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rigorous investigation. The substitution of the most serious of these charges would constitute a shameful indictment of a service under particular obligations to uphold the standards of justice and decency. As it is, the branch of the Department of Immigration in New York is exhibited as an offense to the Nation.

HALL GAS ORDINANCE POSTPONES THE INEVITABLE

City Must Face the Issue of Whether It Should Make a Profit Out of the Sale of Gas

The decision of Mayor Moore to give the public an opportunity to be heard before he acts on the Hall ordinance increasing the price of gas to \$1.10 a thousand cubic feet and giving \$1 of this amount to the U. G. I. for a year is strategically prudent. The people have to pay for the gas. They are the first party in interest. They should be consulted so far as possible in any modification of the price at the present time.

Those of them who have given any attention to the subject know that the Hall ordinance disregards the recommendations of the Gas Commission. They know that the commission recommended a modification of the lease in such a way as would provide for meeting the needs of the city and for an arrangement by which there could be adjustments in the price to meet the varying cost of manufacture.

It should not take more than two months to negotiate a new lease in which provision for all contingencies could be made and in which the rights of the consumers could be protected. The Hall ordinance fixes the price for a year from the date that it becomes effective, regardless of any lease that may be negotiated in the meantime. It gives to the U. G. I. \$4,000,000 more than it would get under the existing arrangement.

But the U. G. I. does not need that amount of relief at the present time. If it were allowed to postpone the payment of the sums due the city on July 1 until a new lease could be arranged it would be inconvenient for no way. That it needs relief of some kind is well known. The prices of the raw materials that it uses, which rose during the war, are still high. But they are declining and it is hoped that before the year is out they will be down to somewhere near the normal figure.

The Hall ordinance is subject to serious criticism on two points. The first is that it gives relief to the U. G. I. in the wrong way. And the second is that it increases the cost of gas to the consumer.

The city has made a large sum out of its gas plant, and this has been taken from the pockets of the consumers. It amounts to \$32,000,000 in the period from 1897 to 1920. It began by taking five cents from every dollar paid by the consumer, and it is now taking twenty-five cents. The larger amount yields a revenue of \$4,000,000, as already indicated. This is 5 per cent on \$80,000,000 or 10 per cent on \$40,000,000. It means that the city is making a profit out of a public utility, and an exorbitant profit at that. No such financial arrangement can be defended.

There is no justification for public ownership of any public utility unless its services are to be given to the people at cost. The only argument for such public ownership is that it eliminates the profits made by private capital.

But in the gas business in this city the people have had to pay TWO profits—one to the operating company, and that has been at the rate of 8 per cent on a generous capitalization, and the other is to the city itself.

The hearing before the Mayor on Tuesday and Wednesday of next week will afford an opportunity for those who know to set forth the facts for the information of Council and for the guidance of the Mayor. They can be stated so convincingly that all fair-minded persons will be forced irresistibly to the conclusion that the only way out for the city and for the gas company is through the course outlined by the Gas Commission.

If a committee of the Council, the Gas Commission and the City Solicitor should meet representatives of the gas company to negotiate a new lease all the issues could be considered on their merits, the price of gas could be fixed at such a figure as would enable the company to manufacture it at a legitimate profit, and it could be decided whether it was necessary for the company to add to that price any sum to be paid into the City Treasury for a sinking fund, but not for current expenses. This is the only scientific way to go about it. It is the course which will have to be adopted ultimately.

PROGRESS CONTINUING tests of the efficiency of aircraft pitted against battleships, in which army fighters have been engaging with the navy, reveal some suggestions of the tactics which in the future will govern combats between forces of the air and the forces of the sea and land.

It has been contended that an airplane could be a little sort of weapon in a sea fight, since, if it were to get within striking distance of a battleship, it would go to certain destruction. That, apparently, is just what airmen in the next war will be required to do.

In maneuvers of army planes directed by General Mitchell against naval targets off the Cape Cod advance or "shock" squadron of planes was assigned to clear the decks of the battleship attacked. The duty of the advance planes was to drop close to the target and fire, the theory being that though in an actual battle they would be destroyed, they would last long enough to put the deck guns of the enemy out of action.

