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E. J. STACKPOLE President and Editor-in-Chief

F. R. OYSTER Secretary

GUS M. STEINMETZ Managing Editor

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THURSDAY EVENING, DEC. 16

Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall. —I Cor. 10:12.

PROTECT THE GUARD

GOVERNOR BRUMBAUGH'S views on the continental army proposed by President Wilson in his recent message to Congress will be read with deep interest by everybody who has given thought to the matter of national defense. The Governor's keenly analytical mind picks out the one big flaw in the administration's plan—which is the utter failure of those who framed it to take into consideration the National Guards of the various States and what will happen to these well-organized forces in case the contemplated continental army is created. Unless there is some disposition of these organizations in the thought of those who are urging the continental army upon the country not yet made public, the Governor is right in his conclusion that to adopt the Wilson-Garrison recommendations would be to throw the Guard into the discard in favor of an untried experiment.

Pennsylvania has developed a National Guard second to none in the country and built along regular army lines to such extent that it could step out of its armories into the service of the United States almost without notice and with little or no change. There are hundreds of men within its ranks trained and qualified for duty as officers in an army of defense should the occasion arise. Without thought of pay and prompted by purely patriotic motives the thousands of men who go to make up the National Guard sacrifice their time and their money to attend drills and perfect themselves to step into the trenches at the word of command should the need arise for national defense. The folly and injustice of discouraging and disorganizing such an efficient and devoted fighting force needs no demonstration.

Not that it is said that the Guard has not developed military men of ability. Citizens of Harrisburg will recall our own Captain Thomas F. Maloney, whose City Grays were the pride of the whole State and whose manual arms was for many years a standard military work. General Frank Magee, General Thomas J. Jordan, General Alexander Russell, to mention only a very few of the figures well known to Harrisburg people who made reputations for themselves and the Guard in the State's service, are types of the soldierly qualities developed by the National Guard of Pennsylvania. Among the living there is Adjutant General Thomas J. Stewart as a striking example of the caliber of men who have for years been giving of their brain and brawn to the forging of the State militia into the efficient second line of defense it is to-day. To discourage them, as the Governor says, would be a grave mistake.

There is food for thought in the suggestion that the proper way in which to develop the armed force of citizen soldiery that the country admittedly needs is to enlarge and develop the Guard. Advance worthy men in the State's service to officerships and increase the number of regiments and various branches of the service, pay them for their time and give them something to work for. Along this line it might be well to give each regiment some insignia by which it would be known everywhere. The famous Black Watch, for instance, is an example of what name and a tradition will do for a military body.

But that aside, the thing to do, as Governor Brumbaugh says, is to see to it that we do not sacrifice that which we know to be good for a very doubtful experiment.

BANK INTEREST RATES

JOHN SKELTON WILLIAMS, the more or less controversial Comptroller of the Currency, is again out with a broadside assertion that the National Banks are charging usurious rates of interest. He has been called to task for his loose criticism by the executive committee of the American Bankers' Association, which shows, in a public statement, that the comptroller fastens on one-third or one-seventh of national banks the charge of assessing excessive interest rates and points out that

consideration of the question numerically is likely to be misleading.

In New York State, for instance, there are nine quill national banks out of 478, and it is suggested that the nine offending banks are little institutions which have small part of the \$165,000,000 of capital and a still smaller proportion of the \$1,580,000,000 of loans and discounts.

In Massachusetts there are three offending banks out of 170, and in Virginia five out of 136. Most of the trouble seems to be in Georgia, where, according to the comptroller, sixty-six banks out of 113 are offenders and the capital stock of all the national banks in Georgia is only three-fourths of the capital stock of the Continental and Commercial National Bank of Georgia, while the loans and discounts of all the national banks in Georgia, \$62,000,000, are approximately equal to the loans and discounts of the Irving National Bank of New York. Alabama figures in about the same proportion, with Texas as a close second.

It is the opinion of the banking association, which has called Comptroller Williams to account, that his statement is absolutely misleading and unjustifiable so far as it relates to national banks in general. He is charged with doing an injustice to the majority of national banks, and as the chief offenders seem to be in the Southern and Southwestern States the bankers believe they are warranted in the statement that the alleged practice of usurious interest rates is not general and is confined to particular sections.

