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Philadelphia, Tuesday, January 4, 1921

FEMININE JUSTICE

PRAISE for the performances of the first "forewomen" to be drawn on juries in this city must be carefully administered to avoid the note of male condescension.

The alleged gentler sex is not surprised at its expeditious and effective work which yesterday resulted in one instance in the conviction of a pickpocket within the contracted space of thirty nine seconds. There is really no occasion for masculine amazement.

Nevertheless it is gratifying to note that this by-product of feminine emancipation is working out so effectively and normally. "Ladies and gentlemen of the jury" excites a smile now. But the joke will soon stale and jurywomen will be accepted at their proper value, which is precisely and neither more nor less, than that of jurymen.

JERSEY'S PERPETUAL PROBLEM

"The man who can devise a scheme that will lift the Public Utilities Commission out of politics will have done a signal service to the people of New Jersey."

MORE than a year ago, and at frequent intervals since, this conclusion was expressed in these columns in terms almost exactly similar to the language quoted. But it is not ourselves that we are quoting now. It is Clarence E. Case, president of the New Jersey Senate and one of the leaders of the Republican majority.

In suggesting yesterday that a nonpolitical utilities commission is absolutely necessary to the service corporations and the people alike, Mr. Case spoke in the mood of a man wearied and disillusioned by recent experience.

The great utilities corporation of New Jersey is in trouble of various sorts. The public is dissatisfied and belligerent. This is because the general problem of gas, electric and street car service has not to be attacked in a scientific and impartial manner by the authorities appointed to regulate such utilities. Because deficiencies of management and organization were too often covered up by the politicians, everybody—including the corporations themselves—has suffered and the people have gradually been losing faith in the governing board and the service companies. All this was suggested repeatedly on this page at a time when Mr. Case and other leaders seemed content with an arrangement in which politics and big business seemed almost inextricably mixed together in their state.

Criticism like that which has now come from the president of the Jersey Senate is cheering. Reform in the system of utilities regulation by the state is certain to come. Other states need the sort of example which New Jersey can provide for them if it will. For political meddling in Pennsylvania and elsewhere has made a fair test of the utilities commission system almost impossible.

FARMERS AND WAR FINANCE

IN REFUSING to sign the bill for a revival of the War Finance Corporation in the interest of the farmers, President Wilson followed a rule which are good farming practice fully justifies. He refused to aid a movement for the advancement of public money in semi-exercising the use of available assets.

The government [illegible] farmers during the war. The farmers took advantage of war conditions to adopt methods and practices of big business. They passed their interests and capitalized their opportunities to the limit. It is [illegible] represent the most essential [illegible] industries, and it is true [illegible] were the first to feel the [illegible] ing prices.

To keep the prices of grain [illegible] establishing a demand in [illegible] was the aim of the bill vetoed [illegible] dent and passed over the veto in the Senate. Under the suggested arrangement the government must continue to feed [illegible] Europe in order that Europe [illegible] American grain. By this means farmers hope to restrict and [illegible] prices for all that [illegible] domestic market.

The farmers [illegible] they have only [illegible] is inseparable from a national adjustment from a [illegible] tions. The government [illegible] tion of a banker [illegible] direct disadvantage of [illegible] real owners of the money. [illegible] have pleased the farmers [illegible] But it hasn't pleased the [illegible] try. And it has [illegible] new loans to [illegible] own word, [illegible] will not pay.

BETTER DIPLOMACY?

THE old habit of party [illegible] the liberal and the [illegible] in the diplomatic service [illegible] damaging to American interests [illegible] can prestige abroad and [illegible] sorrier results than in [illegible] where untrained ministers have [illegible] again complicated our relations with active and suspicious peoples.

The practice that has [illegible] velopment of an enlightened and [illegible] diplomatic service in the United States would be tolerated nowhere else. President Harding, with an eye particularly [illegible] America and Latin American affairs generally, seems determined to abolish it. He has just said as much to an aide of Senator Marion. But the reform that he plans can not be achieved unless Congress can be made to see the need of it. Indeed the case must rest finally with Congress, which makes the appropriations for the salaries of the State Department. As matters stand, rich men must be selected for the more important posts, which carry meager salaries and yet require large expenditures by the men who fill them.

