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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 1919

Consecration is not trapping one's self in a holy web in the sanctuary; it is going into the world and using every power for God's glory.—Henry Ward Beecher.

OLD FRIEND ALFARATA

WE NOTICE that our old friend Alfarata, the Indian maiden, and her birch-bark—that is to say, copper—canoe are back on their old job at the Rummage Sale.

Alfarata is one of those sculptural monstrosities which Governor Sprout would banish from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania through the kindly intervention of the proposed State Art Commission.

Another massacre of Armenians by Mehem gendarmes is reported by cable. Now, if our mandatory for the Armenians were in force we would have the duty before us of sending our boys to Turkey to fight the soldiers of the Crescent.

Alfarata and her canoe turned up at the first Rummage Sale ever held in this city. We suspect her original owner rejoiced in the opportunity of giving her away.

SHORTAGE OF HOMES

THE HOUSING COMMITTEE of the Chamber of Commerce, which is inspecting housing developments in Philadelphia, Chester and Camden to-day, will return, no doubt, with a better understanding of the whole situation and broader views with respect to what should be done in Harrisburg.

The Bache Review, summing up the situation in the country at large, observes buying and selling of real estate is most active, which is probably due in great part to the fact that building construction has been delayed for four years, and during the last two years it has been almost at a standstill.

A curious situation of activity in the real estate market is resulting. Real estate is being bought and sold at a rate said to be unequalled since the rush in real estate in 1905 and 1906.

gradually developed higher and higher rentals. The natural cure for this condition in ordinary times would be greater supply of space furnished by new construction, but, as has been said, the high cost of materials and labor, with possibilities of reduction in one or both, holds building back.

The Department of Labor has sent out questionnaires to leading cities in the United States to find out the need of new building construction, and the replies thus far indicate a shortage of dwellings, tenement houses, flats and office space.

The opinion of experts in the department, headed by Professor Irving Fisher, of Yale, was that no decrease in labor wages may be expected for some time to come.

If we had rushed into house building last year, we might have found Government aid as a war measure and found it suddenly withdrawn with the work half completed.

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THE VETERANS PASS

THE death of John Deming, veteran Pennsylvania railroad conductor, removes another of that long line of vigorous, up-standing, aggressive men who helped make the Pennsylvania "standard railroad of the world."

These men made up trains in the yards before the advent of the electric light and the automatic coupler. They were brakemen before Westinghouse devised his airbrake and instead of four tracks, or six, along the main line, they operated on single-track road with sidings here and there.

They were pioneers in their line of work and they got the freight across country under circumstances that would drive a modern dispatcher stark, staring crazy.

"Get out of the way" is the first request American industry has to make of American bureaucracy.

NEED HELP

ACCORDING to the Atlanta Constitution, the real estate men of that city, bombarded with requests for homes, have adopted the slogan: "Buy a lot and build your own home."

Good advice, to be sure, but what about the man who wants to own his home but has not the money? Such a one is not in position to buy a lot and build, for that requires ready money.

Politics in Pennsylvania

By the Ex-Committeeman

The Legislature of Pennsylvania goes away to-day for an Easter vacation which will end on Monday night, April 21.

It is expected that during the recess many things will be adjusted that will be conducive to closing up the work of the session.

The Philadelphia bill will likely be the subject of some conferences and from all accounts, some of the rival leaders in the Quaker City are not so far apart.

From all accounts the people opposing the proposed compensation amendments will come here with ideas of their own.

The House law and order committee will rid itself of liquor bills in the week following the reconvening of the Legislature.

The State system of making appropriations by the Legislature is not wholly under State control much discussed in campaigns, was attacked at a hearing held by the Judiciary Committee.

Emerson Hough's latest novel, "The Sagebrusher," will be published by D. Appleton and Company this week.

A thoughtful Philadelphia legislator is disconsolate—"desolated," the French would say.

The marble ladies and gentlemen who now adorn the main entrance will probably be removed from their pedestals and led within the doors of some museum.

"In their new home an unsympathetic public may leisurely read the meaning of their allegory and may either rejoice or regret their cost of \$180,000.

Considerable interest has been shown at the Capitol in the decision of the Chester County Court declaring that County Treasurer George E. Wilson does not owe the county \$200 to \$400, as alleged by former County Controller Robert G. Kay.

