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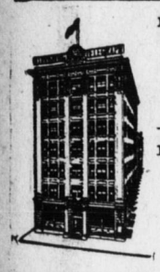

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THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 1919

A grindstone that had not grit in it how long would it take to sharpen an axe? And affairs that had not grit in them, how long would they have to make a man?—H. W. Beecher.

UNNECESSARY NOISE

IT IS to be hoped that the Rotary Club will adopt the resolutions presented Monday evening calling upon Mayor Keister to use his powers to stop unnecessary noises in Harrisburg.

This is part of the program for a healthier city laid down by Colonel Martin, State Health Commissioner, and is probably the easiest and least expensive item in the list to enforce. All that is needed is vigorous action by the police.

The resolutions mention unnecessary whistling of locomotives and exploding of quarry blasts at unseemly hours, but worse even than these is the unlawful use of cutouts by automobiles and motorcycle drivers. There is absolutely no excuse for noise of this kind, and it is particularly objectionable either late at night, in the very early hours of the morning or in parts of the city where railroadmen and others who work at night must take their rest during the day. A half-dozen arrests, with proper publicity, and the practice would be broken up.

Those members of the State Legislature who are still insisting upon favoritism for German newspapers in the matter of official advertising, will probably have noted that the German propaganda which was for a time squelched is again finding its way into all manner of publications.

NO CREDIT TO AMERICA

AMERICAN soldiers are hot under the collar because Marshal Haig's report on the conclusion of the war makes no mention whatsoever of the part borne by American troops. They are utterly ignored. This is a characteristically British attitude. The United Kingdom's achievements in the war were glorious beyond compare, but John Bull, the old rascal, would have it believed that the other nations acted merely as his trainers in the great bout with the Huns. And with his seven votes in the League of Nations he would be quite as dictatorial, self-inflated and insistent on bossing the globe. As a combination of Sir Galahad and Falstaff, commend us to the typical Englishman.

The American soldier not only fought with weapons the Hun hordes, but with his money as well. Government officials have just announced that the soldiers of this country subscribed to the five issues of Liberty bonds an approximate total of $250,000,000. The soldiers bought these bonds voluntarily and some on the eve of battle. What a fine tribute to the character of the men who won the World War.

MUST FEEL THE LAW

THE cowardly skunks who are endeavoring to inaugurate a reign of terror in this country through the Russian bombing route have been more or less encouraged in their activities by the indifference of our own Government throughout the period of the war in the matter of suppressing the anti-American groups and individuals who showed their reptile tendencies in violent outbursts against the Government and in seditious talk. Every bomb exploded in the destruction of life and property in this country is another argument for constructive Americanization plans in every community and a call to higher courage among those officials who are so ready to coddle the voter of alien birth, who finds his greatest pleasure in developing opposition to American institutions and ideals.

We can think of nothing more important at the present time than the prompt building up of Americanization training in our public and private schools and the teaching of civic responsibility among the children who will soon be the men and women of to-morrow. Every bomb outrage is an appeal for the awakening of our own people to the menace of the imported enemies of our system of government. Terrorists will find American soil rather stony ground for the planting of their impossible theories, but the strong arm of the law must be exerted for the crushing out of the cowards whose dastardly attempts on life and property have aroused the authorities at last to the need of more drastic action in dealing with this class of undesirables.

EXPERIENCE OF 1869-77

IN HIS current reminiscences, Henry Watterson refers to President Grant as a "political nondescript." This, we are constrained to believe, was not intended to be a term of disrespect. It was intended, we infer, to convey the idea, which was a fact, that Grant had taken so little interest in public affairs that scarcely anyone knew to what party he belonged or what views he entertained upon important problems confronting the Nation during the reconstruction period following the Civil War. Grant was nominated by the Republicans and elected by the people because of the enthusiasm resulting from his success as a military leader.