Able men without number are barred from this branch of the federal service because they happen to be relatively poor. So the philosopher and the scholar must stay at home while the millionaire with a taste for social diversion and a yearning for new experiences goes abroad to be the voice of this country in the courts of Europe. Latin-American posts are usually reserved for the friends of politicians' friends, and the spectacle of a minister of the United States unable to speak the language of the country to which he is accredited is by no means rare in the capitals south of Panama.

NO FLOATING CHIP EVER CHANGED THE CURRENT

Von Bethmann Hollweg Might Have Been Famous Instead of Infamous if He Had Not Betrayed His Conscience

MILLIONS of persons outside of Germany know no more about Von Bethmann Hollweg, who died on Sunday night, than that he called the Belgian treaty a scrap of paper.

But it is necessary to know anything else about him to form an accurate estimate of the man.

Because he had the kind of a mind that would make and put forth such a statement he will be known merely as a chip that floated on the stream of events rather than as one of the forces which sought to direct that current into the channel in which the conscience of mankind insists that it should flow.

Von Bethmann was a bureaucrat who rose by gradual stages from less to high office because he was willing to move with the current. When the German imperial chancellor did what was expected of him his personal preference was for peace, but under him the empire made ready for war. He had foreign statesmen that the world policy of Germany was a peace policy, and he doubtless believed it. He wished peace. But forces stronger than he were organizing right before his eyes for the campaign to seize power by the sword, and he did nothing to prevent them. He was not the sort of man who could stem the tide. When the war began he justified it as the spokesman of the men who had organized for it. And he did not protest to act as the special pleader in defense of military necessity. If Germany were to take Paris before the French could defend it the attack must be made through Belgium. The only obstacle in the way was the written pledge of Germany to respect the neutrality of the neighboring state. But that written pledge was a [illegible] which could not be allowed to stand in the way.

There was there a serious indifference to the claims of national honor which raised this statesman to a height of ignominy unparalleled in recent times.

It may be admitted that the chancellor couldn't have prevented the war and that he could not have forced the militarists to respect the treaty with Belgium. But he could have resigned rather than be a party to the attack. He could have resigned his place in history would have been honorable, and even in Germany he would have been credited with a true insight into the future than the statesmen and soldiers who led their nation to disaster.

The great men whose immortal [illegible] the admiration of the world have been men who did their best to direct events in the way they should go. Without invalidating the statement [illegible] may be admitted that the general course of events is beyond the control of any man, and that the world is moving in accordance with laws laid down at the beginning of time. The thoughtful disposition for centuries over the conflict between free will and predestination without reaching any conclusion, but the common sense of the average man told him that whatever there might be in predestination he had certain control over his acts and could shape his life as he willed, provided that he had not will to do. The same broad of commonsense tells men that the country of a nation can, under high market leadership, [illegible] the course of events. They know they [illegible] happen. Washington might have prevented the [illegible] policy of the [illegible] country and [illegible] But he stood [illegible] for them. As a result [illegible] were created and the name of Washington [illegible] the world. He might have become a king [illegible] but he preferred to remain [illegible] because of [illegible] his [illegible] that with no [illegible] the name of [illegible] in the [illegible] in other lands [illegible] centuries.

[illegible] Von Bethmann Hollweg he would have [illegible] Belgium. But he was [illegible] the United States would be [illegible] When [illegible] came to him [illegible] at with [illegible] Belgium. The [illegible] Washington [illegible] Von Bethmann [illegible] the [illegible] of other nations, but it is not necessary. They will occur to every intelligent reader who knows that such progress as has been made from the time when men settled their disputes by throwing rocks at one another has come through the driving force of great minds which insisted on a better way. They did not follow the procession under the lead of a pompous, unthinking drum major in a bearskin hat. They saw whither the procession was going and did not like it. Then they forced it into another direction and gave it such momentum that it kept on moving that way long after they were dead.

The chips that float on the current of history get waterlogged and sink out of sight, but the great dikes that change that current remain as monuments to moral courage and intellectual integrity commanding the admiration of succeeding generations.