DON'T HIDE THE CANDLE

MUCH credit must be given the Motor Club of Harrisburg for its excellent work in marking the Lincoln Highway feeders between this city and Gettysburg and also along the other route to Lancaster, as well as the road between Harrisburg and Chambersburg. While the winter weather interfered with the completion of the undertaking, the club will see that the markers are all in position with the opening of Spring and the tourist travel.

The public generally, perhaps, does not appreciate the importance of the activities of this live wire organization. Harrisburg is becoming more and more a center of automobile travel, and with the opening of the William Penn Highway through the Juniata Valley between Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, this city is bound to take its proper place in the highway system of the country.

It remains for the merchants and the businessmen of all classes to do their share toward the development of Harrisburg as the hub of the State. We have the great Capitol and its art treasures, in addition to an extremely picturesque and attractive city to draw the strangers from afar, and it only remains that these visitors may be familiarized with the features which ordinarily invite the stranger.

Of course, we are still short on hotel facilities, but this glaring need should not militate in the slightest degree against proper effort in the bringing of the great throng of tourists to this city. Fortunately, we have the Chamber of Commerce, the Rotary Club and an army of intelligent and appreciative salesmen, every one of whom is an enthusiastic missionary, and these agencies and instrumentalities are co-operating with our citizenry in placing Harrisburg upon the map of the United States everywhere.

It is generally believed that we are about to enter upon another period of remarkable development and it is the business, and ought to be the pleasure, of all the people to stand shoulder to shoulder in the advancement of the best interests of the city. We may safely leave to the Motor Club an important part of this work. It has demonstrated over and over again its ability to handle things well and nothing that it has achieved is more beneficial than the marking of the highways leading to Harrisburg so that he who runs may read—without stopping his machine. As a matter of fact, every highway, good and bad, one hundred miles in every direction from Harrisburg should be conspicuously and intelligently marked so that the stranger cannot miss this city.

We must not hide our candle under a bushel; it should shine not only on Christmas eve, but throughout the year and wherever possible to display the flame.

CITY AND STATE

ONE of the favorable signs of the general interest in the work of the City Planning Commission is the widespread discussion of its several projects for the improvement of the traffic conditions, especially in a reconstruction of the Market street subway and the proper treatment of communication between the Allison Hill section and the Capitol Park zone. All manner of suggestions have been submitted by interested citizens and these suggestions indicate an intelligent study of the problem. It is by reason of this attitude on the part of our citizens generally that the city planners are encouraged to go forward in their comprehensive and fruitful work.

Growing out of the Capitol Park problem is the decision to widen the streets on three sides of the Capitol grounds. This involves Walnut, Third and North streets and it is clearly the intention of the State authorities to broaden these highways so that there may not be the congestion which has heretofore been the cause of so much criticism. With the development of the Commonwealth, the Capitol and its surroundings are certain to grow in importance and for this reason, if for no other, the streets leading to the State House should be commensurate with the dignity of the structure and its environment.

The widening of North and Walnut streets is a comparatively easy proposition, as is also the increase of the width of Third street between Walnut and North. This is made possible through a suggestion of an emi-

nent landscape designer who declares it is not necessary to interfere with any of the trees along Third street; that all that need be done is to dispense with a sidewalk on the park side and provide instead a footway along the top of the short terrace from the entrance at Walnut street to the exit at North street between the trees. This would give fifteen to twenty feet additional roadway and provide a much better setting for the Capitol.

It is conceded that in the revision of the park lines, in the old section as well as in the new, it will be necessary to regrade portions of the park so as to make harmonious the treatment throughout.

Owing to the unavoidable absence of Governor Brumbaugh on Tuesday, the conference arranged between the Board of Public Buildings and Grounds and the City Planning Commission was postponed. It is understood, however, that the Governor's interest in this subject is so great that he will arrange a special sitting for this conference to-day. It is a happy situation that the State authorities are so ready and willing to co-operate with the city planners in reaching a proper conclusion regarding the development of the Capitol Park and its surroundings, so that when the work shall have been completed it will be dignified and creditable to all concerned.

Long ago Harrisburg realized the importance of expert counsel in all its public improvement undertakings, and Governor Brumbaugh's personal experience as a planner in Philadelphia, as well as the interest of Auditor General Powell and State Treasurer Young in the development of the State property, insure broad and generous and intelligent consideration of all the problems involved.