The facts regarding Grant were fairly and sympathetically stated by Prof. Andrew C. McLaughlin, of the University of Chicago, in his History of the American Nation, wherein he said:

> General Grant was at this time almost entirely without political experience and without training in civil duties. He was a graduate of West Point and had served with distinction in the Mexican War. At the outbreak of the Rebellion he occupied a humble position as a private citizen. His success as a general gave him a world-wide reputation, and he was hailed by the enthusiastic North as the savior of his country. He was a man of strict, unswerving honesty and of pure motives.
>
> It may be doubted whether his talents, that so well fitted him for conducting a great aggressive war, were equally well adapted to the no less difficult tasks of peace. Downright and upright himself, he was not always successful in winning and holding the best men of his party by giving them frank confidence; nor did he have great insight into the weaknesses of men about him. These characteristics account, in part, for some of the difficulties of his administration.

Giving an account of affairs near the end of Grant's first term, McLaughlin, says that some Republicans felt that he had shown rare incapacity for civil duties, and that he was surrounded by men who were greedy, if not corrupt. This did not reflect in the least upon the honesty of Grant. When subjected to the test of practical service, he had been found wanting. However, the "Liberal Republicans" nominated Horace Greeley, who was endorsed by the Democrats, and the country was confronted in 1872 by two candidates neither of whom had been prepared by previous experience and training for successful administration of the high office of President. As McLaughlin puts it, "There was a strong feeling that Greeley was unfit for the Presidency. A high-minded, honest man, with strong purposes and noble aims, he was impractical and visionary. . . He had almost no experience in public office." The country chose to continue its war hero as President, notwithstanding dissatisfaction with his administration. The unfortunate scandals of the remaining years of his service are incidents that historians pass over as briefly as possible.

An admiring and grateful Nation thinks of Grant not as a President, but as a soldier who "proposed to fight it out on this line if it takes all summer," and who demanded "unconditional surrender," thus expressing in laconic terms the spirit of Americanism. As Watterson truly says, Grant was a "political nondescript," but that was nothing to his discredit. The country made the mistake of trying to put a round peg in a square hole, and it did not fit. The country has made the same mistake on other occasions, and has always paid the penalty. Let us hope that we have profited by experience.

"DESERVING DEMOCRAT"

DURING the recess of the Senate, the President appointed as United States Attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina one Thomas D. Warren. This man is now, and has been for several years past, chairman of the Democratic State Committee of North Carolina. Just before the elections of last November, when the influenza epidemic was at its height, Mr. Warren sent a letter to his lieutenants throughout the State urging them to get the votes of sick Democrats, unable to attend the polls, under the provisions of the absent voters' law of North Carolina. "There is some question as to whether this can be done," said he in the letter, "but in my judgment it will be all right and will certainly meet the spirit of the law. We cannot afford to take any chances and I hope that you will make arrangements to get the vote of every sick man in your county who will not be able to be out on election day. There is no need of making this matter public or discussing it with the Republicans."

The effect of this appeal, reports have it, was to cause more fraud to be practiced at the November elections in North Carolina than had ever before disgraced the State. The Republicans were helpless to forestall the political trick of their adversaries, but they are now busying themselves in laying before every Senator the facts in the case in order to prevent if possible the confirmation of Mr. Warren for the place given him by the President as a reward.

Politics in Pennsylvania

By the Ex-Committeeman

Vare adherents in the Legislature will make their final effort to prevent passage of the Philadelphia charter bill in the House of Representatives Monday night. It is the plan of the Penrose forces to have the House pass the bill and to have it sent immediately to the Senate for concurrence in the House amendments, so that it is possible that the bill may be passed by both houses Monday night.

The Vare men plan a battle Monday night and will attack the progress of the bill in the House stage by stage and endeavor to line up enough up-State members to block it, although they have little hope of defeating it in the end.

Philadelphia newspapers to-day play up the rout of the Vare forces yesterday morning in the House and the "comeback" of Speaker Robert S. Spangler on the appeal from his ruling. The Speaker is given the highest praise for the vigorous manner in which he defended his ruling and the big vote to sustain him, and the applause he received are commented upon.