THE SICK MAN'S FRIEND

CONGRESSMAN VARE'S bill, designed to keep "the sick man's liquor pure" and introduced yesterday in the House amid reverent silence, comes upon the heels of disquieting rumors of dry-law evasion in some avenues of the retail drug trade. There will be heartfelt applause, of course, from the innumerable invalids whose health began to fail at the moment when the Volstead bill became a law.

Some druggists, if you are to believe half that you hear, have become negligent about their standards. It is an easy matter to take a considerable quantity of pure whisky out of a barrel and fill the void with a mixture of alcohol and water. There will remain, therefore, a considerable quantity of unadulterated stuff that may be stored for one purpose or another or mixed with more alcohol and water and sold "for medicinal purposes only." The man sick with thirst has doubtless been jobbed in some instances. Mr. Vare would protect him by making it imperative for druggists to maintain a 45 per cent volume of alcohol in their "hooch" which insures not pure whisky at all, but adherence to the kicking standard that characterized the whisky once sold openly in bars.

As a friend of the people, Mr. Vare may shine. But as a crusader in the interest of medical science he is not a conspicuous success. Had he taken the trouble to stroll around the corner and talk to the first doctor he met his "sick man's whisky bill" never would have been introduced. For whisky is no longer generally recognized as a useful medicine. It is administered in an emergency now and then in cases of extreme shock, but the physician knows that he is putting a heavy load on one part of the patient's nervous organization only to temporarily lift a heavier one elsewhere.

In a general way alcohol is not good for the sick. Brandy administered by attending physicians is said to have been the immediate cause of the death of the lord mayor of Cork. Strong physical constitutions can withstand the effects of whisky for a time. Doctors know that weaker ones cannot, and that is why most of the wiser practitioners prescribe little or none of the stuff that Mr. Vare yearns to keep pure.

MORALS IN MONTE CARLO

THE man who owns the bank at Monte Carlo, Prince Albert of Monaco, is said to be contemplating retirement from the lucrative professions of proprietor of roulette, petits chevaux and the like. In that case the glittering casino will be closed.

Prince Albert is seventy-three. That explains much. Cynics have maintained that King David and King Solomon were no longer youthful when they wrote respectively the Psalms and the Proverbs.

The ruler of the tiny principality in southern France is also something of a philosopher, but his chief avocation is oceanography, to which science his researches have contributed largely. The handsome museum in Monaco has impressively thrived on the income from gorgeous and legalized gambling.

The prince has had many of the so-called good things of life. Should he be deemed the culminating aura of respectability?

To dwell upon the fact that the Riviera is not what it once was, now that the Russian grand dukes and Germany and Austrian petty potentates have vanished, is to delve too curiously into the principle psychology.

As for anti-Puritans, distress on their part would be premature. There is always Cuba, on the breast of which Caribbean pearl the most prodigiously magnificent gambling establishment, combined hotel, opera and alluring casino, will shortly be perched.

Competition serves many purposes. Sometimes it may even lend the odor of sanctity to a loser who happens to be full of years.

"NOTHING UNUSUAL"

"CONSTANT in its inconstancy." That was William Penn's version of Philadelphia weather, and time has not effaced its pertinency and truth. The meteorologists concur and refuse to excite themselves unduly over the current "hot spell," which the bureau in this city characterizes as "unusual but not record breaking."

As a matter of fact, weather in this region seldom accords with the pretty pictures on the calendars. Judging by those scenes winter is always about a month late, which means, among other things, that the opening days of March are not unlikely to be colder and stormier than those of the young New Year.

In fact, the mummers have enjoyed quite as many fine, comfortable days for parading as distressing ones. The mild early days of January, recurring about every two or three years, may serve indeed as very dear arguments in behalf of the off-repeated proposals to bring forward the presidential inauguration date.

There is actually no more reason to fear a savage entrance than a felicitous exit of winter. The season in these parts suggests Mark Twain's understandable watch, which, however, "gave good wear."

ENTERTAINING FIGURES

MANY a home will find the new report of the State Bureau of Statistics on the manufacturing industries of the state more entertaining than the latest novel.

[illegible] page after page with figures, but they are so arranged and classified that they tell a tale of fascinating interest. For example, the book shows that the value of the industries of this state for 1919 was nearly $11,561,000,000, or $2,000,000,000 more than in 1916. The [illegible] $1,257,000,000 was paid out in wages to 2,097,000 persons, or an average of about $1,150 for each employee.

