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FRIDAY EVENING, DEC. 31 Life is not so short but that there is always room for courtesy.—Emerson.

MR. TAYLOR'S GOOD WORK CITY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR will retire to-morrow with a record of substantial achievement in his particular department.

Of all those who are more or less familiar with the things that have been done during Mr. Taylor's term of two years, none is more cordial in praise of this official than Mrs. William Henderson, president of the Civic Club, which has had the hearty co-operation of the commissioner right along.

The taking over of the St. Lawrence Catholic Church property is practically the final step in the acquirement of the important property of the Capitol Park zone. There are still other parcels of land to be bought, but it is expected by the commission that there will be no serious difficulty in taking title to what is left.

HARRISBURG IS BEING TRAGED BY ARE the other third-class cities of the State to the usual whirligig of political manipulation as a result of the commission experiment.

It was obvious from the beginning of this new system that these unfortunate differences would arise. Instead of promoting harmony of action, the exact opposite has been the case. We have heard much of nonpartisanism and all that sort of thing, but it must be plain to the wayfarer that politics will always prevail without regard to the particular form of administration imposed upon the municipalities by the Legislature.

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Colonel remains for the Oyster Bay Sage himself to declare. It is rather amusing that practically every man mentioned for President thus far is said to be acceptable to T. R. We suspect that all this may foreshadow a situation in which the Colonel may determine that he himself is the only solution.

THE PASSING YEAR

THE passing year will be recorded on a dun-colored page in the history of the world. It has seen more of bloodshed, more of sorrow, more of waste, more of wickedness than humanity a year previous could have thought possible.

And all this for what? That the selfish ambition of one man might have away; that brute force might be matched against moral suasion; that autocracy might be substituted for the individual freedom that has been growing apace in the world for the past century or more.

In our own country, even, the arts and the sciences have lagged. The accomplishment of wireless telegraphy and the perfecting of long distance talking by wire have been the only outstanding mechanical developments of the year.

The year has been poor in accomplishments for immediate good both here and in the world at large and the only hope held out is that the sacrifice will not have been in vain; that from the blood and travail of the past twelve months a new civilization and a new hope for humanity will be born.

CHILD'S PLAY

THE newspapers of the present week have published the first of a lot of photographs made on board the Ford peace ship, and one of them shows what the photographer has labelled "Two distinguished members of the Ford peace party playing leap frog; the Rev. Charles P. Aked leaping over the Rev. Dr. Jenkin Lloyd Jones."

If a Legislature had undertaken the voyage it would have been called a "junket" by the opposition press. As a vacation trip for tired business and professional men it might have been a boon to many.

Fish lights of the delegates gathered in series on board the peace ship might have elicited smiles of pity; snapshots of two of the most "distinguished members of the party" playing leapfrog when the world thought they were weighing between their weighty problems of international welfare excite only derision.

A LESSON FROM GERMANY

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Politics in Pennsylvania

By the Ex-Committeeman Mayor-elect Thomas E. Smith, of Philadelphia, who had Governor Brumbaugh for a golf partner at Atlantic City, and continued the political "conversations" he had with him in this city just before Christmas, was visited last night by Senator Penrose, and it is interesting to note the program on which the mayor has been busy lately is being worked out.

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—Judge John Faber Miller, who was appointed judge and then elected for the full term in Montgomery, took the oath yesterday.

—C. E. Albright was yesterday named as chief of surveys to succeed George S. Webster, who becomes director of a protest to city council against reduction of appropriations to the companies.

—Representative James A. Dunn was yesterday re-elected president of the Twenty-third ward Republican club in Philadelphia and given a portrait of himself at a banquet.

—Stephen J. Toole, retiring county commissioner, was appointed mercantile appraiser and there may be a fight over it with the new commissioners. The office pays about \$8,000. Toole is a Democrat and follows the Old Guard flag.

—Ellsworth Kelley, city clerk of Scranton, may have to fight for reelection.

—Some notable changes in the bench of Pennsylvania will be made on Monday and judges whose names have been mentioned will retire.

—The commissions for Justice Walling and Judge Rossiter were sent from the Capitol to Erie last night.

—Reading's mixed municipal situation is said to be on a fair way to be settled without the aid of the courts.

—Governor Brumbaugh is now said to have given orders to the State engineers for public service commissioner. The men boosted for the place change from day to day.

—The trustees of Sailors' Snug Harbor, the valuable ten New York City blocks extending from Eighth to Eleventh streets, and from Third avenue to University Place, have announced their intention to close out their leases as fast as they expire.

