EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER

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QUARTERLY TAX PAYMENTS

COUNCIL is facing in the right direction when it begins to consider a proposition permitting the payment of tax bills in semi-annual installments.

If it would adopt the rule governing the payment of the Federal income tax it would relieve the small householder and at the same time provide current revenues as they are needed. The income tax may be paid in quarterly installments, or it may be paid all at once, or at any quarter the balance due may be paid.

Under the rule now prevailing a small rebate is allowed to those who pay their taxes early in the year and penalties for non-payment do not begin to run until September 1. Very few taxpayers pay their bills at the beginning of the year. The collections in January were only $117,000, while in August, the last month before the penalties began to run, the collections were $18,000,000.

It would be much easier for a small householder to pay a tax bill of $100 in installments of $25 every three months than to pay the full amount at once.

The subject was raised by a request from the Receiver of Taxes that the date on which the penalty for non-payment should become effective should be changed from September 1 to August 1. This was very properly opposed by some of the leading Councilmen, and the six months' installment plan suggested. The quarterly payment plan would solve many problems. If the city asks for it the Legislature will doubtless grant it.

THE RED-CROSS OBLIGATION

ACCORDING to the official schedule, the Red Cross rollcall began on November 11 and ended yesterday. In this southeastern district of Pennsylvania, however, the house-to-house campaign and the canvass of industrial and business organizations are not yet completed, a condition leaving a margin of grace to the public to send the drive well over the top.

Another week will be devoted to this work, which it is hoped will result in substantial appreciation of the magnificent activities of the Red Cross, especially in the home field.

Here in Pennsylvania there are thousands of ex-service men awaiting light on the complicated question of adjustment of their compensation claims by the Government. Even assuming that all the Federal machinery is in perfect operation, there are cases of distress and suffering lying outside the scope of governmental relief. The Red Cross extends its ministrations not only to the veterans in their plight but to their families.

It is a mistake to regard the Red Cross as a humanitarian agency with exclusive concern for catastrophic conditions abroad—for misery resulting from famine, flood, earthquake, wars or political upheavals. All these tragedies exercise calls upon the assiduity, generosity and efficiency of the organization, but not to the subordination of domestic woes.

At the present moment much of its activities is directed toward soldier relief. The responsibilities of the public are here conspicuously evident.

It is now predicted that 200,000 new members, each contributing $1 for enrollment, will be drawn from this district. The original program provided for 50,000 more enlistments. This community and adjoining regions cannot morally afford to make a showing less than that outlined in the original specifications.

The current week furnishes the opportunity to repair lapses and deficiencies. Incidentally, it may be noted that Detroit produced its quota of new members in three days.

DRY AND DELIGHTED

THE Turks celebrated their occupation of Adrianople with a "dry" dinner at which pilaff was perhaps substituted for combustible plum pudding, and loukoumi (almond paste) with a draft of Thracian water possibly took the place of cocktails and caviar. The banquet, moreover, was not the only evidence of spirituous abstinence. General Tal.. Bey, the new Governor of the town, promptly promulgated an order closing all liquor shops and bars at which alcoholic refreshment had been sold. Judging from reports of the Greek exodus from Adrianople, not enough Hellenes remained there to support any effective protest on behalf of their favorite and, to the uninitiated, unpalatable beverage, resinated wine.

Prohibition among the Moslems is not a fiction or a pharisaical fancy. Alcoholic indulgence is displeasing to Allah and among self-respecting followers of the prophet it is accounted not only a disgrace but a religious heresy. It must be remembered that Omar, who sang of wine, was a Persian whose "liberal" views are deemed discreditable and shocking by the Sunnite sect to which the Ottomans belong.

There are, of course, lapses among the faithful even in Turkey, but prohibition there and in the greater part of Islam is a reality not primarily dependent upon enforcement agents. Its backing is far mightier. It is the unchallengeable strength of public opinion.

THE WET DEMOCRATS

PUBLICATION of the results of the official canvass of the vote in the State on Election Day makes it possible to examine into its significance.

The most interesting inference that can be drawn from the figures is that the two Progressive candidates for the Senate drew the greater part of their support from the "wet" wing of the Democratic party.