Politics in Pennsylvania

By the Ex-Committeeman

Considerable attention is being given throughout the State to remarks by Mayor-elect Thomas B. Smith, of Philadelphia, that he intends to keep factionalism out of the Philadelphia city councils and the Republican city committee in Philadelphia. Following his statement that he would not countenance any factional fighting over national delegates in the State this is taken as significant of the attitude of many prominent Republicans throughout Pennsylvania. The Philadelphia and Pittsburgh mayors have come out against any disruption of the Republican party by a fight over national delegates and against Senator Penrose and the remarks of the Philadelphia mayor-elect are taken as a reiteration of his stand.

The Philadelphia Inquirer says, regarding the matter: "Neither element in the city leadership, it is rumored, will be permitted to conspire successfully against the men who have established themselves in the wards as representatives of the Republican voters of their respective constituencies. The incoming administration is not likely to be so hasty to strengthen the hands of those who have been looking after the party management in the several wards and have by their election to the Republican City Committee demonstrated their strength with the potential men in their respective Republican Ward Executive Committees."

Governor Brumbaugh reiterated his belief that next year was going to be a Republican year in an interview while in Washington on Tuesday. The Governor also said that the Republican party would welcome anyone back, not even making an exception of Roosevelt.

J. Denny O'Neill is certainly on the war path in Pittsburgh. He says that the bosses in Pennsylvania are an expert lot of "double-crossers" and that they are shaking hands and waving dinks at the same time. Mr. O'Neill is saying about Mayor-elect Smith and others.

Mayor Blankenburg last night gave a farewell dinner to the members of his cabinet. He said nice things about them.

Governor Brumbaugh last night said that he had never asked or authorized anyone to ask him to be invited to attend or speak at the dinner of the Republican League of Clubs in Washington. Dispatches were sent out last week that a request for an invitation had been made for him.

Montgomery county officials will continue deputies and clerks in office.

Goldstein, one of the men involved in the Pittsburgh election cases, was acquitted yesterday, but the jury put the costs on him.

In Bradford county, 117 dozen jurors refused to serve after being elected. They did not think it worth while.

According to the Pittsburgh Gazette-Times M. Clyde Kelly, former legislator and former congressman, Bull Moose and insurgent generally, will be a candidate for Congress in the McKeesport district against Congressman W. H. Coleman. Kelly got into Congress by defeating John Dzel in the 1912 wave, but when things became normal he was significantly defeated. It is now said that Kelly is seeking the influence of J. Denny O'Neill, who is a power in the district, all of which goes to show a funny line-up in Allegheny.

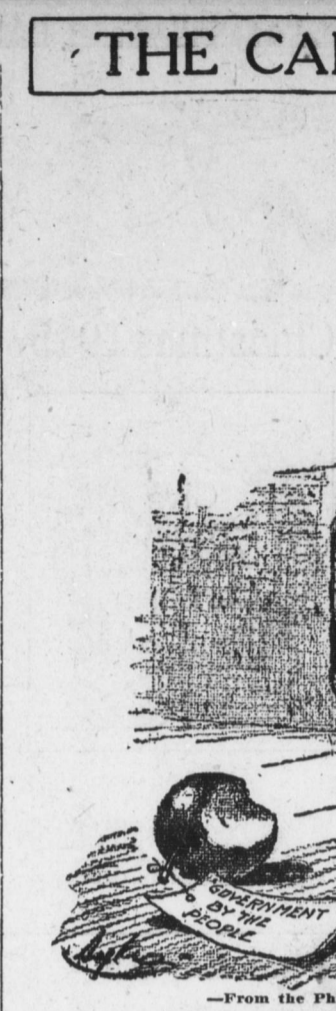
State Fire Marshal Joseph L. Baldwin is not in any hurry to resign. His term as assistant director of works in Philadelphia does not begin until next month and he will retire from the hill with the month and the year. Mr. Baldwin will take with him incidentally, the best wishes of everyone at the Capitol and of many Harrisburg friends.

H. A. Beale, Parkersburg ironmaster, is being boomed as a candidate for Republican nomination in the Chester-Delaware district. Beale is a great friend of Senator Penrose.

