized against those who really wish to make partial disarmament a world rule through the approaching conference at Washington.

BASTILLE DAY FITLY HONORED

PROSTRATING fear is given as the official explanation of the order calling off the traditionally gorgeous display of the crack troops of the French Army at Longchamps today. The excuse may be authentic.

POST ROADS

THERE is no doubt of the constitutional power of Congress to construct and maintain post roads and an interstate highway system such as is provided for in the Townsend bill, which Senator Penrose says he will support.

THE OPTIMISM OF AGE

Youth is optimistic, but it is not more so than the ripe old age. The optimism of youth is centered on personal advancement; that of age on the progress of the race. Youth says, "I shall get on." The old man says, "The world improves." Such old optimists are John Wanamaker, John D. Rockefeller, Chauncey M. Depew and John A. Stewart, hard-working and hard-headed business men. Stewart at ninety-nine still goes daily to his bank in New York. And such an optimist also is Abraham Oppenheimer, of this city. He has only a hundred years to his credit, and he declares that he does "not intend to use a cane until he gets old."

WHERE ALL SIGNS FAILED

An Altoona boy who while trying to retrieve a horseshoe was run down by a police car escaped serious injury because his shirt-waist was caught in the bumper, which smashed and acted as a cushion. You can't tell that boy that horseshoes are lucky or that green apples are bad for the health.

CONGRESS, A DEAD PRIVATE AND THE LOST BATTALION

Some News From a New York Hospital That Should Speed Disabled Soldier Relief Work in Washington

TALK about the soldier bonus is one thing. Talk about the duty of the Government to men who returned sick or crippled from the war is another. In his address to Congress President Harding did not altogether dispose of the case between Congress and the Federal bureau and youthful veterans who suffer from indecent neglect. Large appropriations, which are not quite large enough, have been appropriated for the care and rehabilitation of these men. But how is the money being spent?

A day or two ago, while a flock of waiters spread luncheon and distributed feed drinks in the enticing outdoor restaurant at the Capitol, a Senate committee appointed to consider the merger of Federal agencies established for the relief of disabled soldiers bagged dimly.

The sagas floundered in the jungle of red tape that has grown about the administrative system of the War Risk Insurance Bureau and other departments through which help and care are supposed to be made available to the disabled and injured services men. Secretary Mellon wrote a letter to suggest that volunteers and drafted men should be treated alike. No one ever was or ever will be disposed to disagree with him.

Colonel Forbes, Director of the War Risk Bureau, made a speech.

Some one said that some one else had said that the merger bill would soon be ready to be reported out of the committee. Mr. Carnegie, who is in charge of the fund, said that he did not wish his money to be used to benefit sectarian institutions. Yet Yale University, which is nominally under the control of the Congregationalists, receives the Carnegie allowance. And so do Brown University, nominally Baptist, and Hamilton College, nominally Presbyterian. But Colgate University, which is no more intimately controlled by the Baptists than is Brown, cannot get the Carnegie money because it maintains a Baptist theological school as one of its departments.

No one should question the decision of the Supreme Court since it is in accord with the American spirit. The regrettable when the Legislature was not in session and when it was thus unable to prevent the demoralization of the charitable work conducted by private institutions that have been depending on State aid.

SOMETHING IN A NAME

THE fitness of things is admirably realized by Mayor Moore in his dedication of the latest municipal playground, bounded by Third, Fourth, Lombard and Lombard streets, to the memory of Phillis Wheatley.

The name is assuredly worthy of preservation, for its bearer was in several respects an extraordinary character. She was a poet and a slave, virtually the first member of her race to invade the realm of literary culture.

Phillis Wheatley was born in Africa about 1753, was brought to the American colonies in 1761 and purchased by John Wheatley, of Boston. Her marked mental aptitudes and responsive personality inspired her master with the then radical idea of developing her talents with a sound education. She repaid his endeavor with a distinction as a versifier, eliciting eventually a complimentary letter from Washington.