Mr. Pinchot polled 681,000 votes and Mr. McSparran 581,000 for Governor. Mr. Shull, Democrat, running against Senator Reed for the full term, polled only 434,000 votes, and Mr. Burke, the Progressive candidate, polled 127,000. As Mr. Reed polled 802,000 votes, or 20,000 fewer than Mr. Pinchot, it is apparent that the Burke vote was cast by a few Republicans and a large number of Democrats. Mr. Burke is a "wet." His vote probably represents the militant "wet" sentiment.

Mr. Thompson, the Progressive candidate running in opposition to Senator Pepper, polled 57,000 votes, while Mr. Kerr, the Democratic candidate, polled 468,000. Mr. Pepper's vote was 819,000. The Thompson vote was clearly made up of Democrats in large part. The Prohibition vote on the senatorship was about one-third of that polled in 1920, when Mrs. Marion received 120,000. Mrs. Marion's vote, as is well known, was swelled by Republicans who would not vote for the re-election of Senator Penrose.

A WAR OF PROPAGANDISTS IS DEVASTATING AMERICA

Highly Paid Agents of Fanatical Groups Have Taken Political Initiative Away From the People

A GREAT many earnest people are wondering whether something isn't seriously wrong with the heart and mind of the Republic. President Harding himself and Mr. Daugherty and Senator Reed and other public men seem greatly distressed by what they regard as omens of a decline in national morale and something like spiritual disintegration throughout the country.

What is wrong in America may be traced easily to a very obvious cause. We are being organized out of our rational senses by experts in propaganda who labor not for principles but for thumping salaries. These people may be said to be running the country at the moment.

Up to 1914 all political, social and moral initiative was in the hands of the people or their representative leaders voluntarily chosen. These leaders were honorable spokesmen for principles, parties, business, education, religion, law and the like. When the war came the United States was introduced to a novel and extremely complex system devised for the deliberate creation of opinion or mass emotion. That was propaganda. It has been making chaos of our public affairs for the simple reason that there is not in Congress enough intellectual resistance to cope with it.

Organized propaganda as it appeared in this country during the war years was imported from Europe. It was an instrument of the old diplomacy enormously elaborated and operated for the first time in human history in the open. It directs shrewd and powerful appeals to hate, to fear, to suspicion, to prejudice, to high hopes, to faith, to bigotry—but never to pure reason. It was a stupendous experiment in the direction of collective emotionalism for particular ends.

We in America trained innumerable propagandists for the war. We provided them with the means to create and color opinion. Had these men been deported to a faraway island when hostilities ended, had their machinery been decently destroyed and forgotten, we might not now be in a state of anxiety and unrest.

But the propagandists, trained at public expense, were out of jobs. They had lost the taste for real work. They wanted money and easy times. They were left like strayed guerrillas to hatch any sort of devilment that would pay. They were masters of a new science and all their equipment was intact.

So all the terrible machinery, all the devices for the manufacture of fear and hate and violent suspicion which had been created to exert a crushing pressure upon militaristic Germany were turned by Americans upon each other.

Is it any wonder that as a people we are in a way to become disunited or that we seem sometimes to be at the center of a storm of fanaticism?

If you were an expert propagandist out of a job you looked up some richly endowed group with a rational or irrational purpose and put your emotional dynamite at its disposal. If no such group was handy you caused one to be organized. You dug up old and forgotten Causes and breathed the breath of crazy and destructive life into them. You hired out to do new wonders for capital or labor, to distort opinion, to poison it or to obliterate it altogether.

So it happens that many of the amazing "movements" of these times are kept alive seemingly for a great theory of some sort, but actually for the benefit of the professionals who organize and direct them.

The "wets" and the "drys," the Ku Klux Klan and some of the groups that have been most aggressive in economic reform or reaction were brought into existence by propaganda.

A propagandist does nothing so crudely honest as the writing of real or imaginary news like the old-fashioned "press agents." He is, on the other hand, "a setter up of situations." He swarms in Washington, where he labors to get snakes into the news. He is your kleagle, flourishing in a field of suckers. He is the person who has been working to rouse the devil of sectarian fanaticism in Americans—with the cry of patriotism!

When Washington finds a way to check the growing and enormously capitalized business of propaganda there will be no need for a President or Congress to worry about the state of the Nation.