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THE UNRETURNING

For us, the dead, the young. For us, who fought and bled Let a last song be sung. And a last word be said.

We gave, and gave our all, In gladness, then in pain; Let not a whisper fall That we have died in vain! That we have died in vain! —By Clinton Scollard.

WONDER WHAT THE STATUE OF LIBERTY THINKS ABOUT

By BRIGGS

UNTIL, JUST RECENTLY I GET AWFULLY TIRED STANDING HERE YEAR AFTER YEAR. MY ARM IS NEARLY KILLING ME. STILL—THIS LIFE HAS ITS COMPENSATIONS. I'LL BET I'VE FLIRTED WITH MORE SOLDIER BOYS THAN ANY OTHER WOMAN IN AMERICA. — THEY ALWAYS WAVE TO ME AND SEEM GLAD TO SEE ME. THEY EVEN THROW KISSES AT ME BUT DARN IT I CAN'T RETURN 'EM—BECAUSE—WELL MY HANDS ARE FULL AND THOSE AVIATORS! THEY ARE GETTING JUST AWFULLY BOLD. I GAVE ONE A NASTY LOOK THE OTHER DAY. HE CAME A LITTLE TOO NEAR AND WAS TOO FRESH. — WHAT ARE THE WOMEN WEARING THIS YEAR? DO YOU KNOW I NEVER HAVE FELT OUT OF STYLE! THANK GOODNESS I DON'T HAVE TO DRESS TO WORRY ABOUT. — LOTS OF PEOPLE COME TO SEE ME SO I NEVER GET LONESOME. AND I HAVE A WONDERFUL VIEW OF PRESIDENT WILSON WHEN HE GOES BACK AND FORTH. ISN'T HE THE REGULAR LITTLE GADABOUT THO? — HERE COMES ANOTHER LOAD OF SOLDIERS. THEY STARTED SHOUTING AND SINGING TO ME MILES AND MILES OUT AT SEA. MANY A WOMAN WOULD HAVE HAD HER HEAD TURNED IF SO MANY FINE LOOKING FELLOW GUYS MADE SUCH A FUSS OVER THEM. — IT'S A GREAT LIFE!

BOOKS AND MAGAZINES

"Mildred Carver, U. S. A." by Martha Bensley Bruere. The Macmillan Company, New York, publishers. Price \$1.50.

Here is a novel which has as its foundation an interesting and important idea—universal service for men and women.

Mrs. A.—"Does your husband consider you a necessity or a luxury?" Mrs. B.—"It depends, my dear, on whether I am cooking his dinner or asking for a new dress."

"Dearest, I ordered to be sent home to-day a most beautiful hat for only ten guineas. It's a perfect loveliness."

"Do you believe that there is really something which can invariably tell when a man is lying?" "Higgs—" "I know it."

"You say your laundry woman reminds you of a good preacher?" "Yes; she's always bringing things home to me that I never saw before."

"Do you know that Noah was the greatest financier that ever lived?" "Dibbs—" "How do you make that out?"

"Has your wife a sense of humor?" "I don't think so," replied Mr. Pynhed. "I have told her the same joke over and over and I don't believe she has laughed at it more than twice in her whole life."

"Why didn't you stop when I signaled you?" inquired the officer. "Well," replied Mr. Chugbins, "it had taken me two hours to get this idea, and I was laughing at it more than twice in my whole life."

"Disappointed Householder—" "Do you mean to say that this meter measures the amount of gas we burn?" "Gas Collector—" "I will enter into no controversy, sir; but I may say that the meter measures the amount of gas you will have to pay for."

"An old colored man was burning dead grass when a 'wise guy' said: 'You're foolish to do that, Uncle Eb, it will make the meadow as black as you are.'"