Looking at the detailed figures, it appears that the leading industry, produced goods worth $2,924,000,000, the product of machinery was worth $1,950,000,000, the chemical and allied industries turned out $2,000,000,000 worth of goods, the product of the textile industries was worth $3,000,000,000, and the tobacco manufacturers made cigars, cigarettes and cut plug and smoking tobacco to the tune of $27,000,000. The report shows that the public laundries did a business amounting to $1,777,000, and that jewelry and timepieces worth $13,500,000 were produced and the shipyards within the city limits built ships and boats worth $38,000,000. We made more than $500,000 worth of brooms and $2,500,000 worth of wheelbarrows.

The report shows in detail the wages of the people of each industry not only in Philadelphia but in every county of the state and in every large town, and it also gives the number of persons employed and the average rate of wages in the different industries, together with the total wage bill, so that the book should find interested readers in every community in the commonwealth.

STATUE TO FRANKLIN

Why and Where It Is to Be Erected. Early Newspapers of the Commonwealth—Transformation of the Delaware Waterfront

By GEORGE NOX McCAIN

OLIVER D. SCHOCK tells me there is a movement on foot in Carbon, Northampton, Lehigh and a part of Schuylkill counties to erect a statue of Benjamin Franklin in the public park at Weissport.

Naturally the query: Why a statue of Franklin in this little village of Carbon county?

In the multiplicity of duties which Franklin undertook, or which fell to his lot, was that of building a fort on the frontier during the French and Indian War of 1756.

It was known as Fort Allen, and was erected near Weissport under the personal supervision of Franklin.

Nearly a century and three-quarters later comes this meritorious attempt to do tardy honor to the great philosopher and statesman.

ONE of the customs of the early and middle part of the last century was the publication of "Toast Books."

They were as great—the men of that day—for formal dinners and banquets as they are today.

And always there were toasts.

The "Toast Book" was similar to our modern "Ready Letter Writer." It contained hundreds of toasts and sentiments appropriate to every kind of social gathering.

Public men of the country, dead and living, were the subject of laudatory effusions.

In one of these books, to which Mr. Schock directs attention, printed in Philadelphia seventy years ago, occurs the following:

"The memory of Dr. Franklin: the first Philadelphia fireman who taught the world how to conquer the electric fire and the devastating terror of tyranny."

To this the writer adds:

"Although singularly prophetic, the author left undreamt the wonderful discoveries and electrical advances and possibilities developed since that period.

"Franklin's discovery truly was far richer than the tiara of Sesostris, whose chariot was said to have been drawn by harnessed kings."

STRANGE as it may seem, occasional original copies of the Pennsylvania Gazette as printed by Benjamin Franklin are very rare.

Single numbers have sold for as high as $50.

The Gazette was printed by Hall & Sellers, successors to Franklin, for a number of years.

After several changes in ownership, it became in 1821 the Saturday Evening Post.

THE first newspaper published in this city was printed by Andrew Bradford in 1719.

W. E. Smith, who is an authority on the subject, says that a genuine copy of The American Weekly Mercury, as it was known, is worth its weight in radium.

Printing and newspaper publishing seem to have run in families in Colonial days.

The Pennsylvania Journal was printed by William and Thomas Bradford, grandson and great-grandson of William Bradford, the first printer in Pennsylvania, for years, about 1784.

The General Advertiser of 1791 was published by Benjamin Franklin Bache, grandson of Benjamin Franklin.

THE Delaware river waterfront from the north side of Market street to the south side of Cherry street will be unrecognizable, as compared with its present appearance, three years from now.

That section of the city is to be revolutionized. Transformed would perhaps be more expressive.

Approximately $4,000,000 will be spent in the work.

From a historical standpoint, it is the richest locality in old association of any part of the waterfront.

It is the one district that has tied up the past of our port with its schooners, barks and clipper ships with these modern days of the 15,000-ton steamship.

ALL the old landmarks between the points named are to be torn out and obliterated.

There are five antiquated piers, with necessary bulkheads and sheds, that must disappear before the march of municipal progress.

The Department of Wharves, Docks and Ferries will replace these narrow piers and contracted dock spaces with two modern structures.