WOMEN'S RIGHTS

THE National Consumers' League is opposing the National Woman's Party blanket bill intended to confer on women the same rights that men enjoy under the law. The Woman's Party is asking that the bill be passed by all the State Legislatures.

The Consumers' League favors the removal of the disabilities of women by the passage of separate bills directed at special disabilities for the reason that the blanket bill would create confusion that could not be removed for years.

For example, the blanket bill provides that "No disabilities or inequalities on account of marriage shall exist unless they apply to both sexes." The Consumers' League asks whether under such a provision women would have a legal claim to support from their husbands and whether a deserting husband could be brought back and compelled to support his wife. It asks also whether laws granting pensions to wives or widows will become invalid, or whether widowers shall have pensions and whether the dower rights of women secured by the laws of many States would be forfeited.

The women of the League have apparently been doing some thinking, which has led them to the discovery that women enjoy certain privileges under the existing law not enjoyed by men, privileges which as women they ought to enjoy. It wishes to preserve those while it at the same time removes whatever artificial handicaps there may be on the social and economic development of women.

The law cannot make a woman into a man, and it must take into account the differences between the two sexes, and it must protect women for the good of the race in a way that men are not protected. To talk about the same privileges for both sexes is to talk nonsense.

GRADE CROSSINGS

FURTHER progress in the elimination of grade crossings in Philadelphia is auspiciously indicated by the movement for the removal of fourteen of the most dangerous surface intersections of railroads and streets along the line of the Reading Railway.

At a conference this week between officials and engineers of this line, the Mayor and representatives of various organizations, particular stress was laid upon the perilous crossings on the Norristown and Reading branch in and near Wissahickon, Falls of Schuylkill and Manayunk.

On this division of the Reading, which was not incorporated in the magnificent reform effected by the company between Spring Garden street and Wayne Junction, express trains still travel at high speed through what are now built-up, thickly settled sections of the city. The elevation or lowering of the tracks between Sixteenth street and Manayunk is a subject meriting earnest practical consideration by the railroad and the municipality.

The project to do away with the Oregon avenue barrier to the city's growth is already launched. But this plan is unrelated in its particulars to the Washington avenue problem. There the Pennsylvania has its responsibilities, which sooner or later must be faced. The burden upon the two principal railroad companies here is still formidable, but the splendid improvements that have been made within the last thirty or thirty-five years furnish hopeful signs that the reform can be made complete.

Half a century ago the surface railway situation in Philadelphia was probably as pressing as in any other large American city. In the early days surface lines were recklessly located on the surface of main thoroughfares. Even Market street was thus disfigured and rendered dangerous.

The process of betterment has been consistently supported with impressive results. Virtually the only express line now threatening public security is the Norristown branch of the Reading, of which reconstruction is solicited. Having progressed thus far, it is logical to urge reform until Philadelphia, with its network of railroads, is as free from their inconveniences and perils as is London, where grade crossings were prohibited in the pioneering days of railroading.

LET 'EM TALK

GOVERNOR SMALL, of Illinois, evidently believes that democratic institutions are in no serious danger from anything that agitators may say. His pardon of William Bross Lloyd, a rich Chicago radical, after the man had been imprisoned only a few days, proves this.

Lloyd is a Communist, who was convicted under an Illinois statute aimed at the propagation of syndicalism. The conviction occurred a little more than a year ago, and it was not until it was affirmed by the higher courts that the man was sent to jail.

The Nation was not at war, and neither Lloyd nor the men convicted with him were accused of giving aid and comfort to a national enemy. They were speaking their minds in time of peace, and they were guilty of no overt acts subversive of government.

If their conviction had taken place while we were at war there might have been justification for it. Under such circumstances a freedom of speech that is allowable in time of peace may become dangerous. If individuals either attack the war aims of the Government or attempt in other ways to interfere with the prosecution of the war they must be restrained. But in time of peace the widest liberty of speech must be allowed. It is no crime for a man to argue in favor of the establishment of a monarchy here, nor is it a crime for another man to insist that the establishment of a Soviet republic will bring to the people greater happiness and freedom than they now enjoy. But if they conspire to overturn the existing Government outside the methods for reform provided by the Constitution, and are guilty of acts intended to overturn it, then they become amenable to the laws and must be punished.

Governor Small knows that Lloyd was guilty of no overt acts aimed at the Government, and he knows also that the way to make such propaganda as he was engaged in harmless is to give it the widest latitude.

