

Evening Public Ledger

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A SHORT-SIGHTED POLICY

MAYOR MOORE grievously disappointed his best friends and the supporters of the city charter when he recommended to City Council yesterday that only two of the thirteen street-cleaning districts be cleaned by municipal forces next year.

Piecemeal cleaning was never contemplated by the framers of the charter. Their thought clearly was that all of the streets be cleaned by the city or that none of the streets be cleaned in that way.

Further, it seems plain that, with the two systems attempting to function side by side, those who rich profits will be affected will do all in their power to discredit municipal cleaning.

The engineers who visited fifteen cities for the purpose of investigating conditions elsewhere reported as not the least significant fact that Philadelphia was the only important city which still clung to the contract system.

The Mayor, in an attempt to justify his policy, says that the Board of Estimate of New York finds that city cleaning will cost \$7,000,000 more for the ensuing year.

When asked as to what course he (Commissioner MacSloy, of the New York Street Cleaning Department) would pursue under existing conditions in Philadelphia, he replied that he would not consider contract work favorably for a moment.

A SHOCK FOR "ED" VARE SENATOR VARE must have felt a shivering shock when he heard Joseph C. Trainer denounce the machine method of nominating Charles J. Pommer for City Council as unfair, illegal and un-American.

groomman Vare always answered when the Twenty-sixth ward was reached on the roll-call. Congressman Vare would never have said the things that Trainer said.

FRESHMAN SIGHTSEERS AT PENN ARE TO BE ENVIED

Something of the Real Dignity and Splendor of a Great University is Apparent to Their Keen Young Eyes

A GREAT deal of extremely earnest sight-seeing is being done in a particularly animated section of West Philadelphia today. Something more than the superficial acuteness of tourists inspires these observers, since their pilgrimage ends amid the scenes concerning the traditions and significance of which they are intensely eager to be informed.

Probably a considerable number of the freshmen of the University of Pennsylvania will be a bit dazed by all the novel scenes of contact against which they are suddenly thrust.

The student guides, drafted from the upper classes, cannot be expected to elucidate all the subtleties of the last chapter of youth, or rather the innumerable and diversified opportunities of the prologue to manhood and cultural citizenship.

Naturally, the novitiates just enrolled will mentally eliminate what to them are the non-essential factors of the University. The stately Georgian Law School, the handsome medical buildings and the scientific equipment in the engineering departments will mean vastly different things to alert and widely different eyes.

Further, our own self-satisfaction in polite is scarcely authentic during the football season. Then there is often much excitement in athletic victories and pride in heights. The surrender to sentimentalism is healthy enough.

Joseph McCracken, an old football star and of course well remembered, was an interested visitor at the University yesterday while the registration of ex-patriates was in progress.

When "Joe" McCracken played guard for one of George Woodruff's winning teams the University of the Crescent was about 3000. It is estimated that the number of graduates this year will reach 10,000, distributed in courses which comprehend education in its broadest aspects.

The University may without exaggeration be termed an agency of universal knowledge. Within its halls may be found instruction in the classics, general cultural subjects and languages ancient and modern, chemistry, science, engineering, medicine, law, economics, sociology, biology, architecture—in fact, virtually everything that can be systematized and classified into a branch of learning.

With this breadth of endeavor the invaluable habit of attendance is in the utmost degree heinous. Among American

institutions of its kind the University is conspicuously celebrated for its democracy. It is needless to expatiate on the importance of this asset to a college depending on general support rather than specific aid by a wealthy benefactor or millionaire founder.

Doctor McCracken's area would undoubtedly add the average Philadelphian to recognize the University in the spirit of appreciative, intelligent admiration. But the naive if still limited viewpoint of the bands of personally escorted freshmen among them through the botanical gardens, trooping down Hamilton Walk and investigating the recreative allurements of Houston Hall today, might be profitably adopted as a preliminary by considerable numbers of somewhat unreflective persons.