In the wake of the fast and agile "shock" planes the heavier bombers approached and dropped toward the battleship to finish it off at leisure.

War isn't to be any gentler in the future than it has been in the past. That, at least, is certain.

CONTEMPTIBLE GRAFT THE present almost unworkable Immigration Law and the pedantic manner of administering it render the harbors of entry into the United States anything but ports of refuge for alien and undesirable elements in our land of liberty. To cap the climax of disillusionment comes the tale of a peculiarly contemptible form of graft said to have been long practiced at Ellis Island.

Augustus P. Schell, head of the law division of the Immigration Service, has been suspended on extended grounds of grossly capitalizing to his own advantage their pathetic ignorance of American customs, language and monetary values.

The abuses are said to include the acceptance of bribes from immigrants not legally entitled to admission in return for such desirable foreigners subjected to the indignity of deportation. An instance of "borrowing" \$1000 of a helpless and perplexed immigrant is cited. The accusations, moreover, do not fall upon a solitary official. Dozens of inspectors, interpreters and watchmen have already been tried and charged. Some were arrested for preying upon aliens.

The situation plainly demands the most

Federal board which made the award was the cause of a great outburst of grief and resentment among the coal producers. Yet a survey of the official statistics provided available shows that in 1919 approximately 37 per cent of the cost of anthracite was turned over in wages to the workers in the field, while in 1920 the wage outlay of the mine owners represented only about 33 per cent of the valuation of their product. In other words, the public bore the burden of the wage increase ordered by the Government—and a good deal more.

A VICTORY FOR MR. HUGHES

The Hughes brand of diplomacy, as firm as it is unseasonal, is obviously responsible for the negotiations upon the vexed boundary question now progressing between Costa Rica and Panama.

The Isthmian Republic, which is in a sense our ward, indulged in a refractory mood last March. Pledges categorically assumed in the past were violated. Chagrined because of its obligation to abide by the decision of Justice White's award, the little republic proceeded to threaten its neighbor and actually did provoke a brief war. Virtually all Central America was arrayed against her.

After a few days of hostilities the State Department of the United States addressed both belligerents emphatically but not unkindly and peace was restored. Since that date Panama has been pursuing the arts of persuasion, but to little purpose.

The frontier problem resolved itself into the simple yet vital question of the willingness of Panama to submit to an arbitral decision which she had originally promised to respect. Secretary Hughes in one of his vigorous notes recommended that Costa Rica and Panama should discuss their differences amicably and reach an honorable conclusion. His advice was excellent and it is, happily, being fruit.

Mr. Hughes' policy is not in the least darkened by the show of unwarrantably dictatorial methods toward weaker nations. Unlike the majority of international difficulties, the Panama boundary case was conspicuously one-sided. Respect for judicial arbitral award is a fundamental without which the present earnest efforts of the nations to dwell together in amity will come to naught.

The recalcitrance of Panama was a manifestation in little of precisely such outbreaks as the League of Nations or any other peace preservative is designed to prevent and discountenance. It is stimulating to note that the Panamanians are thinking clearly at last.

ONE PRICE TO ALL

WHAT is a significant decision made by the Superior Court invalidating a contract for electric light supplied to buildings owned by the Frick estate in Pittsburgh.

The estate had a contract for light which contained a provision that the rate charged was not to be changed except at five-year intervals, and that was to be based on the cost of producing the light. The Court holds that the electric light company is a public utility and that its rates are subject to the approval of the Public Service Commission, and that it cannot escape that supervision by any private contracts with consumers. The decision in effect nullifies the contract.

The point at issue is so important that it is likely that the Supreme Court will be asked to pass upon it, but the rule laid down by the Superior Court is so reasonable that it is difficult to see how the higher Court can overrule the decision. It is that "when one's rights are subject to State restrictions he cannot remove them from the power of the State by making a contract about them."

AN OLD AND DELICATE SUBJECT

THE division of the Twenty-second Ward is one of those stock subjects which recur periodically in the political history of Philadelphia. Theoretically, it is a commendable enough. But its proponents have usually been inspired by the same motives which gave birth to the original gerrymander.