It may be that the Governor smiled cynically to himself as he signed the pardon, while he reflected that Lloyd, in spite of the fact that he professes to be a Communist, retains possession of his own great fortune. Such a Communist lives so far removed from the actualities that he is harmless, however much he may talk.

CLEMENCEAU'S PROGRESS

GRADUALLY, as M. Clemenceau proceeds about the country on his lonesome mission, sympathy for the man himself increases while sympathy for his political doctrine seems to diminish. One of our virtues is an inherent disposition to admire courage, and the "Tiger" is magnificently courageous. He is passionately in earnest, and that ought to be enough to assure for him the admiration and respect even of people who feel that his logic is menacing.

The fact seems to be that Clemenceau is thinking of ideals that are even more remote than peace. Clearly he desires to bring old times back into the world, the old times before the war. He wants to re-establish the sympathies and all the bonds of intimate understanding that bound France and the United States together for generations. Yet there is nothing to suggest that these bonds ever were severed. Americans who disagree with French policy do not disagree with the French people. They are disposed to disagree with the politicians at Paris. With these politicians great masses of the French are at odds.

Yesterday the "Tiger" visited Lincoln's tomb at Springfield, Ill. Lincoln, too, lived through the anguish of a great and bloody war that left his Nation tired and poor. But he could look beyond the moment and he could consider his responsibilities to future generations. And Lincoln was the man who said that a house divided against itself cannot stand.

Europe is a house. Take away its inherited racial hatreds and its terrible traditions of fear and vengeance and it would not be greatly unlike the United States in its essential needs and aspirations. The interests and the hopes of its plain people are virtually the same. Yet Europe is divided against itself now as badly as it ever was divided before.

AS ONE WOMAN SEES IT

Girls of the Day Before Yesterday Appear to Have Included Courses of Theological Lectures in Their Lists of Social Functions

By SARAH D. LOWRIE

I WAS looking over a woman's memory book not long ago and I was amused to find among her dance programs, college commencement souvenirs and the flotsam and jetsam of three or four seasons "out" a lecture program of a course of theological lectures given by Princeton professors here in Philadelphia on the "Confession of Faith of the Presbyterian Denomination."

It seemed odd, in the light of the present, that any girl of eighteen could have been interested enough in such subjects to attend those lectures and to preserve the synopsis among the other mementoes of her good times.

She assured me that she was not the only girl there, and that, moreover, it was the "thing" to go to them that winter, and among Presbyterians especially the serious social event that counted, somewhat as the Friday concerts count now.

The discussions were concerning the inspiration of the Scriptures, the theological orthodoxy or heterodoxy of this and that theory regarding the Godhead, the sacraments, the atonement, moral obligations, etc.

Unorthodoxy was believed to be on trial and to be judged and convicted and condemned. Orthodoxy was believed to be more firmly established than ever, and its champions were the popular and much-lauded leaders of thought.

One man in particular was regarded as the bulwark of orthodox theology, first because he had most successfully routed a fellow theologian who was deemed virulently unorthodox with regard to the inspiration of the Scriptures at a public trial for heresy; second, because he was not only learned in all that touched on philosophical and theological religion, but he was also immensely apt at turning his learning to good account on his side of a controversy; and third, because he was both witty and good tempered in his defensive and offensive strategy; and last of all, as president of Princeton University his worldly position was an asset for whatever side he chose to advocate.

In fact, the name of Dr. Francis Patton, of Princeton, was a great name to conjure with, not only among Presbyterians but among men and women of a responsible sort who preached or who taught or who supported Protestant doctrines of strict theological orthodoxy.

AT THAT time it was enough to say of a doctrine that it was true in order to recognize it as important. "Important if true," was the attitude then in vogue toward religious ideas.

I am remembering this, as I write, with considerable astonishment, because nowadays that is not the attitude of the public nor of the majority of active Christians. It might be said today that if a thing is important it is proof that it must be true, but the accent is laid always on the importance. A great many true things are not important—to this particuluar day and generation.

I was more than ever aware of that when I listened the other evening to that same Dr. Francis Patton delivering much the same lecture that he had given perhaps thirty years ago to an audience of some 500 persons in one of the downtown Presbyterian churches of this city under the auspices of the leading Presbyterians of today in this vicinity.