BY AT HOME AND ABROAD BY AN odd and dramatic coincidence, the cheerless survey of European trends and conditions in the Philadelphia Globe and the wholly different summary of economic affairs in the United States which Frank K. Lane prepared from an extraordinary array of data gathered by one of the great Baltimore financial institutions were published on the same day.

It is probable that Gibbs, sensitive, ardent and knowing, because of his terrible years at the front, how great a price was paid by men who hoped to win something tangible for a world that seeks peace and light, sees too many immediate disappointments in the Old World. Yet he has been a man of peace beneath the passion for diversion in England, France and elsewhere which discouragement that verges closely to utter despair.

A survey made with great care over every section of the United States shows that the country is passing naturally, without stress, hardship or friction, from conditions of war to conditions of peace. Labor has been moved from the hectic atmosphere of emergency industries and transferred to the activities of peace time without shock or stress.

TO THE seafaring man, "bad weather" means wind rather than rain, so an examination of the wind statistics for September during the same forty years should dispose of his claims for the validity of the tradition. The following table gives the date of September when the maximum wind was recorded, the strength of the wind in miles per hour when it was blowing its hardest and the direction from which the wind came.

The contrast between America and Europe is not a matter that should stimulate our national vanity. The situation abroad is too tragic to permit complacency on this side of the world. We have 3000 miles away from the battlefields. Shocks that left some of the old nations quaking were not even felt in the United States.

Fortunately for America, it is in itself a great field for its enterprising citizens. Our good fortune now is simply the good fortune that falls naturally to people who are able to stay at home and mind their own business.

A SHOCK THAT FLIVVERED

The bombing of the New York Custom House, of which the police were warned, was not called on account of rain, because there was no rain yesterday. So the crowd that turned out with a holiday air and showed to get up close for a good view had to admit that it was fooled.

Seven of the men in the upper group are men who sit in the United States Senate, the choice of the people of great states. But the members of the little group of four that nominated Cox are not senators. They are business men, and their business is politics—ward politics, Cox politics.

THE "EQUINOCTIAL STORM"

Amateur Weather Prophets, Farmers and Seafaring Men Still Persevere in the Fiction Despite Science

THERE will be a fendish sort of glee in the hearts of many old-fashioned weather "prophets" should the storm, lately brewing in the Gulf of Mexico, develop into a genuine hurricane and sweep up northward in time to arrive here tonight or tomorrow morning.

According to the tradition, the weather is almost certain to be bad during the week or so on each side of the date. It is supposed to be worst on the actual day. No far do some of the traditionalists carry their belief that the local weather bureau is annually besieged by scores of letters asking for information as to the direction of the wind at the exact time of the sun's crossing.

IT IS interesting, in view of the popular and really firm belief in the "equinoctial storm," to look back over the weather records for the equinoctial dates as found in the weather bureau files. The forty years from 1871 to and including 1910 show how absurd the superstition is, at least so far as weather in this part of the world is concerned.

Table with columns: Year, Sept. 21, Sept. 22, Sept. 23, Sept. 24, Sept. 25, Months. Rows list years from 1871 to 1910 with corresponding weather data.

IN THESE forty years there is just one—1882—when the rainfall could be called unduly heavy. There were four others when the precipitation for the whole three days could have been considered sufficient to make a person believe in the "bad weather."

TO THE seafaring man, "bad weather" means wind rather than rain, so an examination of the wind statistics for September during the same forty years should dispose of his claims for the validity of the tradition.

