

Evening Public Ledger

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be as damaging to public interest, to the reputation of the city and to the ordinary conception of business sanity as the years of wrangling and stultification. It is now the imperative duty of the municipality to open the road and to operate it as efficiently as the long-discussed drawbacks will permit. Its failure cannot be predicted even by the most formidable array of statistics. It is, indeed, conceivable that these have been miscalculations and that insufficient account has been taken of developments in patronage, capable eventually of extricating the city from a financial bog.

HIDDEN EXCESS MILLIONS IN CITY'S SINKING FUND

Stotesbury, Hadley and Moore Could Reduce Tax Rate an Additional 20 Cents if They Would Release Secret Surplus By GEORGE NOX MCCAIN

THERE seems to be little hope, at least during the incumbency of the present Board of Sinking Fund Commissioners, that the secrets of the manipulation of its millions will be disclosed to the public. The half-hearted effort of Council some months ago to force a showdown gives small encouragement that it will ever marshal sufficient courage again to take the bull by the horns. Its own derelictions in its relation to the commission have been so flagrant that they long ceased to provoke comment among those familiar with the facts.

The Board of Sinking Fund Commissioners under the law is composed of the Mayor and the City Controller, with a third member elected annually by Council. At present, and for years past, E. T. Stotesbury, head of the banking house of Drexel & Co., of this city, and resident member of the firm of J. P. Morgan & Co., New York, has been the elective member of the board.

It has been seen since Council held an election for this position. Mr. Stotesbury has been, and is today, acting in his official capacity under that provision of the law which requires that he continue to serve until his successor is chosen. He is, therefore, a Sinking Fund Commissioner through a technical evasion of the law.

This fact is referred to here for the reason that Council is directly responsible for keeping the facts concerning the Sinking Fund's millions from reaching the public. Using the cryptic methods and peculiar financing of the fund, the taxpayers have been left to obtain their knowledge of the operations of the commission from the unsatisfactory reports of Controller Hadley.

The city's budget-makers, the Mayor and Council, will this year make the usual appropriation to the Sinking Fund. It will approximate \$4,000,000, presumably. This is separate and apart from interest charges on the city's indebtedness.

If this appropriation were eliminated from the budget estimate the tax rate for 1922 would be reduced by an additional twenty cents below the proposed fifty-cent reduction by Council, an assessment for 1922 of \$1.45.

The reduction can be accomplished simply and satisfactorily if the Mayor and Council can bring themselves to an agreement on the subject. The city's accounting system, Controller Hadley's cryptic statistical reports or even the sacred records of the Sinking Fund need not be disturbed.

It has been the boast of the Sinking Fund Commissioners that not infrequently there have been carried as high as 20 per cent excess surplus assets on their books. At present it is estimated that there are between \$1,000,000 and \$5,000,000 in these excess surplus assets in possession of the board. The exact amount cannot be definitely stated because of the mystery which envelops the handling of these millions.

upon himself as soon as he took his seat. He has succeeded beyond his wildest hopes. Herrick has exhibited his eccentricities outside the Capitol by his campaign for the protection of girls on the street. He is a frank and a political accident. The man chosen for the nomination in his district died before the primaries and he slipped in by default. This much must be said in extenuation of the offense of the voters of the Eighth Oklahoma District who elected him. He will not be returned to Washington. But Blanton has been elected by his Texas district three times and seems to be the kind of man the voters like.

FIFTY YEARS AFTER TWEED

FIFTY years ago yesterday William M. Tweed, the Tammany boss, was arrested in a civil suit for the recovery of money stolen from New York. He was then at the height of his power and insolently defiant of public opinion. His followers believed him to be invincible and they obeyed his orders without question.

The disclosure of the frauds came about by accident, when an honest bookkeeper took charge of the accounts of an agent of the gang who had been killed by the overturning of a sleigh. The looting of the city began in earnest with the passage of a new charter of the city in 1870. It cost Tweed \$1,000,000 to get the charter through the Legislature. He would have paid more if it had been necessary.