He was just as brilliant as he ever was, just as quick at taking advantage of a lapse in his adversary, just as learned in his subject and as facile in making its difficulties apparently simple. But there were no young girls in that audience of persons, mostly well over fifty.

THE subject under discussion was the origin of the conscience, or, as Dr. Patton put it, the origins of the sense of moral obligation in man.

Very cleverly, as well as very learnedly and with charming flashes of quick description and been analysis, did this great doctor of theology play with the theories of the origin of the conscience from the days of Hobbs to the days of Sedgwick in England and from the days of Descartes to those of Kant on the Continent; but when he had dexterously manipulated one puppet idea after another on the stage of his philosophical theatre, and as a grand finale suddenly flashed on the orthodox theory of the inherent nature of man's sense of moral obligation and then had rung down the curtain on the tableau—when he had done all this he had not answered the real question that the real world outside that church is asking: Have I a conscience? What does it say?

IT DOES not interest the modern young man or woman what the archeology of the conscience is, whether he got it as he got his liver or whether he got it as he gets bacon—that is, whether he was born with it or found it waiting when he got here, or it grew in him like Topsy. What concerns him is which among the many voices that speak to him is conscience? And what obligation among the many that seem to claim him is the most moral? And what is meant by "moral" duty to God? Duty to oneself? Duty to one's neighbor? And what difference is there between God's design and one's own predilection? And if there is a conflict between one's own desire and one's neighbor's desire, who decides?

What is all this discussion of the quarrels of the doctors as to where and how and when the conscience arrived to a man that cannot hear his conscience tick, or to a girl who is not sure she has one or to a whole generation that does not know a "categorical-imperative" from a "phylactery"!

ARCHEOLOGICALLY it is interesting to listen to a brilliant resume of the questions that engrossed the attention of a past generation, but no Christian group of men and women can afford to rely on those past importances to buttress their present needs. God may be the same yesterday, today and forever, but that is where limited humans have to differ from God. They are not great enough nor final enough to be the same today that they were yesterday. They are working toward perfection, and each generation has its new fierce question.

Thirty years ago it was very important to most people as to who wrote the Bible, God or men. Today it is very important whether God is on the side of labor or on the side of capital.

Theological doctors who would take sides on that question would fill more than the middle aisles of a church with listeners, and men and women under fifty would turn out to hear their arguments.

To Fill Us With Amaze — President of the Radio League explains that the radio distance from the Pacific Coast to England is not much greater than from the Atlantic Coast to England because the radio travels the shortest route—over the top of the world. It may soon be possible to make the trip by airship.

Modern Wonders — Saturday's football games were broadcast by radio with every play described and every cheer heard. Some day it may be possible for a man to sit in his own home and see moving pictures of the distant game, at the moment it is played, with radio accompaniment of cheers and comment.

Comet's Tail and Others — Harvard announces that Skjellerup has discovered a comet. It can't be seen by the naked eye. The eye, we surmise, must be clothed with imagination. But a camera was able to pick it up. It grasped the nebulous mass, as it were, and made it Skjell. Far be it from us to doubt the Skjellerup's tale, though, for all we know it—we mean he—may be a mad wag.

IN BAD

NOW MY IDEA IS THIS!

Daily Talks With Thinking Philadelphians on Subjects They Know Best

DR. LOUIS LEHRFELD
On Fallacies in Vital Statistics

VITAL statistics may be designated as the compass of progress. They indicate the assets and liabilities of a community in the terms of human lives, but, like any record compiled in numbers, there is likelihood of great error, depending upon the original source of information, methods of computing and the resulting conclusions reached by statisticians, says Dr. Louis Lehrfeld.

"It has been frequently asked," said Dr. Lehrfeld, "why the crude death rate for Philadelphia has been and has continued to be greater than that of New York and Chicago, whose population is made up of similar people. Philadelphia, widely known as the 'workshop of the world' and the 'city of homes,' is certainly not more susceptible to disease than the other large cities of the country.

The Real Reasons

"The sanitary equipment in this city is certainly not responsible for the differences in death rates compared with other communities of like size; nor are the housing conditions such as to be unfavorably compared with those of New York or Chicago, where a large part of the population is housed in tenements.