When these are completed they will be the finest works of their kind on the Delaware.

They will be adequate to present-day demands of commerce, and a lasting credit to the city.

Work on this great improvement will begin in the spring and will be pushed to early completion.

A Boston woman, professor of history in the Gordon Bible School, runs a dining-room for members of the faculty and students and gives them three meals a day for $3.50 a week. She buys only from producers and gets only the best. Occasionally, when she is forced to eat in town, she pays a dollar, she says, for a meal she can serve for twenty one cents. Which is pretty fair demonstration that the principal cause of personal high prices is a faulty system of distribution.

What Do You Know?

QUIZ

1. What is an [illegible]?
2. Why is Lent so called?
3. Who was [illegible] war of Germany at the outbreak of the world war?
4. For how long terms are members of the Federal House of Representatives elected?
5. How old was President Lincoln in the year of his assassination?
6. What is the capital of Alberta, North America, and what is its population?
7. What is [illegible] and Prejudice?
8. Who was Xerxes?
9. Why is [illegible] largest city in the Philippines [illegible] or what is the meaning of the name Philippines?
10. Who was the founder of the Salvation Army?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

1. United States senators are elected for six years.
2. The Missouri compromise, which became effective in 1821, provided that all the territory in the Louisiana purchase north of latitude 36°30' should be free territory, with the exception of the state of Missouri, which was admitted to the Union as a slave state.
3. [illegible] Gizeh in Egypt is 481 feet.
4. Mme. [illegible] was a French author of the 18th century. Her salon was the rendezvous of the best writers of her time. It was [illegible] a group of her friends, called the "Blue Stockings Club," to which belonged members of rank, [illegible] their written works were Plato and Aristotle.
5. The [illegible] of glory head but to the [illegible] Gray's Elegy Written in a Country Church Yard.
6. The Maine, an frigate Constitution defeated the British man-of-war Guerriere off Nova Scotia in 1812.
7. Alexander Graham Bell experimented with the idea of the telephone which he conceived in 1876 while living in Scotia.
8. The [illegible] Sioux is said not to have been [illegible] American name for the place, but the word used to describe the peculiar instrument used for smoking, or the island of Hispaniola (Santo Domingo). This instrument consisted of a hollow wooden tube shaped like a "Y," the two points of which being inserted in the nose of the smoker, the other end was held into the smoke of burning tobacco and thus the fumes were inhaled. The Indians called this apparatus "tabaco."
10. Two other names for grapefruit are pomelo and shaddock.

NOW MY IDEA IS THIS

Daily Talks With Thinking Philadelphians on Subjects They Know Best

GEORGE E. LIPPINCOTT

On Forestry and Lumber Prices

"WHILE the high prices for lumber which have prevailed during the last few years in the Philadelphia market may soon drop a little, this city will never again see low prices on lumber until there is a conservation of the raw material of this great staple," according to George E. Lippincott, chairman of the forestry committee of the Philadelphia Wholesale Lumber Dealers' Association.

A generation or so could once more make the Keystone state the lumber center of the world, in the opinion of Mr. Lippincott, who, in addition to his connection with the lumber dealers' association, is also treasurer of the committee on the restoration of Pennsylvania's timber production.

"The big reason why the Philadelphia market will continue to pay high prices for lumber," says Mr. Lippincott, "is because the lumber supply of America is slowly but surely disappearing. While the Philadelphia market for many years depended upon the great lumber-cutting areas of Pennsylvania for its supply, it must now go to the far West and South for its ordinary grades. This means a freight bill which must be paid out of the pockets of the consumer. Here in Pennsylvania not only the lumbermen, but the great coal corporations, the railroads and manufacturing concerns of all sorts, to say nothing of the civic organizations of the state, have awakened to the fact that the clearing out of the Pennsylvania forests has caused an economic situation which reaches down into the pockets of every citizen, because wood and its products are of daily use with everybody.