The charter put the control of the money of the city in the hands of a Board of Special Audit. One of the early acts of this board was to issue an order for the payment of \$8,312,000 on account of the building of the new courthouse. Nine tenths of this sum went into the pockets of the contractors. It was customary to levy on the men who had contracts for city supplies 65 per cent of the amount of their bills. This levy was raised to 85 per cent after the new charter went into effect. Then notorious institutions were created, with three or four politicians as officers, and large sums were appropriated to them.

While this was going on Tweed was posing as a friend of the poor. He gave \$1000 to each Alderman to be used in buying coal for the needy, and he gave \$50,000 to the needy in the warm in which he was born. The courthouse, which reference has been made to the taxpayers \$12,000,000. Of this sum, one firm alone received \$3,000,000 for supplying furniture and carpets, the greater part of which went into the pockets of Tweed and his friends.

Stipends were created for favorites with salaries ranging from \$5000 to \$15,000 a year. And when there was no more against extravagance Tweed indignantly asked, "What are you going to do about it?" He found out within a few months. Yet these still are men, not only in New York but in other cities, who think they can rob the taxpayers as Tweed robbed them and get away with it. And there also are citizens of these communities who regard the political machines controlled by these men as so powerful that attack on them is futile.

The punishment of Tweed did not destroy human greed, nor did it remove from the political crooks the opportunity to gratify their desire for easy money. Whether conditions have improved since Tweed's time may be an open question. The one thing which is certain is that the methods by which the cities are looted have been modified.

NEWS AND YOUR FUTURE

VERY unorthodoxly and very slowly, in his disquieting Washington to this newspaper yesterday, Mr. Gilbert discussed a phase of the new movement for armament limitation which, though it is all-important, will receive little notice later.

In the days of the Versailles Conference, and in the days of the League of Nations, the armamentists have been in the world to limit the arms race, but the forces which govern its common life. Now it appears that every important delegation to the Conference on the Limitation of Armaments will bring its own press agent, and these agents will be attended by a specialist. This George E. H. Riegler, and writes for a little paper that has a truly enormous circulation among what the British call their lower classes. Sir George can talk to about 10,000,000 Britons every week. In the train of the British Premier now will be a delegation of Hargis, another trusted member of opinion who did local service for the British cause in Paris.

Other representatives of foreign Governments will be as well equipped as the British to "direct" public opinion by cable. A delegation of Japanese experts, written in Washington a week ago and another delegation is on the way.

Opposed to the trained "makers of opinion" will be the large and capable army of writers, who, serving the modern local of journalism, aim not to make opinion, but to lead the truth. Most of them labor alone, bravely, and it is hard to think of any one to battle the propagandists in America and in Europe.

Without the news reporter the interests of the majority would have little recognition in armament conferences or anywhere else. It is only on rare occasions that the public is made aware of the obligation to one of its best occupations, and most useful servants. Yesterday in Harrisburg George E. McKirdy, of Pittsburgh, addressing a conference of the representatives of large industries, reminded his hearers of a single common to a good number of them. He remarked that the representatives of big and little industries should help rather than hinder the press in its efforts to tell the truth, because the truth can be as helpful in industry as it is in everyday life.

The Temple Triumphant will house the executive offices of the foundation and other affiliated national organizations. It will contain the Hall of Friendship, which will be the headquarters of affiliated clubs of other countries.

The Temple Triumphant is to be a Hall of Memory with its commanding colonnade of pillars. On each of these pillars will be engraved the names of famous women who have contributed to the foundation of the United States and Territories, States or respective States and Territories. States of women famous in the history of this country shall be placed in this hall, and other countries will be invited to here commemorate their greatest women.

Here also, most imposing in size, and beautiful and appropriate surroundings, prominently placed in the Hall of Memory will be a large white marble wall, which will be the Book of Remembrance. Its pages of everlasting parchment will be engraved with certifying remembrance to women who have built the temple, the temple to honor. The opportunity to become a builder is offered to every member.

In addition to this permanent record will be an order of the Hall of Remembrance. Any member who receives from the foundation an official certificate duly engraved and similar to the reproduction pictured on the opposite page. The privilege of nominating the name of a woman chosen for entrance in the Book of Remembrance is also granted to any man who makes satisfactory contribution to the building fund of the foundation of \$10 or more.