It was in 1913 that the question of a referendum, which was the point of the Vare attack yesterday, came up in the House and as the Speaker was then in charge of third-class city legislation, he was primed on the very thing on which the Vare men made their drive.

—Senator Penrose kept in touch with the House proceedings yesterday by telephone on his way to Washington and sent word that he would be back here Sunday. The Senator predicted last Sunday that the bill would be disposed of finally during the coming week.

—State administration forces showed no signs of going to the relief of the Vare forces yesterday and ideas of any "alliance" were exploded when the developments began in the House. The fact that Representative W. T. Ramsey challenged the first Vare move was also much commented upon at the Capitol yesterday.

—With the Philadelphia charter bill on the final ways and the appropriation bills started out the end of the session is in sight and it is not likely that municipal legislation which has taken up so much time will get great attention. Second and third class city bills will be on calendars next week, but unless disposed of speedily will not stand much chance as the temper of the House is to get through with its work.

—Woman suffragists are endeavoring to line up votes in the two houses to put through the Federal amendment as soon as possible as it is their aim to have Pennsylvania act early. There will be some fight against the Federal amendment, however.

—Liquor legislation will take up some time next week. The prohibition enforcement bills are on the House calendar for special orders Monday and it is possible that the Ramsey "alcoholic content" bill will be called up. There were a lot of moves made this week with that end in view, but the time was not suitable to the liquor people.

—County Chairman J. E. Burnett, of Lackawanna county, Democrat, will not be a candidate for re-election when the committee meets late this month.

—The Philadelphia registration bills were made a special order for second reading in the House next Monday night at 9:45 and for third reading Tuesday morning at 11:15 o'clock, on motion of Mr. Heffernan, Philadelphia. There were a few objections.

—Six members voted against the bill increasing salaries of county commissioners to $5,000 in counties having over 150,000 population, except Philadelphia and Allegheny. Dauphin and Delaware counties will come under this bill after the next census.

—Objection to postponement of bills when their sponsors are absent, was made in the House by Mr. Dunn, Philadelphia. He said men went away and had their bills laid over at expense of time of members who attended to business, resulting in "piling up of a big postponed bill calendar." The Speaker commended the remarks of Mr. Dunn.

—News of the death of Ex-Judge W. D. Wallace, of Lawrence county, came as a shock to many members of the Legislature, as he was well known to people here and was only named Monday as a trustee of one of the State institutions. The Judge, who served one term on the common pleas bench, was a candidate for Superior Court a couple times and widely known. He was an authority on third-class city law.

—District Attorney Rotan does not propose to lose much time in naming his detectives. There were reports that James T. Cortelyou might be named as chief, but this is now denied.

—Governor Sproul will have to name a successor to Judge James W. Over, president judge of Allegheny County Orphans' Court, who died Tuesday at the age of 76. He was one of the best known Orphans' Court judges in the State.

—With one month still to go before things grow "dry," there seems to be considerable going on about licenses in various counties. The Westmoreland county court has handed down a ruling on some of the held up cases.