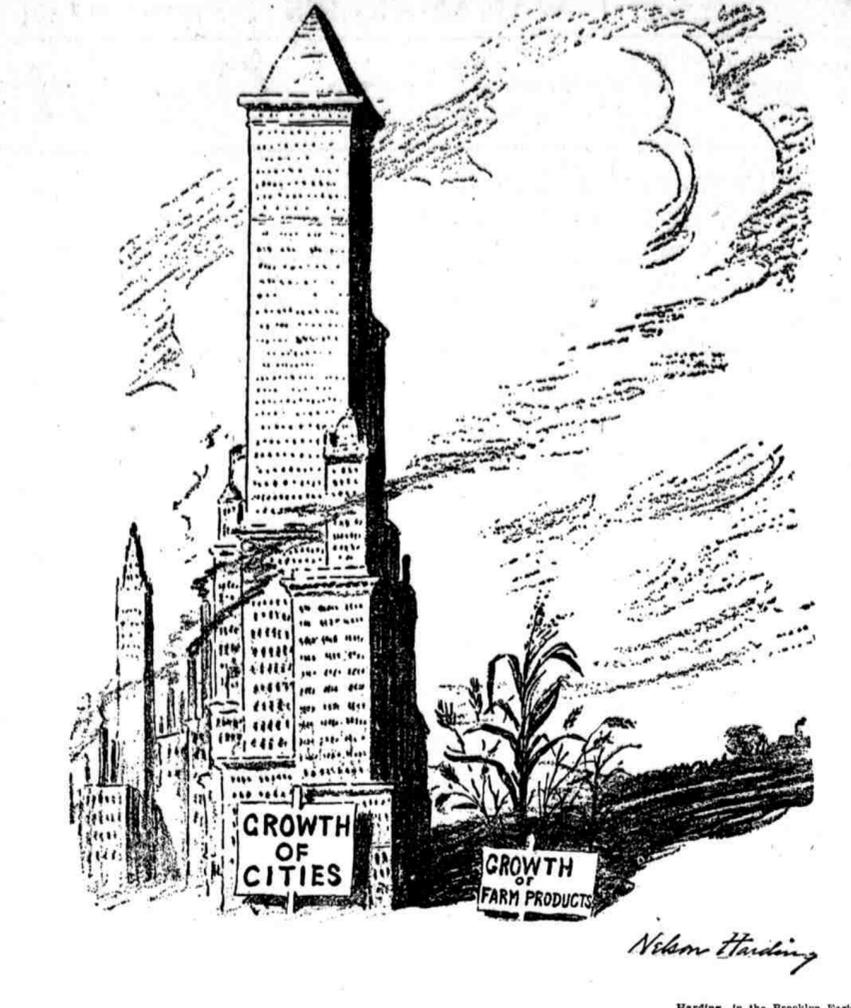
Table with columns: Year, Vel. Date Dir., Year, Vel. Date Dir. Rows list years from 1871 to 1910 with wind speed and direction data.

Three times the equinoctial period shows winds of twenty-four miles an hour, once thirty-two miles, once thirty-three and once thirty-six. These are all quite mild blows and certainly have no right to be dignified as "equinoctial storms."

TWO GROUPS

From the Sun and New York Herald. In his speech in San Francisco on Friday last, Senator Cox announced the nomination of Senator Harding as having been made by "a small group of men."

THE LONG AND THE SHORT OF IT



Harding, in the Brooklyn Eagle.

NOW MY IDEA IS THIS!

Daily Talks With Thinking Philadelphians on Subjects They Know Best

MISS EDITH BAER

On "The Home-Maker of the Future"

THE woman of the future must be a homemaker and a good one at that, is the opinion of Miss Edith Baer, assistant professor of home economics in charge of the newly created department at the University of Pennsylvania.

With the inauguration of this course at the University, putting the science of home-making on a college basis for the first time in this section, Miss Baer believes that an important step has been taken toward dignifying this department and giving it its due place in the curriculum of the Smith-Hughes bill.

"To be a successful wife, a woman must not only excel in the household arts but must be developed culturally as well. Suppose she places on the table the finest kind of a dinner. What is she going to do or not do that she is likely to fall into one of two classes, both having great limitations and both reducing the amount of happiness which they could encompass if they were more rounded out.

What Do You Know?