The Uniontown Record, the progressive party organ started in Fayette county by W. A. Stone, the coal operator, has joined the Towne publications in the journalistic spirit land. Stone made quite a noise as a progressive State committeeman a few years ago and his paper was still noisier. One by one the roses fade.

COST OF OUR DEFENSE

The United States has only 624 complete field guns in existence, with 72 in the making. About 5,000 field guns are in the German army; at this writing the French command almost 7,000 guns.



—From the Philadelphia Evening Ledger.

TELEGRAPH'S PERISCOPE

—Santa Claus is the man who put the hills in bills.

—Kansas has been awarded first prize for chickens. Whether or not New York City will protest depends entirely on the kind of chickens meant.

—Now what fool newspaperman started the story that coal is selling in Italy at \$10 a ton. Doesn't he have any conception of the influence of suggestion?

—Money won't buy everything—take an automobile that will start promptly on cold mornings, for instance.

—"A cargo of nuts for Europe," is the headline over an item in an eastern exchange. No, you are mistaken, it does not refer to the Ford party.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

The White Dove of Peace aboard the Oscar II was undoubtedly swallowed by the squirrels.—New York Sun.

Gov. Walsh of Massachusetts is refusing a \$15,000 movie offer flatly repudiated the theory that governors should be seen and not heard.—Pittsburgh Gazette-Times.

Christmas is gaining rapidly on the peace pilgrims.—New York Sun.

"BUTTING IN"

Our compliments to Brother Perkins, with whom it is so often the Sun-felicitly to disagree. We discover no matter for controversy in his able letter to President Wilson commenting on the Chief Executive's declaration at Columbus that it is "none of our business what the Mexicans do with their government." Mr. Wilson's firm announcement further that "so long as I have the power to prevent it nobody shall 'butt in' to alter it for them."

Mr. Perkins does not address the President as a private citizen but as the chairman of the executive committee of the national Progressive party. The fact that his relation to this party is not stated in his letter, but simply a region inhabited by many different races, held in check by the all-powerful Moslems.

This rule of the Sultan was a thing most picturesque. Owing responsibility to no one, he gathered about him a large kitchen cabinet, composed of all sorts of upstarts who had managed to gain a hold upon the Sultan's favor. The kitchen cabinet included some chamberlains, some secretaries. One of them was an astrologer, who during the attempted revolution of 1897 gained great credit with the Sultan by prophesying the arrival of messages by telegraph. This he accomplished by the simple process of bribing operators and holding telegrams up.

THE STATE FROM DAY TO DAY

"What are you doing with my safety-razor?" said the young man to his pretty sister out in the western part of the State. "I'm shaving my eye-brows, sir," she said, and continued her task. The fad seems to have started out in Chicago, and is threatening the east, picking up devotees in its wild eastern rush towards the Atlantic Ocean, where it will probably plunge into the waves and die the death of so many of these peculiar fads.

Courage is not a quality that is displayed only on the battlefield and in the trenches. There is a lad in Philadelphia by the name of Joseph Colodanto, only eight years old, who a few nights ago injured his hand and was forced to have three fingers amputated. He refused an anesthetic, but begged the surgeon "not to cut them off too close; I want to be a violin player." When the operation was performed, the little fellow clamped his lips, and although a tear or two came voluntarily from his eyes, he made no outcry.

Police in the cities of Pennsylvania are requested to be on the lookout for Elizabeth Leasure, of Farrell, who left her home several days ago and has not been seen since.

The Driggs-Seabury Ordnance Company, of Sharon, has recapitalized to the amount of \$10,000,000 by unanimous consent of stockholders. Six and one-half millions will go towards paying for the Savage Arms Co., of Utica, N. Y., which plant was recently taken over. The Savage Company manufactures sidearms and a new light machine gun.

The Williamsport Gazette and Bulletin recently rejected a \$500 run advertisement and announced that the future policy of the paper would be to accept no more advertising of

CONSTANTINOPLE

By Frederic J. Haskin

WITH the diles striking at it by land and sea through the Dardanelles and the Germans hammering their way toward it across Serbia in order to effect a junction with the Turks, Constantinople is one of the greatest strategic points of the world. Built at the natural entrance to the Orient, standing between the Moslem and Christian civilizations, Constantinople has been an objective in every world war since Emperor Constantine built it to be the Rome of the East.