Far beyond the intrinsic merit of her "Poems on Various Subjects Religious and Moral," however, was the convincing proof which she furnished of the intellectual capacity of the colored race. For her fame as a writer has far eclipsed by that of Paul Laurence Dunbar fails to detract from the honor of her achievement. Nine years of her life were spent amid circumstances of barbarism, followed by a swift transition to the conditions of a well-developed civilization. That she was a victim of the sudden change is attested by the testimony of her strength of character.

It is a happy thought, in a city historically associated with the principles of humanitarianism and liberty, to keep alive the name of Phillis Wheatley. Councilman Hall recently, in the course of a public address, called the open square the Charles Seeger Playground, more appropriate. The designation would perpetuate in municipal nomenclature the memory of the late Vere leader of the Seventh Ward. But is such a reminder of gang political activities really a vital need?

MORE MOB LAW

IT IS impossible not to feel, after a reading of the dispatches which describe an outbreak of rioting and race antagonism at Beverdale, that the story is not yet half told. Americans, we are informed, drove Italian residents out of the town and into the hills in a movement of reprisal because of bomb outrages committed by Black Handers. That statement has not a convincing sound.

Were none of these Italians worthy to be designated as Americans? And what about the children and the women who sought refuge from the mob in the hills? The news from Beverdale is much like some of the reports from Mingo, and it is reminiscent of news that emanated from the country about Pittsburgh during the recent steel strike. An outbreak of mob law is not a pleasant thing to see in this State. But it is undeniable that we are coming in this unpeppery case as a matter of course.

The State Police at Beverdale should be asked to explain why they did not prevent the bomb outrages and the violence organized by crowds in retaliation. To stress the fact that the mob was made up of "Americans" only makes the case appear worse.

A TWO-MAN JOB

That's What the Modern Practice of Medicine is Coming to Be—The Dangers That Menace Us From a Medical Standpoint

By GEORGE NOX McCAIN

I was thoroughly up to date in a back number today, unless in the intervening years he has kept himself fully abreast of the progress of medical science.

The person who uttered these unusual words is a prominent physician and a member of the faculty of one of this city's leading medical colleges.

"Then he continued: 'In no science, unless it is possibly that of aviation, the science of the air, have there been such phenomenal strides in the past half decade as in medicine and surgery.' 'You forget the strides that have been made in the science of war,' I suggested.

"War is the science of destruction. Medicine is the science of construction. Medicine counts human lives; they are constructive, I'm not counting war in the same category. 'And what is to be the ultimate result?' I inquired.

"A complete revolution in modern life with reference to these professions. The physician and surgeon will attain to a higher position, the highest among the professions in our civilization, than ever before."

DR. THOMAS KLEIN, late of the Medical Service, A. F. is an assistant professor of medicine in the post-graduate school of medicine at the University. He has no uncertain viewpoint on this subject.

Unquestionably he is one of those who believe in canonizing their profession. "The practice of medicine today, as the direct outcome of the advancement and coverage of the recent war years is assuming the position of a two-man profession," he said, commenting on the above statement.

"The physician or practitioner, the diagnostician and consultant, and the laboratory man, the scientist.

"It isn't enough to examine the pulse and respiration and institute polite inquiries as to the operation of the bodily functions, as was once the universal practice. 'Patient investigation, correct analysis and the registration of facts identified with every case are now a part of the work of every physician who deserves that name.' 'And do you believe that the physician who was up-to-date, informed down to the hour five years ago, is today a back number? Dr. Klein smiled. Then almost verbatim he quoted the words of my friend.

"I should say that he is behind the times, unless, in some cities, where there is more abreast of every late development and discovery in medical science."

DR. A. C. ABBOTT—perhaps I should write Colonel A. C. Abbott—eminent bacteriologist, is and has been a member of the University faculty for many years. He is a man of vision, wide experience and practical ideas. Dr. Abbott cherishes no illusions as to the future of his profession in its concrete relation to humanity's needs.