On the whole, it is wiser to let the ward boundaries of this city alone until they can be settled upon some scientific and ethically unimpeachable basis. It is useless, of course, to pretend that this is not a remote ideal.

Councilman Roper, who lately supported the notion of dividing the disproportionately large Twenty-second Ward, appears to have realized the difficulty and delicacy involved. Having deserted his own program, his project is unlikely to take on much impetus at this time.

The status quo is undoubtedly preferred, so far as the general public is concerned, to a scheme of gerrymandering in which voters of similar political complexion are segregated in ingeniously devised districts.

ANOTHER LOST OPPORTUNITY

WHEN the trials of German "war guilty" were begun in Leipzig it was supposed that the German courts and the German people would seek every opportunity to prove that the criminals formally accused of uncivilized practices in war were not in any way representative of the German national will or conscience.

But the courts have been studiously lenient and forbearing. Civilian seem always to lean in sympathy toward the accused. Sentences have been light in almost every case thus far heard, though some of the most ruthless of the submarine commanders have passed through the Leipzig tribunals.

Admiral von Trotha, former chief of staff in the German Navy, was the most recent conspicuous witness. The admiral has been changed. Glibly he defended the U-boat commander who sank allied hospital ships and fired on lifeboats.

"The battle does not end for a submarine boat until her home port is reached," said he. "Her commander must think of hidden enemies. He must think only of his own country. He has one obligation, and one only. That is obedience to the higher command."

The world may move. A part of Germany obviously is standing still.

METEORS MAKE IT HOT

At Least That Is What an Astronomer Says—Our Own Meteoric Supply—Some of the Places Where It Is Torrid

By GEORGE H. MCCAIN ACCORDING to his irresponsible custom, the sun is cutting up canticles again in the matter of heat.

Dr. F. G. Lockett, of the Government astronomical authority, says that the cause of this unusual display of energy is because of the swarms of meteors that are falling into the Gulf Stream.

It is not a new theory, though it is refreshing. Sun spots, the Gulf Stream, the comets and other showery theories are thus relegated to the highest shelf in the darkest corner of the astronomical annex for the time being.

It is not a new theory, though it is refreshing. Sun spots, the Gulf Stream, the comets and other showery theories are thus relegated to the highest shelf in the darkest corner of the astronomical annex for the time being.

THIS little old earth of our own is something of a meteor grabber. Prof. F. G. Lockett, an astronomer, some years ago estimated that not less than 20,000,000 luminous meteors fall upon our planet daily.

The number, however, by no means represents the total number of minute meteorites that enter our atmosphere; those that are invisible to the naked eye.

It has been estimated that the total number of meteorites, including those visible to sight, should be increased by twenty-fold, giving the grand total of 400,000,000. And this number, it is estimated, falls on the earth every twenty-four hours.

Every now and then a huge aerolite, weighing tons, comes hurtling through the air and explodes with terrific detonation, or falls into the sea or buries itself deeply in the ground.

There are scores of authenticated cases like these. The British steamship Tropic on April 6, 1880, when off Cape Hatteras, barely escaped being hit by a meteorite.

When off the coast of Newfoundland on January 2, 1890, the steamship Glendow had a mast shattered by a meteor which exploded and scattered fragments over the deck.

Hundreds of other instances might be cited. Toward years meted the name of the Meteor Stone because of the number that fell and were recovered within its boundaries.

A great meteor on May 10, 1879, burst and scattered over a good part of northern Emmet County. The cabinet of the University of Minnesota contains a piece of it that weighs 170 pounds.

IF THERE are 400,000,000 meteorites falling every day on the earth and their heat and light are unnoticeable by the ordinary individual, it is difficult to account for the increased heat of the sun from this cause.

The number of meteors that will be attracted to a globe will doubtless be according to its size. In the case of the sun, owing to its vast size, the more vehement will be its attraction and the greater the number of objects that will be drawn into its extensive atmosphere.

One estimate advanced was that for every meteorite that strikes the earth at least 1,000,000 would descend into the sun.

As these objects plowed their way through the sun's gases both light and heat would be evolved. It has been a part of this theory that the friction of the meteors which are continuously rushing into its fiery embrace may produce light and heat sufficient to aid in the maintenance of that body's ordinary expenditure.