What will be the fate of Constantinople in the present struggle is an especially interesting question because the changes that have taken place in that city as the center of the Turkish Empire during the last seven years. After centuries of Oriental somnolence, untouched by the mighty changes that have taken place in the West, Constantinople has at last awakened to the new spirit of liberty and, under the leadership of the Young Turks, is working out her own destiny along modern lines. The destiny may be greatly changed by the events of the European war, although at present both Constantinople and Bagdad are residing invasion with a vitality and success that have astonished the world.

This new Oriental efficiency is imbued with the spirit of the Young Turk, which has possessed Constantinople since the revolution of 1908.

Mystery and Dirt

Prior to that time, Constantinople was the city of the Arabian Nights, a place of mystery and dirt, of beauty and squalor, the seat of a government by stealth and oppression and extortion. Its ruler was the Sick Man of the East; its people lived still in the Middle Ages.

At that time, Turkey was an absolute monarchy, with the Sultan as its temporal head. Being recognized as the chief successor of the Prophet, he was also its spiritual head. In effect, Turkey was not a nation at all, but simply a region inhabited by many different races, held in check by the all-powerful Moslems.

This rule of the Sultan was a thing most picturesque. Owing responsibility to no one, he gathered about him a large kitchen cabinet, composed of all sorts of upstarts who had managed to gain a hold upon the Sultan's favor. The kitchen cabinet included some chamberlains, some secretaries. One of them was an astrologer, who during the attempted revolution of 1897 gained great credit with the Sultan by prophesying the arrival of messages by telegraph. This he accomplished by the simple process of bribing operators and holding telegrams up.

Undoubtedly, this was one of the most remarkable revolutions in the history of the world. This people have lived all their lives bound hand and foot by a tyranny which constricted even their private lives. They might not walk where they would, nor say what they thought, nor worship their pleasures. They paid their earnings to thieves in high places and lived in a squalor which they could not escape. Suddenly, this people awoke to the knowledge that it was free. Shouting their pleasure through the streets of Constantinople and gathered about the orators of the Young Turks on every corner. Priests of different faiths, who had never looked upon each other now saluted with kisses, Greek and Jew and Turk frolicked together, with the fraternal freedom of religious tolerance.

More and more papers all over the country are adopting this attitude, which is certain to help materially in strengthening the power of those who wish to diminish the wide influence of liquor.

Spurgeon M. Keeny, class of 1914, Pennsylvania College, Gettysburg, has been selected by the Pennsylvania Committee of selection as its unanimous choice for Rhodes Scholar to Oxford for 1916. Mr. Keeny was given the place over six other candidates who were examined by the committee.

"HOLD FAST THAT THOU HAST" (Kansas City Times.) A writer in an Eastern newspaper said recently that the pulpit was not the place to treat the question of national preparedness. In a sermon last Sunday the Rev. David Loinaz, assistant pastor of Central Congregational church, Brooklyn, N. Y., took exception to this sentiment. His text was: "Hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown." He outlined the history of this country, a haven of refuge for the oppressed of all lands, its ideals a sacred trust committed to us from above, its leaders raised up to hold aloft the flaming torch, he said.

"Be worthy of them and of your sacred trust. The tools, the material resources, the intelligence to use them are heaven's free gifts to you; yours is the responsibility to use them nobly, and to guard them loyally against every foe. Expect no miracle to preserve them intact. If you should prove negligent, you have the power, the means and the ability, to defend and conserve them, if you so elect. God treats you as competent, responsible beings, and expects you to do your duty; not as babes and weaklings who may not be trusted to give a good account of themselves in the hour of danger. Guard your trust; fulfill your high destiny; quit you like men, be strong." "Hold fast that thou hast."

That is good common sense and good Christianity.

WELL KNOWN PEOPLE

—George Gosser, assistant postmaster of Pittsburgh, figures out a big increase in the population of that city.

—Edward Wolf has been elected president of the Manufacturers' bank at Philadelphia.

—Gordon Campbell, head of the Park and Recreation department of the State Street Railway Association meeting in Scranton.

—Congressman Butler, of West Chester, is the ranking member of the Pennsylvania delegation as to service.