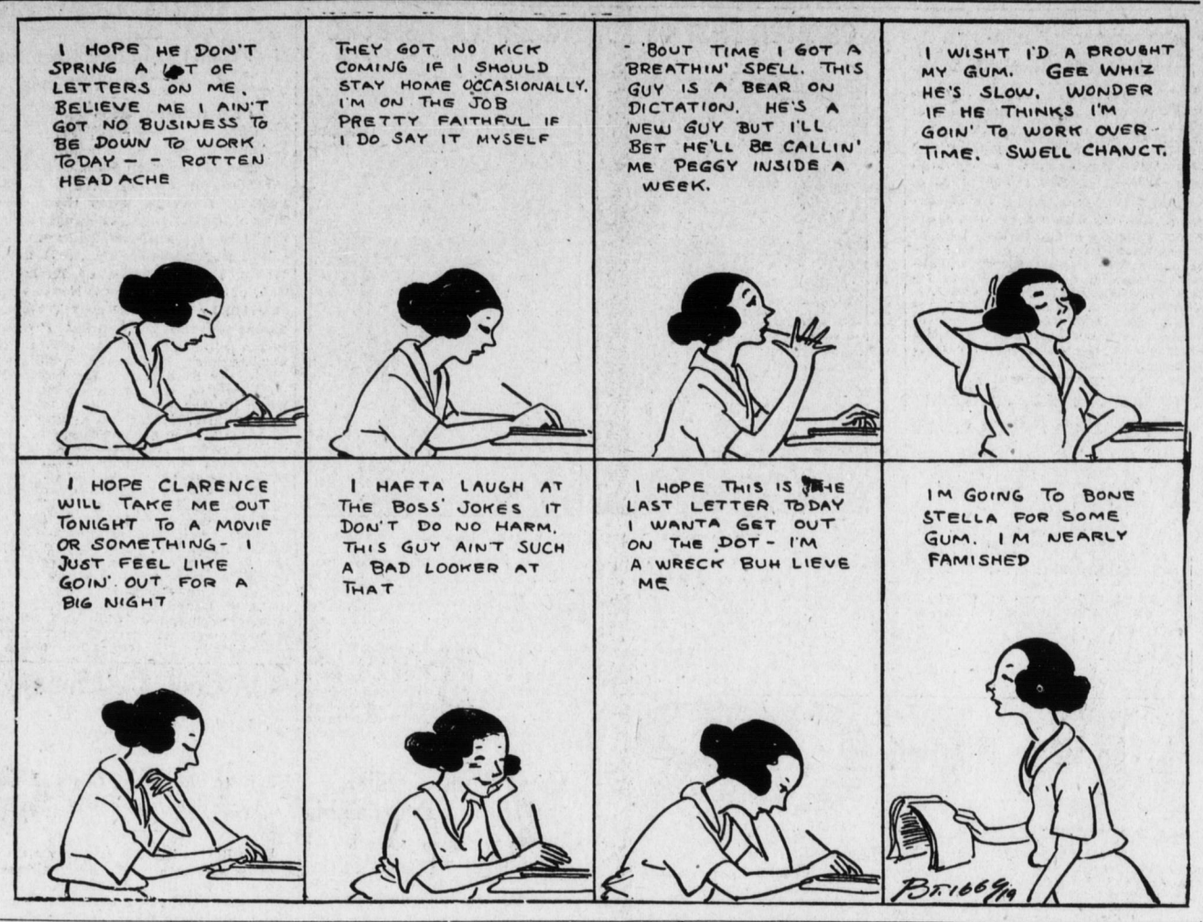
—Ex-Judge Robert G. Bushong, of Reading, is being strongly urged to be a candidate for the bench in Berks county.

—The Lancaster county judges have rejected a petition signed by hundreds of people for a probation officer, saying such an officer is not needed at all.

Is the Modern Child Sincere?

"Good breeding produces good manners," says Prudence Bradish in her latest book, "Mother Love in Action." "And yet I have in mind certain children whose outward manners are perfect, but whom I know to be the embodiment of selfishness. I know some little gamins over on the East Side of New York who are more comfortable companions. I have seen the modern child carry out to the letter every detail of her French governess's instructions—and be all the time a hateful, selfish, ill-mannered, inconsiderate little brat." Prudence Bradish has made a deep study of the manifold problems of the mother's job and out of her own experience and the experience of others, has written "Mother Love in Action." This little book, which is published by the Harpers, deals with the up-bringing of children from babyhood to college days.