IT HAS been supposed, according to the earlier exponent of this idea, that the quantity of energy thus generated supplies all that is wanted to explain the continued maintenance of the sun's light and heat.

Prof. Richard Proctor estimated that the amount of energy from the sun every minute is equivalent to the heat developed by the combustion of 600,000,000,000,000,000 tons of coal.

Particularly as it is now affirmed that there is a possible error of 100,000,000 miles in the size of the sun, the estimate, the new giant of the stellar universe.

ASTRONOMERS all along have been puzzled to account for this continuous supply of heat and light from our great central source. The theories, the meteoric and the contracting, have always been the most popular.

It is supposed that by its own vast attraction the sun is gradually contracting in bulk. This condensation or "squeezing together" would produce heat the same as a falling body.

But no such contraction has ever been detected in the sun. Jacob Reese, of this city and Pittsburgh, also advanced a theory of his own some years ago, which was almost as difficult to understand, if one isn't a scientist, as is the Einstein theory of relativity.



NOW MY IDEA IS THIS

Daily Talks With Thinking Philadelphians on Subjects They Know Best

DR. THEODORE J. GRAYSON On Free Higher Education

TEARING down of the Chinese wall of higher learning, so that a liberal education may be desired by more and more people, is what we want. It is sought by Dr. Theodore J. Grayson, director of the Wharton evening and extra-mural courses of the University of Pennsylvania.

"I am not a student of the University of Pennsylvania," says Dr. Grayson, "provision is made for something more than 'catch the nearest way' to success and the earning of a livelihood, the future is fraught with grave dangers to humanity as a whole.

"For instance," he muses, "a flood in Colorado, one dark night in May, swept a world wrapped in sleep of a little multitude of its most useful citizens. Among its numbers were a distinguished physician, an eminent lawyer, and a judge, several kinds of capable engineer and a college professor of sorts.

"This led me to figure out, from motives that every father of a family will understand, exactly how much it would cost, for instance, these days to turn out a first-class medical man. This is easily enough done, so far as figures are concerned, but management of the result would be the difficulty for the father of a family to surmount.

What an Education Costs "From this result, it appears that to bring such a man to the moment when he may hang out a thoroughly respectable shingle of his own costs, under favorable conditions, thirty-seven years of life and some \$1800 worth of university learning. In addition, there will have been other costs—books, instruments, unavoidable extras and a bite to eat during that time. Provided we may not have included in this matrimonial, children and such like frivolities, the chances are that at something over thirty he may be able to relieve his family of the burden of his support.

"Much the same might be said for the other distinguished men who were taken off at that fateful May night. The thought, however, intruding itself that if such catastrophes happened frequently, the man must sooner or later come to a most painful sense of want.

"In the case of medical education, for instance, the best education is possible only for sons and daughters of fairly well-to-do parents. As all the brains of the country are not absorbed by this class, it seems only reasonable that every obstacle, save the student himself, should be removed from such an education.

When World Needs Help "As the number of self-sacrificing souls, who would go to a remote place, spend their days in healing and their nights in the pursuit of science is small, and the world cries out for help when it is a matter of life and death, it is easy to see where the quack, the empiric, the half-trained practitioner of strange practices takes the place of the trained physician in the land.

"We may develop sound medical schools that accept and train candidates of less preliminary schooling than our great universities have come to require, who make a rate medical men. But such men will not have the time and the equipment to carry out that patient and unromantic research out of which new science grows. Education, however elaborate and prolonged, cannot make a great inventive mind.

"The ignorant patient who has been relieved of his pain by the knife of the surgeon would naturally think that he had that surgeon to thank. He might argue that his support should go for surgeons and no further. But you know that from the point of view of the surgeon's instrument lens as it were from an electrode the accumulated science of the age.

The Genesis of Results "This knowledge has only been gathered by hard and patient toil in the laboratories of biologists, physicists and chemists, in the closets of mathematicians and the observatories of astronomers. These men must be trained that others may be relieved, yet the world is not likely to hear of them and therefore no immediate returns will be discernible.

"There are economic conditions that can crush the soul, yet the sufferer must learn enough letters to spell out his misery. We depend on science for our lives, but how little of our life is just living.