The menace to American life from my standpoint, said Dr. Abbott, is the lack of hygienic conditions in rural districts. Every great city suffers the loss of valuable lives from this cause.

Philadelphia, in the recent years has, fortunately, suffered no alarming extent. "She has been forewarned for years and has benefited by experience. The annual outbreak of typhoid fever among the ranks of the people from country vacations and excursions has been materially lessened.

"Years ago, when I was connected with the medical department of the city, we instituted investigations that proved indubitably that over a series of years the city suffered from this typhoid invasion directly attributable to the lack of rural, or country, hygiene.

"The intelligent administration of our State Medical Department is lessening this typhoid menace to the cities," Dr. Abbott continued.

"But it still lingers. The lamentable fact is that it is so unnecessary. We are fully aware of the cause of this sacrifice of human life. We could, we should and we can halt it. But the people are careless, indolent, hardened, I might almost say—to the thing."

"Education. Perpetual hammering. Ceaseless endeavor to point out to the citizen that they are responsible for their own indifference to the most ordinary rules of life.

"Attention to rural hygiene is the imperative demand of the moment."

AND the other dangers of which you "spoke," I suggested.

"The loss of human life for lack of proper medical attention in the remote country districts of this country," was the reply.

"There is a dangerous lack of doctors in the distant regions of every State," said Dr. Abbott. "I then this man of wide experience added:

"I am seriously of the opinion that the exactions of many of our medical colleges are contributing to this situation. 'Once a young man has finished his college course, entered a medical school, spent years in it, and afterward takes perhaps a post-graduate course, he does not feel that he can afford to sacrifice, in a remote country village where half his time will be spent in the open or in visiting remote sections over almost impassable roads at all hours of the day, two or three years of his life. 'Our cities attract these brilliant young chaps. But why should there not be conditions in our medical colleges that would permit the education of men who are willing to undertake this other work? Possibly not as physicians of the front rank, but men who are competent to cope with the ordinary ailments and to leave room for water, or, if the air is shut off from them the tree will not prosper.

MOSTLY NOISE, SO FAR

THE greatest trouble with the care of trees in the city is the almost universal lack of air space for the roots. There should be a minimum of nine square feet, and this amount of room is now provided for by a city ordinance. Without this air space a tree will become bark-bound and this condition is certain death to the tree. Too hard soil and the lack of air space are responsible for the death of more trees in the cities than any other dozen reasons.

"The contractor has done its part in trying to care for city trees within its boundaries, but in 1913 all trees on the public highways in the entire city were turned over to the care of the Park Commission. If the property owners would take the right interest in the trees on the public highways in front of their property and notify the commission when the trees begin to show signs of ailing, they would save many trees from very few deaths of trees in the city."

The Carolina Poplars

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How the Pests Work

"The manner in which the caterpillar works is typical of the way nearly all the insect enemies of trees destroy them, that is, by eating the leaves. This lets the life-giving sap out of the tree and ultimately causes its death.

How the Pests Work

"Then again there is the bark beetle. This pest goes under the bark of the tree, as its name indicates, and bores it, sometimes until it falls off in huge pieces. The result of this is the same as when the leaves are eaten, but the pest does not get out of the tree until it is starved to death. These pests are always found on soft wood trees. This is because the bark of a hardwood tree never grows. It simply expands, forming the diamond-shaped designs which are familiar to nearly every species of hardwood trees. The Carolina poplar is a tree which loses its bark, and these trees are doing so very early this year, on account of the long dry spell which we have had this spring.

How the Pests Work

"Thousands of these trees are now losing their bark and their leaves are turning brown. This should normally occur in September of each year, but on account of the long drought, the sap has been forced back into the roots of the tree instead of nourishing it as it should.

An Exceptional Year

"From the tree lovers' standpoint, this has been a most exceptional year. The sap ran earlier than was ever known before, and the foliage was fully developed at an earlier date than has been known for fifteen years. This was due to the exceedingly mild February which we had, causing the sap to start earlier.