"Statistics, of course, should not be taken at face value unless they are accompanied by comprehensive explanations. The common death rate used as an index in all our cities, small and large, is taken as the means of comparison. This rate, or index, does not take into consideration the detailed composition of the types of people and the age groups involved.

"For instance, in Philadelphia 22 per cent of the population is composed of persons forty-five years of age or more. In New York this percentage is 19.2 and in Chicago 19.36. The death rate in this age period comprises about one-half of the total deaths among all ages. In other words, Philadelphia has a greater population of older persons than New York or Chicago. The period of expectancy for persons over forty-five being less than for those under that age, it is immediately concluded that Philadelphia as well as any other city with a large population of older persons will have a higher crude death rate.

"Furthermore, any community having a larger percentage of persons between the ages of fifteen and forty-five years will have a larger birth rate, and thus a greater multiplication of population, which always tends to lower the general death rate. According to the census of 1920, New York City's population in this group is 52.4 per cent, Chicago's 52.55 per cent and Philadelphia's 50.6 per cent. While these differences in percentage do not appear great, yet when applied to populations of 2,000,000 and more, the total numbers involved soon become apparent.

"The infant mortality of the three cities approximates 15 per cent of the total mortality, but this age group will not affect the general death rate to the same extent as a community having a larger population over the age of forty-five, with a mortality of nearly 50 per cent of the total.

"If Philadelphia actually had a higher general death rate than Chicago or New York, why is it that the number of deaths under one year compared to deaths from all causes and all ages is lower in Philadelphia than in New York and Chicago?

The Infant Mortality

"The New York Milk Committee has issued statistics on infant mortality from 1906 to 1917 and the Health Departments have furnished data to the present time. Briefly analyzed, the figures show that from 1906-10 the New York rate was 22.03, Chicago 21.1 and Philadelphia 19.9. From that time the rate gradually decreased in all cities until in 1921 it stood: New York 15.1, Chicago 16.39 and Philadelphia 14.3. At all times since 1906 the figures for this city have been lower than those of either New York or Chicago. The figures also show that there is a correspondingly lower mortality in the higher age groups in the other two cities.

"Mortality statistics, to be comparable, should take into consideration the relative composition of the population. For fair basis of comparison, the general death rate should be corrected and standardized, using the population of a certain city as norm. A standard should be adopted for cities of the first class, of the second class and for communities within a certain range of population.

"Our present-day methods of computing death records are in need of revision. The statistician usually takes the cause of death on the death certificate at its face value. Practicing physicians pay little attention to the accuracy of a statement of the primary and contributing cause of deaths, and a large proportion of deaths occur in hospitals where the internes who make the records have little knowledge of them and whose ideas are not yet clear as to the primary and contributing causes.

Statistical Inaccuracies

"For many years heart disease held first place in Philadelphia, giving the false impression that this was the most common disease. From 1917 to 1920, pneumonia headed the list. Regardless of the primary disease, pneumonia is often a complicating condition and is the terminating factor. Physicians are therefore apt to place on the list the terminal condition rather than the principal or primary factor.

"For instance, during the epidemic of influenza in 1918 a large number of death certificates read 'cause of death, pneumonia—contributory, influenza.' The average statistician would naturally attribute the cause of death to pneumonia, while the true condition was influenza which terminated as pneumonia, the real disease being influenzal pneumonia, which was the principal cause of death during that epidemic.

"The point at issue is that the statistician should interpret the death certificate so as to obtain proper statistics. A case may be reported as influenza and appear on the death certificate as pneumonia, giving faulty statistics by indicating a very high case death rate from pneumonia and a very low case death rate from influenza.

Primary Causes Given Preference

"The chief error in statistics lies with the original record by the physician. Registrars of vital statistics should inaugurate a campaign among physicians, explaining the difference between the primary cause of death and the contributing cause. Inasmuch as the mortality statistics are based on the primary cause, this should be accurate. For instance, if a patient has diabetes complicated with Bright's disease the primary cause should be diabetes and not Bright's disease, which is the terminal factor.

"The point at issue is that many physicians are using the terminal disease as the cause rather than the primary condition. This may account for the fact that pneumonia and Bright's disease are the two leading causes of death.