"We are endeavoring to bring back Penn's Woods, and to this end the committee on the restoration of Pennsylvania's timber production is prosecuting a campaign throughout the state to arouse the interest of all citizens. Our campaign thus far has succeeded wonderfully, and the session of the Legislature which opens in Harrisburg this week will receive the request of several million Pennsylvanians so to strengthen the Forestry Department of the commonwealth that it may, through the purchase of additional waste lands for reforestation and by putting an end to forest fires, restore to the hills of Pennsylvania the wonderful trees which once made Pennsylvania the great lumber center of the world, and can in a generation do so again.

Should Plant on Idle Lands

"There are 5,000,000 acres of land fit only for growing trees that the commonwealth should own. There should be many times the number of fire-hooded towers and fire wardens than the Department of Forestry can maintain with its present appropriation. There should be public parks on all state forests, with good roads to them and all through the forests. Counties with idle lands capable of growing forests should realize many times the taxes now secured from them.

"The commonwealth's investment in forest lands has cleared for it nearly $7,000,000. Every acre the state buys is an investment and will return in actual increase many times its original cost. To say nothing of the intangible returns to the people from all the blessings in increased industry, flood prevention, water-supply control and recreation that will follow wise forest control.

"The abnormal demand for lumber of all grades during the war raised prices to a peak never dreamed of. This was largely because people anxious for lumber went to the mills and outbid their competitors, regardless of price. Spot buying, however, has seen its day, and the lumber market is gradually getting back to normal. How [illegible] normal will never again be what it was in Philadelphia.

"Philadelphia and Pennsylvania should be more deeply interested in the prices of lumber than the prices of any other commodity, with the exception of coal, because Pennsylvania is potentially the greatest lumber commonwealth in the world.

"The awful fact that in 1920 Pennsylvania paid tribute of more than $100,000,000 because it had permitted its forests to be destroyed ought to be enough to awaken every Pennsylvanian to the importance of putting the trees back.

"It means that the state loses because of its past excesses and its present neglect twice as much in actual dollars and cents as it costs each year to run the state government.

Situation in Country Growing Serious

"Although the committee on the restoration of Pennsylvania's timber production is mainly interested in the situation as it exists within the state of Pennsylvania, we all nevertheless realize that the timber situation in the entire country is fast approaching a very serious condition. The country is badly in need of a governmental forest policy that will force conservation of this great national resource, and such a policy cannot help but contain restriction as to the manner of logging, fire prevention, etc. On account of the keen competition in the lumber business sawmills are forced to adopt what is really devastation rather than conservation, and this has been true since the first sawmill was started and a lumber trade developed.

"It is stated that the sawmills of the United States are only able to market about 40 per cent of the average tree, whereas in Germany, under a system of scientific and rigidly enforced conservation, 96 per cent of the tree is marketed. This means that uses must be found for the by-product of sawmills. On account of the cost of marketing a very large per cent of the tree is left in the woods to rot and becomes a fire hazard. Large Pacific coast mills are today burning, in immense burners built for the purpose, short lengths and sizes that could be easily used in wood-working factories, where the mills are not such a great distance from the market.

"There are two answers, one is economy and the other is a greater realization of the fact that our timber resources are not limitless, that we must build for the future, and have a broader outlook and vision as to the position the United States must fill in years to come in world trade. We must begin now; it is almost too late. This country cannot fill its world's destiny without timber.

"Our next President is a lumberman, is still interested in lumber industries in Marion, O., and under his administration it is to be hoped that we shall arrive at a national forest policy that will keep this country in the front as far as timber production is concerned."

A HARD ROAD TO TRAVEL

(From the New York Tribune)

Reform in Philadelphia is as hard a road to travel as Jordan. With the beginning of the year a new city administration came in, pledged to abolish the rule of the contractor bosses. Mr. J. Hampton Moore, heading a revolt of Republicans against the party machine, was elected Mayor, and a Council devoted to the same cause by a majority of one accompanied him into office. There was to be a great purification; Philadelphia was no longer to be "corrupt and contented." Yet with the ending of the year the fat is in the fire again. There have been deserters in the Council. The mayoral veto of a padded budget has been overridden and a reorganized machine is ready to do business again.

Mayor Moore, picking up the gage of battle, indicates it is to be a fight to a finish. There are those who think that he is a trifle too belligerent. If the Mayor gets rids of capable officials, as he is doing, on the ground that they have not given him the backing he expected, his critics will argue that his temper has got the better of his judgment.