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THE SONG OF THE DERELICT

[By Lieut.-Col. John McCrae]

Ye have sung me your songs, ye have chanted your rhymes, (I scorn your beguiling, O sea!) Ye fondle me now, but to strike me betimes, (A treacherous lover, the sea!) Once I saw as I lay, half-awash in the night, A hull in the gloom—a quick hail—and a light, And I lurched over to leeward and saved her for spite From the doom that ye meted to me. I was sister to Terrible, seventy-four, (Ye ho! for the swing of the sea!) And ye sank her in fathoms a thousand or more, (Alas! for the might of the sea!) Ye taunt me and sing me her fate for a sign! What harm can ye wreak more on me or on mine? Ho, bragart! I care not for boasting of thine— A fig for the wrath of the sea! Some night to the lee of the land I shall steal, (Heigh-ho to be home from the sea!) No pilot but Death at the rudderless helm, (None knoweth the harbor as he!) To lie where the slow tide creeps hither and fro And the shifting sand laps me in around, for I know That my gallant old crew are in Port long ago— For ever at peace with the sea!

THE SPICE OF LIFE

[From the Literary Digest.]

Explaining a Phenomenon. "This report that Germans are hissing soldiers is something astonishing." "It is," replied Miss Cayenne. "Evidently the goose-step has gone to their heads."—Washington Star.

Read This to Him. Mrs. A.—"Does your husband consider you a necessity or a luxury?" Mrs. B.—"It depends, my dear, on whether I am cooking his dinner or asking for a new dress."—Boston Transcript.

A Spring Romance. "Dearest, I ordered to be sent home to-day a most beautiful hat for only ten guineas. It's a perfect loveliness."

He Would Prefer It Stayed. Sutor—"Sir, I ask for your daughter's Imogen's hand." Her Father—"Certainly, my boy, certainly—take the one that's all yours in my pocket!"—The Pall Mall Gazette.

Breaking the Noose. The Warder—"You're in luck, Scrippen! There's a reprieve for you come along from the Home Office."

A Mere Detail. Ma—"No, Gladys will not become engaged until she is twenty." "But, my dear woman, she may not get the chance when she is twenty."

A Brilliant Thought. A thrifty old lady of Hull, whose intellect seemed rather dull, when reading a night, Put luminous paint on her skull. —Punch.

Logical Wish. On the outskirts of Philadelphia is an admirable stock farm. One day last summer some poor children were permitted to go over the farm, and when their inspection was done, to each of them was given a glass of milk. The milk was excellent.

The Important Point. Dissatisfied Householder—"Do you mean to say that this meter measures the amount of gas we burn?" "Gas Collector—" "I will enter into no controversy, sir; but I may say that the meter measures the amount of gas you will have to pay for."

Black and Green. An old colored man was burning dead grass when a "wise guy" said: "You're foolish to do that, Uncle Eb, it will make the meadow as black as you are."

THEODORE ROOSEVELT [By Edith Evans] "Put out the light, please." These last words he said On whom now light eternal shines. No burden of the slow and fading years, With consciousness of an impending blow, The sword of Damocles above his head, About to fall and bring oblivion.

No, it were best to go while still the strength Of his great manhood unabated stood, And matched his mighty spirit, which, untamed, By strain and travail of the passing days, Still spring toward longed-for action when it seemed The time was ripe to serve his country best.

Now he rests, He had stayed To finish it. No life goes incomplete Back to its maker, tho' our earthly eyes Not always read the story to its end. The end? For him it's but a beginning, A sure promise of immortality. Such souls were never made to be destroyed, But to go on and on, to wider fields And new achievements, fitted to the powers.

Which here on earth were, as a sacred trust, Held blameless, stainless, and inviolate.

LABOR NOTES Coalville, England. Trades and Labor Council passed a resolution urging the abolition of workhouses. With a membership of over 300, the Toronto Policemen's Union is now fairly well established. When dock laborers at Cork, Ireland, were refused an increase in pay and shorter hours they went on strike. The Dominion and the Province of Ontario are to co-operate in the matter of settling Canadian soldiers on the land.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Far be it from us to say that the government runs smoother every time a single steel company goes away.—Washington Post. If there's one thing that hurts more than having to pay an income tax, it's not having to pay an income tax.—Elmira Star-Gazette. Nothing but war could have taught us that the Kaiser didn't raise his boy to be a soldier.—Greenville (S. C.) Piedmont. Critics of President Wilson appear to object to his in his ideas.—Brooklyn Eagle. Polygamy is proposed for Europe, but it is contrary to Scripture. No man can serve two masters.—Greenville (S. C.) Piedmont. If the Bolsheviks and Germans get to real fighting the world will be neutral to the extent of hoping both sides lose.—Wall Street Journal.