"Persons do not die of old age any more because the physicians are required to assign the cause of death to some disease, and heart disease is frequently the one of choice. Fully one-third of the deaths from heart disease in this country are among persons of more than seventy. A false impression that heart disease is increasing is created among the laity, but in reality it is nothing more than senility in one out of three instances. Old persons must die of some cause and heart disease is the easiest.

"Too frequently physicians are requested by families not to make public the actual cause of death, sometimes for the collection of insurance and sometimes for private reasons. The accuracy of death certificates in general has been refuted by autopsies, so that a small percentage of the causes of death marked on the certificate corresponds with the findings of the post-mortem. Correction of these conditions rests largely with the influence of the local registrars upon the physicians of their communities."

EMBALMED JESTS

British explorers have discovered in ancient Thebes a gem-studded throne of kings who reigned in Egypt about 1350 B. C.

More important is the declaration that papyri also were found.

We have no reason to believe that the articles therein contained and here listed by their first lines are authentic:

"Didja ever hear of the Canaanite who—"

"A certain man much harassed by his wife's mother—"

"Why does a chicken—"

"When is a door—"

"Step on it, kid! We'll be a long time dead!"

Charles Ringling urges circus men to abolish midway fakers. But our illusions will not wholly vanish while pink lemonade remains.

SHORT CUTS

We assembled not to praise turkey but to cranberry it.

By, by, Thanksgiving Turkey! Welcome Christmas Seal!

What Secretary Denby might cultivate to advantage is a good forgettery.

It was the men who condemned Greek statesmen to death who lost their heads.

When a man has dough and acquires some crust he usually loafs awhile.

Ship Subsidy is sailing into harbor, but she has yet to be guided to her pier.

Senator Couzens says Henry Ford will run for President. Yes, but how far?

The real song of thanksgiving should go up from the turkeys that are still alive.

Annapolis is now determined to turn out henceforth only material for a dry navy.

Not Foch but Haig won the war, say two British officers. No, not Haig and Haig.

Greece continues to give a faithful imitation of a man butting his head against a stone wall.

Chicago can never quite make up her mind whether to be prouder of her art gallery or her abattoir.

Dr. Carl G. Donney says slang should be abolished. Right, Doc! Can it! And Echo queries, Can it?

War isn't everything. Clemenceau, having seen Chicago stock yards, now knows the last word in scientific killing.

Time was when both were esteemed swift and sure, but nowadays Jersey justice seems as uncertain as Jersey lightning.

England says she will scrap no more warships until other signatories to the treaty do likewise. Why this distressing lack of confidence in the world's good faith? Is the dove developing spurs again?

Having been duly grateful for the fact that we are better off than some other folks, we, of course, will now proceed to prove that we deserve the good things Fate has bestowed upon us. Or shall we be modest instead?

What Do You Know?

QUIZ

1. Who was the last Saxon King of England?
2. Distinguish between the two Red Rivers of the United States.
3. From what language is the name Edna derived and what does it mean?
4. When did Peter Stuyvesant surrender New York (New Amsterdam) to the English?
5. In what State does the law forbid the granting of divorces?
6. How many shillings make a crown in English money?
7. Why is the famous painting, "The Mona Lisa," also called "La Gioconda"?
8. When did Napoleon III become Emperor of the French?
9. How many drams make an ounce in avoirdupois weight?
10. Who discovered radio activity and when?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

1. Australia was discovered by the Dutch in 1606, 114 years after the discovery of America.
2. Alice Meynell was a noted modern English poet. She died in November, 1922.
3. The Peace Commissioners to the Paris conference in 1919 were Woodrow Wilson, Robert Lansing, Henry White and Tasker H. Bliss.
4. Thetis in classical mythology was the mother of Achilles. She made her son invulnerable by dipping him in the River Styx, save for his heel, by which she held him.
5. Foot-pound is the unit of result in estimating work done by machinery. Thus, if we take one pound as the unit of weight and one foot as the unit of distance, a foot-pound would be one pound weight raised one foot.
6. Twelve ounces make a pound in troy weight.
7. The characteristic feature of the dress of the Fascisti in Italy is a black shirt.
8. Isinglass is a preparation of nearly pure gelatin, made from the viscera of fish.
9. Robert Bridges is the present poet laureate of England.
10. Lake Leman is another name for Lake Geneva, at the western end of Switzerland. Part of its southern coast is French territory.