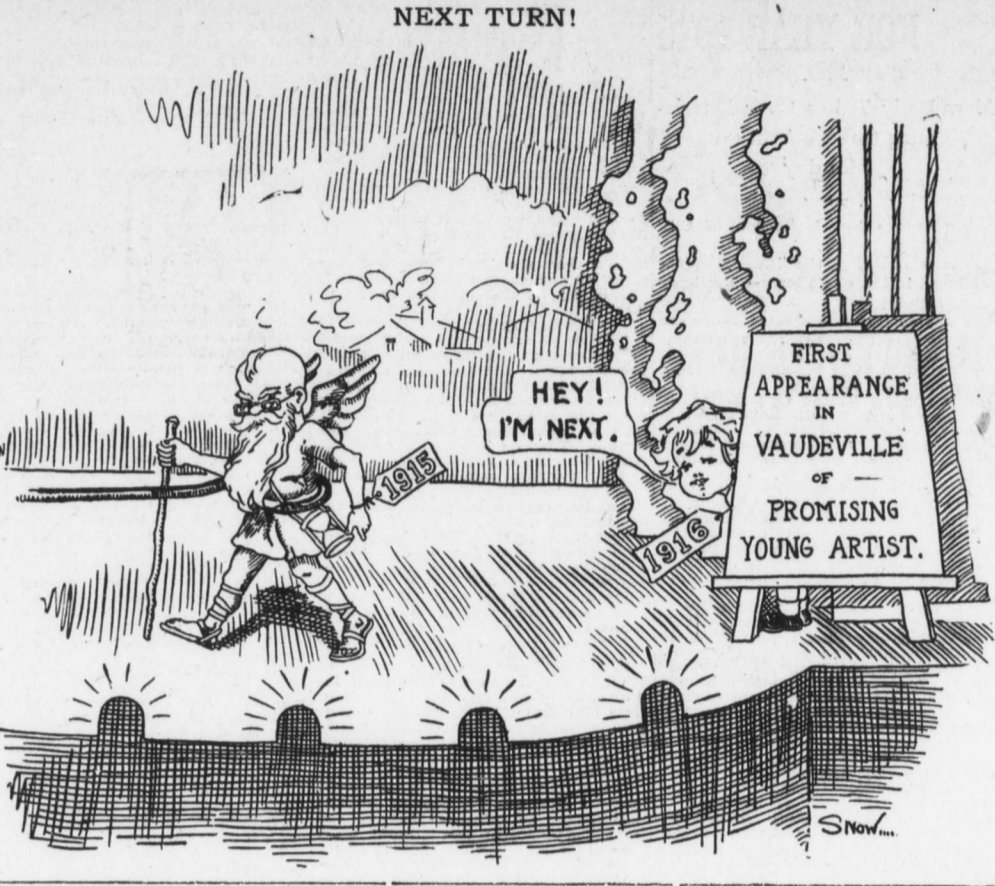
THE CHRISTIANS OF MODERN BABYLONIA

Throughout Mesopotamia you will find the descendants of the ancient Babylonians still living. They call themselves "Nasran" or "Christians." Europe and Asia will find them in the same way.

DON'T LEND MONEY TO RELATIVES, SAYS MINISTER

Says a minister of the American Magazine: "If a relative 'strikes' you for a little loan, and you have the money, be generously disposed, make him a present of the amount; if you do not care to give the money away, harden your heart and say, 'No.' You'll keep the relative's tongue wagging, and you'll have a little larger bank account at the end of the year."

THE CAROON OF THE DAY



TELEGRAPH'S PERISCOPE

—Getting up in the morning when one has the "grip" is like pulling loose from a plank to which one has been glued.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

"We congratulate the President on his noble vigor," sneers the London Chronicle. Perhaps in time we shall be able to congratulate the British Government on some novel military vigor in the Balkans and at the Dardanelles.—New York World.

The Searchlight

WAR DOCTORS ORGANIZE The doctors engaged in the Red Cross service in Europe are planning an organization which will be of great influence in the establishment of peace and good understanding. It is to be known as the Brotherhood of Physicians and Surgeons, and will have as its object the promotion of relief of human suffering without regard to national differences.

WHERE DEMON RUM IS ENTRENCHED

The trustees of Sailors' Snug Harbor, the valuable ten New York City blocks extending from Eighth to Eleventh streets, and from Third avenue to University Place, have announced their intention to close out their leases as fast as they expire.

Our Daily Laugh

TIME TO GET BUSY. Dancing instructor: "It is time for me to invent another dance." Friend: "Think so?" Dancing instructor: "Yes, I understand there are two towns dancing my last one allik."

VERY CLOSE

I had a close call last night. How did it happen? My next-door neighbor called me up on the telephone.