Now My Idea is This

EVERY city in the country, large or small, should encourage the citizens to maintain the trees within its boundaries, according to Samuel H. Mills, the city landscape gardener.

"While the trees of a city are of value principally for the beauty they add to a town and the shade they give during the hot weather," says Mr. Mills, "they have some practical value as well. Philadelphia stands high among the great cities of the country in the number of trees which it has within its limits. Of course, there are many of the smaller cities, where there is more room and where the streets are not asphalted, which have a larger number of trees in proportion to the population, but among the large cities Philadelphia, both in the number and the condition of its trees, is well to the fore.

The Care of Trees

"There is a general impression among those who are not familiar with arboral life that a tree pretty much will take care of itself and that all the householders have to do to plant the tree and then his work is done. This, however, is a mistake. Trees will thrive in the woods and the open spaces without much care, but even there they would be vastly improved if they were looked after a little.

Roots Must Have Air

"The reason for this is that the roots of a tree must have air as well as water if the life of the tree is to be maintained. A concrete pavement may run so close to the roots of a tree as to leave room for watering, but if the air is shut off from them the tree will not prosper.

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Daily Talks With Thinking Philadelphians on Subjects They Know Best

SAMUEL H. MILLS On Care of Trees

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What Do You Know?

QUIZ

1. Who was Harry Hawker and for what achievement was he famed?

2. What name do the Spaniards give to their own language?

3. What treaty ended the Russo-Japanese War and when was it negotiated?

4. What is the chief work of Beowulf and in what century was it written?

5. For what number does "L" in Roman notation stand?

6. What State does Senator John Sharp Williams represent?

7. Name a famous opera by Von Flotow.

8. What is millet?

9. Who is Assistant Secretary of the Navy?

10. What countries are the chief sources of natural rubber?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

1. The Greek created the science of aerometry and the measurement of numbers as applied to the related to the sea and air.

2. Of Fernao Lopes, the pioneer of Portuguese historical and keeper of the royal archives, Robert Southey, the English poet, declared that he was "beyond all comparison the best chronicler in the Island of Lobos." Lopes has been called the Portuguese "Psalms." He was born in Lisbon in 1418.

3. The word loot originated in India. It is derived from the Hindu "lut."

4. A gibbous moon is an arch or crescent moon, named after its inventor.

5. A gibbous moon is humped or humped-backed, having the bright part greater than the semi-circle and less than the circle.

6. The word should be pronounced with the "L" as in set.

7. Sappho was a celebrated Greek lyric poet, who flourished about 600 B. C. She appears to have been a native of Mytilene in the Island of Lesbos, where she probably spent her life.

8. A quagga is a South African quadruped, related to the zebra and zebra, but less striped than the latter.

9. Obolus is abuse, detraction.

10. Australia, including Tasmania, is the officially styled a Commonwealth.

SHORT CUTS

The Weather Man has no sense of proportion. The new Immigration Law appears to afford strong argument for a new Immigration Law. The patriot who risked his life for his country is not going to grumble over a call without. The work of the bulls would be simplified if fences could be removed from the field of crime. And unless the people actively back the statement the disarmament conference will amount to nothing. Democrats have little chance to afloat while the National Administration steers a straight and manly course. So long as it is precedents rather than promises the President breaks, the country has no complaint to make. There is involuntary confession in the declaration that the new city automobile is to be of the usual family size. The larger policy which militates against the proposed duty on oil is perhaps not without pertinent bearing on other articles scheduled. When Yankee Doodle came to town Riding on a pony. A polo player of renown Then played the aucauron. What Yankee Doodle did will serve While Yankee as example. Thus Pershing, man of strength and power Has precedent most ample. By keeping fit instead of fat When'er the chance comes handy, He sticks a feather in his hat Like Yankee Doodle Dandy. The world remains asquid, we'll find. While Uncle Sam sings solo; But we may all have peace of mind While Pershing's playing polo.