It is said that wisdom belongs to age. Perhaps it does. Youth, however, is becoming doubtful, and its doubts are enormously significant. If the Conference on the Limitation of Armaments should fail utterly, we may see some startling new trends in the political currents of all civilized lands.

The Princeton conference did more than give a voice to the undergraduate opinion as it is developing in all American and foreign universities. It exposed the desire of the younger generation to have a voice in the shaping of the future, for a voice which is not to be suppressed.

AS ONE WOMAN SEES IT

The Temple Triumphant is to Commemorate in Washington the Great and Worthy Women of the Past

By SARAH D. LOWRIE

I HAVE lived long enough to know that the enthusiasm of one person—if that person is astute enough to appeal to either the sentiment or the business sense of his fellow-men—can carry into effect as great an enterprise as Northfield or the Red Cross, every kind of obstacle and in the face of great general indifference, provided he never loses sight of his plan and is not deterred by any side issue.

I was newly convinced of that latent quality of success in humans by a conversation I had with the woman who is the inventor and the organizer and the financial propagandist and the able public agent and, incidentally, the president of the Woman's National Foundation of Washington, D. C. She is Mrs. Clarence Crittenden Calhoun, of Chestnut Hill.

It was her idea to build in Washington a kind of temple of women's clubs and welfare organizations that were national in their scope—a large, Capitol-like edifice that would embody both sentiment and power in its type of architecture—remind one of the hotel, Capitol, and yet be designed in its interior rather as an auditorium for music and dramatic presentations of the interests, with halls of fame to satisfy sentiment and offices for organization to satisfy business.

IN ORDER to finance so gigantic an undertaking and focus the largest assemblage of feminine interests about the spot, there grew up in her mind subsidiary plans for building the world's first advisory laboratory and main scheme and plan a monetary and a sentimental part in its development. To make it easy and practical for women to center about this great center of women's interests plans for two colleges were developed—one democratic in character, a hotel for women run on modern and co-operative principles that would insure the greatest benefit for the most needy; the other somewhat plutocratic in character, club where shareholders would be its members at \$1000 a share, with a life tenure of both their membership privileges and an administrative position with regard to accidents of the whole foundation. To these nuclei of interests there were added certain embellishments, such as the "Silent Theatre," the "Hall of Friendship" and a "Hall of Memory."

Presumably, the hotel once built and equipped would pay for itself, and more, too. In Washington, probably a club starting with a thousand members at \$1000 a share would also pay its way and more, too. If all the great organizations for women like the League of Women Voters, the Federation of Business Women, the Y. W. C. A., and the National Council of Women, would join at the rate of a dollar a member several million could be enrolled almost automatically and pay for the building and the equipment and the maintenance of the great central building.

There were a good many "ifs" in the whole proposition, but apparently not enough to daunt the inventor, organizer, advance agent and first president, Mrs. Calhoun. I DO not know whether Mrs. Calhoun is the author of the very suspicious announcement of the plan; she is certainly the author of a good deal of its first page, and I seem to remember her style there, too. If to our hard Northern perceptions it seems combined in a language—combined is the only word I can apply to the language—that is, the language of a woman, it is combined of yesterday. I can only say that the lady most responsible for it has been able to get several building firms interested in advancing the money for the building, and she has been able to get a group of the names of the prospective, she has enough club members at \$1000 each to insure the purchase of one of the finest sites in Washington, D. C. I will not speak for herself, or chant rather, in a kind of poetic prose.

THE building of the modern American womanhood at the National Capital is the controlling thought and first objective of the Woman's National Foundation. The main structure of this magnificent group of buildings, all to be supervised by the woman's national labor union, and the Temple Triumphant, which is designed to commemorate the great and worthy women of the past and to offer a fitting forum to the women of this and coming generations for the advancement of the womanhood and the betterment of humanity.