TAKING A FLIER



SHORT CUTS

Navy ward vacationists are not strong for this naval holiday idea.

Because of his refusal to pay tax, the ex-Kaiser is in Dutch and on the carpet.

The lesson of a nation is the lesson of a shopkeeper: He cannot have continued prosperity unless his customers are prosperous.

Perhaps the burial three in a grave of soldiers who died for us is designed as a curtain-raiser for the tragedy to be staged at Arlington.

At the suggestion of St. Swithin, Jupiter Pluvius has taken a good grip on his watering pot.

"Rain Halts Milk Shortage."—Headline. No comment needed from this department. Mix your own.

Maybe St. Swithin figures that even if Jupiter Pluvius proves him a fabricator of yarns during the month to come, people will forget it long before July 15, 1922, rolls around.

There are golf players at Van Cortlandt Park, New York, who wait four hours for a chance to drive off on the public course. Seems to us to be more of an exercise in patience than a game.

The rum-runner, presumably, has no objection to newspaper talk about pink slips. It may serve to divert suspicion from what is said to be a lively trade between this country and the Bahamas.

Canadian Pacific Railroad trains are now equipped with smokers for women, the company declaring the equality of the sexes should be recognized in traveling. It is as if the great a variety of a poor substitute for a hip pocket.

The President has taken a step toward making our dream of peace a step toward reality. The Globe-trotting Publicist approvingly. At all events, the second Peace Conference (for that is what it amounts to) will be free from the nightmares of Russian bolshevism and German revolution.

Because the Rocky Mountain locust, commonly called the grasshopper, has a fondness for brain matter flavored with arsenic, 21 Pa. Col. farmers have been able to exterminate the swarm that threatened their crops. Wonder if the Japanese beetle has a taste similar to that of the grasshopper?

What Do You Know?

QUIZ

- 1. Where was the largest and most famous chess tournament held?
2. Of what State is Carson City the capital?
3. Who wrote the works of "Onward, Christian Soldiers"?
4. Who was Sir John Tenniel?
5. In what century was the attraction of gravitation theory first proposed?
6. What was the middle name of Gladstone?
7. What instruments are necessary to the composition of a modern orchestra?
8. When did the Byzantine Empire come to an end?
9. What is the holy land of China?
10. Who is the present Secretary of the Interior?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

- 1. A tabard is the distinctive garment of a herald, a sleeveless cap or cloak.
2. The gravitation theory first was advanced by Sebastianus, eventually taken up by Galileo Galilei.
3. The allied armies of the French, English and Prussians.
4. The allied armies of the French, English and Prussians.
5. In 1687.
6. Mont Blanc forms with its bordering heights an independent ridge between Western Alps and the summit between France and Italy. The summit is in France.
7. The tune of "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow" is that of an old French song, "Malbrook s'en va-t-en Guerre."
8. "Malbrook Goes Off to War" sung by the soldiers after the battle of Malbror.
9. The Land of Cockaigne is the imaginary land of idleness and luxury.
10. Arthur Melcher is the present premier of Canada.
11. Purree in yellow coloring matter from India.

Today's Anniversaries

1840—Congress resolved to give a gold medal to General Zachary Taylor for his victory on the Rio Grande.
1857—Pierre Jean de Béranger, "the national song writer of France," died in Paris.
1920—Gold reached 2780.
1864—Gold reached 2780, the maximum figure during the Civil War.
1877—A carrier pigeon won in a race from London to Dover.
1892—The President issued a proclamation commanding all persons in insurrection in Idaho to disperse.
1905—Lieutenant Peary sailed from New York in search of the North Pole.
1915—Panama Canal used for the first time by United States battleships.
1920—County Donegal two courthouses were burned by Sinn Fein.

Today's Birthdays

Captain Raoul Amundsen, discoverer of the South Pole, born at Sarpsburg, Norway, forty-nine years ago.
Dr. William D. Mackenzie, president of Hartford Theological Seminary, born in the Orange River Colony, South Africa, sixty-two years ago.
Eugene L'Amour, world-famous novelist and conductor of the "Inchiquin" Symphony Orchestra, born at Liege, Belgium, sixty-three years ago.