—William H. Wilson, the new director of safety in Philadelphia, is making a study of conditions in that city.

DO YOU KNOW

—That Harrisburg engines are in use in New York skyscrapers?

HISTORIC HARRISBURG

Conrad Weiser held his last meeting with the Indians near this city.

THE THEORY AND THE FACT

(Philadelphia Ledger.)

Confronted with a crisis the gravity of which it would be futile to belittle, the President continues to indulge in vague generalizations regarding the national duty. America, he says in his latest speech, is to preserve peace, to maintain an attitude of friendliness toward all the world, to be a mediating influence for peace. "Do not believe," he adds, "that there is going to be any patched-up peace." Perhaps it is a recognition of this fact which leads him to disclaim the project of "governmental mediation." He must realize by this time that the attitude of the belligerents is such that we are the last people whose intervention would be gratefully received. So he now contents himself with a desire for "spiritual mediation." It is to be a kind of absent treatment. How it might work we do not know. Immediate interest in the conflict there is no occasion to inquire. When the President turns from this fact he will find many more important questions pressing for a decision. And the issue which they raise is so serious that he can no longer be content with words.

THE PEACE SHIP

By Wink Dinger

There once was a fellow named Ford, Who disliked the way some countries warred, So he chartered a ship For a special peace trip, Which got rid of a chunk of his hoard.

Then to this end that peace advocate His plans he did promptly relate, And said: "If with me You will go 'cross the sea On my peace mission I'll pay the freight."

Did they go? Well, not all, but some went, More on pleasure than peace, no doubt, For they surely must know That those nations won't whoa At the call of this peace-making gent.

Thrift

Thrift is the art of making the best use of what we have. It is the basis of saving for buying wisely. And the basis of thrift is knowledge of the value of things and the ability to rate a dollar at its true value, to buy the right thing at the right time and pay the lowest price.

People who with the thrift sense get their share out of their money, paper by making full use of the information in the advertising. They know the market before they shop.

Evening Chat

"Shop early, watch your step and above all watch your change" is the advice given by one of the city's best-known businessmen in the course of a talk yesterday afternoon on the general characteristics of the Christmas rush in the city. This man has been an observer of people and their ways for many, many years and he says that one of the things about which most people are careless, and right here in thrifty Harrisburg, too, is change. "Count your change before leaving the ticket, bank or any other window where they hand out money. They count when you put it in. You count it when you get it out," said he. "Give that message to the readers of your newspaper. Why I could tell you of thousands of dollars that are lost or stolen through failure to watch change." What the man says is right. During this busy holiday season the mistakes are made and once again the cash before handing out money is not to make any alterations or refunds or gifts. This rule, which is old as money, may work hardship, but it teaches persons to be careful. One of the first things taught clerks who handle money in stores and banks, is to keep the bill to be changed in sight, note it on the sale book, and count the cash before handing it over to the customer. If there is a "kick," the clerk can tell at a glance whether there has been a mistake. Sometimes the customer gets the worst of it, and has no "come back." One of these cases came to the notice of the police department the other day. A man had a check cashed. He counted the money and walked away from the cashier's window. Then he changed his mind and returned. He carried over the figure "1." on a ten-dollar note. Three persons had overlooked the deflection on the note. The gentleman in question was out just ten dollars. He could have had the money tampered with before he got it.

The story in last evening's Chat column about the ocean liners Siberia and Mongolia meeting in midocean and transferring Chinese stowaways, has an interesting sequel that is worth mentioning. The Siberia, of the Atlantic Transport Line arrived in San Francisco on Monday by way of the Strait of Magellan and will henceforth ply between London and New York, in the service of the International Mercantile Marine, and carry only cargo. The Mongolia, which also figured in our story, will follow the Siberia's lead and with the Manchuria and the Korea, will go into the mercantile marine service. All four liners are American built and fly the American flag. The New York Sun in the course of an editorial refers to the fact that these ships hitherto engaged in the Pacific trade appeared in New York harbor decked with their names and the American flag such ships playing the Atlantic adopted some months ago as a precaution against submarines.

A. B. Farquhar, the York manufacturer who was here yesterday, is one of the foremost men in the State in conservation matters and has given freely of his time and means to further projects for the good of coming generations. He came here to attend a meeting at the office of the Governor.

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