The initial step toward early consummation of this plan has already been accomplished. The woman's national labor union, to whom the first president of the foundation presented the basic plan, and who immediately caught the vision, have most patriotically and generously agreed to underwrite the work and to bind by a material payment the purchase of an ideal site. This site comprises approximately ten acres of beautiful country, with a wealth of great trees, situated on a high plateau in the heart of Washington, and commanding a sweeping panorama which embraces the United States Capitol, the White House, the Washington Monument, the official and business districts of the city.

"Although the foundation's home will be magnificent in its massiveness and compelling in its beauty, it will not be a mere monument to the past, but a living center of activity for the womanhood of the future. Every building that is to be here constructed will not only be self-sustaining, through the activities which will flourish, but will also be a center of activity for the womanhood of the future. Every building that is to be here constructed will not only be self-sustaining, through the activities which will flourish, but will also be a center of activity for the womanhood of the future. Every building that is to be here constructed will not only be self-sustaining, through the activities which will flourish, but will also be a center of activity for the womanhood of the future.



NOW MY IDEA IS THIS

Daily Talks With Thinking Philadelphians on Subjects They Know Best

CAPTAIN JAMES J. HEARN Talks of the New Police Bureau of Accident Prevention

THE Police Bureau of Accident Prevention has just organized an entirely new line of police activities and one which will prove of great benefit to the citizens of Philadelphia, according to Police Captain James J. Hearn, the chief of the Bureau.

"The idea of this bureau," said Captain Hearn, "is to make numerous arrests or to make arrests at all where it is not shown to be absolutely necessary, but to make the people of Philadelphia, as well as the drivers of vehicles, the pedestrians, and especially the children, to the necessity of exercising more care and thus reducing the number of accidents to a minimum."

Complete Investigations to Be Made Of course, in all accident cases a thorough investigation is the first step to be taken. Captain Hearn has devised a very careful and complete system of records which will be permanent and not only show the details of all accidents, but also show every man's entire record with regard to accidents.

"Naturally, where the circumstances reveal criminal carelessness or such negligence as demands punishment, the disciplinary powers of the Police Department will be used. In such cases the Bureau will fully investigate the cause of every accident first and then to devise ways and means of preventing a recurrence of it."

When several accidents are reported from the same general area, the investigators will be called upon to ascertain the reasons for them and report as to how they can most effectively be stopped. If they occur on a traffic post and are found that the traffic officer has been negligent, the Bureau will not only remove the officer, if they occur in a section of the city where there is no traffic post, the investigators will remain on duty until the cause of the accident has been determined and the necessary measures have been learned.

The Traffic Problem In Philadelphia and in every other large city the traffic problem is becoming a serious one. With the increase in population and the much larger proportionate increase in the number of motor driven vehicles the volume of traffic has multiplied many times, and as a result there are bound to be accidents. We recognize this and plan to reduce them to the smallest number possible. One of our important features will be that the fault or the incapacity of the injured person will be shown. If he was intoxicated, ill equipped, or if he was careless or not at all careful, it will appear on the report. If he crossed a street not at a crossing, if he was careless or was standing a ride, it will be shown on the report. If he was careless or was standing a ride, it will be shown on the report. If he was careless or was standing a ride, it will be shown on the report.

GOOD WORK!

Life in Ireland is just one darned crisis after another.

Would it be proper to speak of chain delicatessen stores as sausage links?

Having selected a new chaser, Germany gulps down the Upper Silesian dose.

We observe that an effort is made to prove to those having to do with insurance that honesty is the best policy.

A more or less interested world hastens to assure Charles that if he abdicates it will be the very best thing he has ever done.

Harvard is to teach Chinese. Even graduate may therefore be gratified to read a description of his shirt and underwear.

In a world where there is nothing that President Harding said of the black man that does not also apply to the yellow man.

The President's colorful speech proves that he is no trifling back-hammer by whom he wishes to drive his statements home.

We hazard the guess that Joyce Kilmer's poem on "The Tree" will appear in at least one publication in the United States today.

The American steamship Cuydon, now in this port with sugar from Cuba, has no doubt a great deal of business to do. At right. Our only objection is to kid smokers.

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