MY NEW YEAR'S WISH

By Wing Dingler If one were wish I could express, And have that wish come true, I'd wish that each and everyone (And that would take in you) Might have a New Year full of joy, And incomes of the sort That Uncle Sam demands shall be Covered by long report.

CLOTURE

By Frederic J. Haskin

AFTER wrangling through three sessions over it, the Democratic senatorial caucus finally decided to refer the question of cloture to a nonpartisan committee. There it will probably repose for a long time, but sooner or later it is sure to come up again, for it always has a few ardent supporters in the Senate.

The United States senate is one of the few parliamentary bodies in the world which has absolute freedom of debate, so-called. In the House of Representatives, debate may be brought to an end at any time by moving the previous question.

THE STATE FROM DAY TO DAY

A world's champion has been discovered in Hazleton. Young Leland Gordon Schweitzer is the speed-king who claims he is the fastest man in the world on the cinder track. In fact, he does more than that—he admits his wonderful ability. He says he can do the hundred yard dash in nine and two-fifths seconds, clipping a fifth off the world's record, and at other distances he is equally good.

DO YOU KNOW

That Harrisburg boiler plates are used in many manufacturing establishments? HISTORIC HARRISBURG Zachary Taylor visited here early in his career as an army officer.

WHY GET RICH QUICK SCHEMES WORK FOR BIG INVESTORS AND FAIL FOR SMALL ONES

"Those who labor hard for their money should be a still more arduous struggle in saving small sums," says a banker in the January American Magazine. "The small investor is for sudden riches. But the fatal error lies in supposing that a large person can afford to take the chance. If he or she loses they lose all. The large investor has the law of averages working with them. They afford to sink money into a thousand ventures, and they are protected by the law of averages. The average safety of their investments depending upon no single risk."

MAKING A DATE ON A DATE STEAMER

The raising of dates is the greatest industry of the Empire State valley. Autumn is a feverish time among the date merchants. Then the dates are ripe and are loaded onto the ocean steamers at Burch, and the boats race the Atlantic. The date steamer, the Red Sea, along the Mediterranean and across the Atlantic, to be the first to arrive with the date crop. The date steamer, the Red Sea, along the Mediterranean and across the Atlantic, to be the first to arrive with the date crop.

Evening Chat

In spite of the fact that the interest and dividend period of many concerns which formerly made payments on the first of the year has been changed, it is safe to say that an amount of money not equaled in years will be put into circulation in Harrisburg to-morrow.

To-day was "weeding out" day in most of the city and county offices particularly, when process clerks, clerks will give way to new officials or subordinates on Monday incident to change of administration. Clerks and stenographers will be seen at their desks with their desks and old letters and papers of one kind or another were thrown away or dumped into the waste basket.

Capitol Hill has been seeing more twenty-dollar bills lately than the average man runs across in half a lifetime. The reason is that this is the period of the year when automobile licenses are taken out, and as Father Penn will not take anything but cash, clerks are changing money orders, a good many owners of cars send him twenties, especially as a twenty pays for a type of car that is in general use.

The ruins of the houses in South Fourth street which were wiped out by fire last autumn are still admirably for advertising matter these days. The other day twenty-one distinct advertisements were counted on one building. The signs were of various kinds of varied hue on all the others. It is a rare space that the shrewd advertising man lets go unadorned.

There are some automobile owners in Harrisburg who are progressive to a degree. Under the law every car must be licensed by January 1. Many of these owners are progressive to a degree. Under the law every car must be licensed by January 1. Many of these owners are progressive to a degree.

The sleet storm which wrecked so many trees about the city and damaged some of the finest in Capitol Park was the cause of the smashing of one of the squirrel hotels in the State House park. The house was located on the last sturdy limb of one of the smaller trees near the Mexican monument, but when the sleet came it encased the limb and the house in ice it was too much and the whole business fell to the ground. The squirrels seem to have escaped.

The Harrisburg Public Library, which will close its second year on Monday, will probably show a total circulation this year equal to two books for every person within the corporate limits of Harrisburg. The circulation for the year has been considerably over 100,000. This year will beat it.

WELL KNOWN PEOPLE

F. P. Truesdale, of Uniontown, who has charge of extensive railroad improvements in that place. —Thomas H. Higgins, who is figuring in the majority contest at Chester, is a former postmaster of that city. —Major Blankenship, of Philadelphia, has declined a New Year's reception. —John Ellis, the aged Pottdown inventor, celebrated his ninety-fourth birthday a few days ago. —William D. Heebner, controller elect of Montgomery county, has returned from Florida. —Chris E. Grunert, of Staten Island, has been appointed principal of Nazareth Academy.