Whatever policy he follows, his course is certain to be difficult. Ephraim is joined to his idols. It is to be feared the remaining three years of Mr. Moore's term will be bedeviled and made futile by internecine strife in which even the reformers themselves will take opposing sides.

The Lexington, Ky., loose-leaf tobacco market opens today, and there is indication that if prices do not average up to the estimated cost of production, thirty-six cents a pound, the co-operative company recently authorized will be incorporated and take charge. This is precisely what the western wheat growers did; and, as in the previous case, it opens up the question of the advisability of restricting competition and preventing the sale of commodities in the open market at market prices. The law of supply and demand rights everything eventually, but the man who is liable to be destroyed in the process cannot be expected to take it calmly. That his efforts to save himself may bring into existence trusts larger and more powerful than any that have heretofore existed may be expected. It is also to be expected that when that time comes the country will know what to do with them.

A Massachusetts food official declares that manufacturers of home brew haven't improved their product after eighteen months' practice. "It's all raw stuff," he said. Oh, well, art is long.

We would have more hope of results from the organizations designed to remedy the shortage of houses if the bricklayers would join 'em.

SHORT CUTS

Wait until Old Winter begins to strike an average!

Speaking of the weather, we know it is altogether too good to last.

Perhaps the working bandits don't know a bandit court has been established.

Europe, a victim of psycho-analysis, is none the happier for resurrecting old memories.

And the discarded scrap of paper may bear Bethmann Hollweg's only claim to immortality.

Legislative mills begin to grind today throughout the country, but there is no evidence that the grist is above normal in quality.

Don't bother about spring. Summer's coming. Connie Mack has gone South to prepare for the inevitable cry of "Play ball!"

If James A. Dunn is right the Philadelphia delegation to attend the state Legislature has bigger plans for the spending of money than for raising it.

The bandit convicted in thirty-nine seconds by a jury of which two members were women, one of them foreman, is probably convinced that woman's place is in the home.

Garden crops valued at more than $400,000 were raised in 1920 by workmen and their families in the Connellsville coke region. The war-garden idea has evidently borne good fruit.

With a new transatlantic steamship company operating from this city another step has been taken toward placing Philadelphia in the place to which she rightfully belongs as the greatest shipping center of the country.

In the burning drought of the morning after the 263 persons arrested in this city for intoxication on New Year's Eve will agree with Prohibition Enforcement Agent Crossen that the Philadelphia celebration was of the driest.

It is probably all right. Politics must be played. But it sometimes jars the ordinary citizen to observe in the stories from Harrisburg that politics is at the bottom of everything and that proposed legislative enactments are merely pawns in the game.

The dollar haircut has been abolished in Chicago after a brief tryout. Men wore their hair so long that the barbers went short and repented. Knights of the razor and the shears are getting back their business at the old rates, but it was a close shave.

Just when a man who is fighting the people's battles begins to get in some hard licks, the moment he begins to smite the malefactors hip and thigh, some guy will proceed to take the joy out of life by telling him that he can accomplish more with soft soap than with a club. Ask Mayor Moore. He knows.

The Geological Survey says ninety-five tons of soil, pebbles and loose rock are carried away every year by the rivers from every square mile of the United States. This may mean that the whole of the country will be washed away in a million years; but it is not thought the survey is seriously trying to discourage the purchase of real estate.

In a plea to end competitive armament, General Pershing notes that Congress contemplates an appropriation for the next fiscal year amounting to over $5,000,000 for every working day. When one considers that sum in the terms of extravagant prices for food, clothing, rent and amusements, as well as more direct taxes, it begins to strike home.

"In considering men for places in the cabinet," said President-elect Harding in a recent interview, "I have done my best to hold them up to Lincoln and Roosevelt and to the teaching of the Scriptures." Excellent as a groundwork of character but hardly specific enough for the choosing of a man for a definite job. Neither Lincoln nor Roosevelt is here to do the choosing. The choice rests flatly with Warren G. Harding. He is unquestionably anxious to do the right thing, the big thing. The big things in the world are accomplished by the man who knows what he wants done, gets the right men to do it and does not meddle with them overmuch. But the one essential is that he should know what he wants done. It is the hope of the country that Warren G. Harding knows.