Evening Chat

The housing committee of the Harrisburg Chamber of Commerce which spent to-day in Philadelphia and Camden, under the leadership of Chairman J. Horace McFarland, going over the housing development in those cities, is very much in earnest. Mr. McFarland, who has been engaged in similar work for the United States Government, with headquarters at Washington, says that the shortage of homes is not merely local. It exists in almost all large centers of population.

The United States Government had worked out a plan which could be changed, it is believed, to meet local conditions. "The entire campaign," Mr. McFarland says, "is pitched on a civic betterment plane rather than on a purely commercial basis and the appeal is more on the line of what each business group can put in rather than what it can get out of the movement. It is a 100 per cent greater city movement, having in mind only the incalculable permanent benefits to the community and the immediate helpfulness to the nation during the transition from war mobilization to peace production.

It will provide better living conditions, increase efficiency, encourage thrift, give greater comfort and happiness and create individual reserves for misfortunes and calamities. Every house owner with his family, whether rich, poor, or well-to-do, becomes thereby a better citizen, with increased self-respect, independence and responsibility to the city and Nation and are more vitally interested in the welfare and prosperity of both.

During the readjustment period such a movement hastens the return of normal conditions; results in such needed construction for home and industrial purposes; provides work for millions of men and women; and for labor changing from war to peace industries; stimulates all lines of business in each community, creates general prosperity.

The fact that all these are patriotic in purpose does not eliminate the certainty of their being material benefits to the community and in the long run, the community which makes it easiest and cheapest to build, will reap the greatest material benefits, those back of the movement believe.

The "Own Your Own Home" movement was one of the propositions submitted to the recent conference of the Mayor and Council of Washington where it met with enthusiastic encouragement and support of Mayor Keister, of Harrisburg, and other mayors, through the expression of their determination to return to their districts and interest themselves in getting such campaigns under way.

Among the national organizations which have pledged support and cooperation for the "Own Your Own Home" work are the General Federation of Women's Clubs, through its president, Mrs. Josiah Evans Cowles of Los Angeles, California, the National Association of Real Estate Boards and the National Federation for Construction Industries.

Members of the Legislature are taking a keen interest in the plan of Col. Edward Martin to make Harrisburg the center of sanitation and health and some of those from nearby towns will attend the meeting Monday to discuss the project.

The manager of a theater in an interior Pennsylvania town, which for obvious reasons must remain unnamed, tells this story of the construction of a mezzanine floor in his playhouse. He was naturally proud of his improvement, the first of its kind in the place. Politely approaching the manager of the theater, he purchased tickets for the evening performance and were just about to leave the lobby, he bowed and said: "Ladies, won't you allow me the pleasure of showing you our new mezzanine floor?"

The pair looked startled for a moment and then the elderly dame of apparent prosperity, but evidently of small education, said: "Don't get fresh, young man, you are addressing two perfect ladies. If you have anything of that kind to show us, sir, let a female attendant. But not with you, sir, not with you."

WELL KNOWN PEOPLE

—Ernest T. Trigg, prominent Philadelphia, is in charge of the Temple University plan to obtain a million dollar endowment. —General W. J. Nicholson, cited for the distinguished service cross, commanded the 78th Division, composed of Eastern Pennsylvania drafted men.

—A. A. Corey, the new head of Cambria Steel, used to be president of the Temple University plan to obtain a million dollar endowment. —Dr. R. M. Gummer, just chosen president of the Classic Society, is headmaster of Penn Charter school.

—S. Oursler, new president of the Carnegie Steel Company, was in charge of the Government plant at Neville Island and has frequently appeared at meetings at the Capitol.

DO YOU KNOW

—That Harrisburg woke up to the importance of improving when the Legislature of 1901 declined to move the Capitol from this city? —It is now 107 years since the bill to make Harrisburg the Capitol was passed. —Would Stop Camouflage? —Reversal of the camouflage principle, greatly increasing the visibility of its subjects, instead of concealing them by blending them with the background, is declared a possible peace development by the navy officer who developed that particular nature faking system. Since every positive has its negative, color applications opposite to those used for confusing the eyes are being studied for a possible standardized system of making distant objects conspicuous.—From the Indianapolis News.