QUIZ

- 1. What is a potato?
2. How should the word be pronounced?
3. Who is regarded as the greatest military leader among the Roman emperors?
4. What is the quarterdeck of a ship?
5. Who wrote "Over the Hill to the Poor-House"?
6. What kind of an animal is an ounce?
7. What is the abbreviation for pound?
8. Who was Kitty Clive?
9. What is dross?
10. Of what state is Jackson the capital?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

- 1. The highest mountain on our island in the world is Mauna Kea on Hawaii. The summit is more than 13,000 feet above sea level.
2. In the word nephew the "ph" should have the sound of "v."
3. The famous Heritary Bronte sisters were named Charlotte, Emily and Anne.
4. Only one Republican President served two full terms. He was Ulysses S. Grant.
5. The Germans made their unsuccessful attack began in February. The major attack was in the month of June.
6. The majority of the musical compositions of Chopin were written for the piano.
7. M. Millerand is the present premier of France.
8. A genuflection is a bending of the knee, especially in worship.
9. Galvanic batteries are named from the name of the Italian scientist, Alessandro Volta, who discovered the principle of galvanism. His dates are 1777-1843.
10. Trade winds blow from tropical belts of high pressure to equatorial belts of low pressure. They blow from the northeast in the northern hemisphere and from the southeast in the southern hemisphere, and are exceedingly regular. The name "trade" is used in the strict sense of "direction" or "course."

SHORT CUTS

Pity the straw vote didn't go the way of the braw pup.

A bored populace cannot altogether avoid the straw vote, but it can ignore it.

Erwin Bergdoll is now in a position to realize how a yellow streak will muss up a family picture.

The speaker of the New York Assembly seems determined to give the Socialists plenty of advertising.

The miners have returned to work; but a brief interval must be allowed while they spit on their hands.

Wall, Mr. Fleischer got a nice trip and lots of notoriety; and he was not averse to either, judging from his pictures.

When it comes to standing up for the usual divvy, Union Traction is as firm and unyielding as the rock of Gibraltar.

One advantage Mr. Mitten has in the discussion of P. R. T. problems: He knows exactly what he wants and why he wants it.

Nicky Arnstein is in a New York fall on a silence strike. Why doesn't some disease of that kind occasionally strike a candidate?

One thing that prevents Professor Godard from hitting the moon with a rocket is lack of money. And there may be a better reason.

Millerand has expressed his willingness to accept the presidency of France if it is thrust upon him. 'Tis an attitude of mind toward high honors not unknown in this country.

Perhaps one of the things the feminists will take up, now that the matter of voting is decided, is just why a healthy woman who no child should collect alimony from a mere man.

The fact that a Maine judge has decided that a woman need not give her age when registering simply proves that while gaining her rights woman does not intend to lose any of her privileges.

Very fortunately some loud-mouthed idiot will give the police some new line on the perpetrators of the Wall street outrage when all other clues have failed. Cranks are never able to maintain silence for long.

There is strong suspicion that the "scores of conscientious objectors" having a woman executed in Belgium that relieved of jury duty entertained more or less conscientious objection to serving on a jury.

An Austrian at Atco, N. J., when he learned that he had been left a fortune of 10,000 crowns, was jubilant; and he added that he would have been even richer had he not been out of date. Nevertheless, there is joyous promise in the fact itself.

For the week ended September 4 the railroads of the country moved 985,000 tons of freight. Many of them contained loads that traveled clear across the continent to Philadelphia, while Pennsylvania fruit lies rotting on the ground.

The forts of Warsaw have been replaced by vegetable gardens. This is not because the danger of war is past, but because the Germans proved in Belgium that the forts were out of date. Nevertheless, there is joyous promise in the fact itself.

Santiago, Chile, has a scientific Polytechnic in the person of the director of the Chilean Seismological Observatory, a man named Charles Bruns. He is a German who traveled clear across the continent to Philadelphia, while Pennsylvania fruit lies rotting on the ground.

A correspondent of the South Thinker in the morning "Public Ledger" says that the gentleman's error lies in the fact that the elopement arrived when the soft shoe dancer were of the same generation and invariably on the same bill.