WONDER WHAT A STENOG—TAKING DICTATION—THINKS ABOUT? -:- By BRIGGS



JOBS FOR SOLDIERS

The Pennsylvania State Employment Service has put into operation several methods of following up the men who have been discharged from the service of the country, in order to procure employment for them. Applications from these men are received at the various offices of the service in several ways. In one case, the men in camp who are about to be discharged, fill in cards which are taken to the camp by representatives of the United States Employment Service. These cards give the name of the soldier, his home address, the character of the work which he has hitherto performed and the work he is desirous of obtaining. These cards are forwarded to the Pennsylvania State Employment Service for distribution to the offices nearest the homes of the applicant. The superintendents of these offices have received instructions to follow up each applicant, find out whether he has secured employment and if he had not, to make immediate efforts to secure employment for him. The superintendents do this by sending out a form letter in which the soldier is asked to answer certain questions. Amongst others, whether he has received the job he had worked at before entering the service? Whether he had secured employment elsewhere, and if he desired us to continue our efforts to find employment for him? Upon receipt of answers to these questions, they take such steps as are necessary in accordance herewith.

Notwithstanding the depression in the industrial world entailing a diminution in the working forces in all industries, the employers have strained a point to take on one or more discharged men and thus assist in keeping the promises made to them before entering the service. To secure the co-operation of employers in the matter of obtaining openings for discharged soldiers, there were sent out through the various offices of the service, thousands of form letters asking them how many men they could use, the kind of work, the wages and the hours. The responses to these letters have been cordial and gratifying, and as soon as an order for men is received at an office of the service, applicants, who have not as yet been placed, are referred to the employer. The particular order we receive may not be such work as that for which the applicant has applied, but it is offered him and if for any reason he refuses to accept it, his application is kept alive until such time as an order is received for the work which he is desirous of obtaining. In this manner over 4,800 men received employment through this branch of the State government during the month of May, 1919.

The Post-July Barroom

[Evangeline Booth in Christian Herald.]

The Salvation Army has within the last few weeks demonstrated in its province of New York the psychology of the brass rail. There is something about the shining bar which brings all men to a common footing. The easy and relaxed attitude of those who lean against the mahogany or cherry suggests solid comfort. Because wine and beer are to go, shall a man not take his ease in his own inn? Therefore at our newly opened hotel in West Forty-Seventh street we have kept the bar and the brass rail, and the bartender back of them. Although soft drinks are served instead of hard ones, this barroom of the new era glows with good cheer. Those who will manage the saloons of the new order will be instructed to make them abodes of comfort and cheer. The success of the Salvation Army has been ascribed by such keen students of human nature as Cardinal Gibbons to the fact that it appeals directly to the individual. The Salvation saloon will not turn the cold shoulder to those worsted in the battle of life, but will have over every mirror its familiar slogan: "A man may be down, but he is never out."

The Poets of the New

They sing of mantelpieces, soap,
Of blankets, apothegms and rope,
Of turkey gizzards and eclipses,
Of paradigms and eke ellipses.
They make a "poem" out of suds,
Of unwashed windows, father's duds;
Their inspiration comes from ceilings,
From doormats and potato peelings.
They find there's beauty in a piece
Of sausage, or of cold, gray grease;
They simply dote on pickles, hops,
And love to write of kitchen mops.
Hark! how they yap on every hand,
These Scavengers of Poetry Land!

—William Wallace Whitelock.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND THE WHITLEY REPORT

[Glenn Frank in the Century Magazine.]

A COMMITTEE of expert students of industrial relations, under the chairmanship of the Rt. Hon. J. T. Whitley, M. P., chairman of committees of the House of Commons, was appointed in 1917. The terms of reference to the committee on relations between employers and employed, as the Whitley committee was called, were:

"1. To make and consider suggestions for securing a permanent improvement in the relations between employers and workmen.

"2. To recommend means for securing that industrial condition affecting the relations between employers and workmen shall be systematically reviewed by those concerned, with a view to improving conditions in the future."

The report is based upon the belief that the most workable solution of the problems arising out of industrial relations is likely to come from the voluntary co-operative action of employers and employes, rather than from the arbitrary imposition of government regulations; that the system of industrial relations springing from such a voluntary collaboration, as the faithful expression of joint thought and agreement, will be more likely to prove permanent and effective than an even better system shoved down over recalcitrant groups by executive order.

A further assumption underlying the report is that there is imperative need for machinery that will bring employers and employes together for continuous consultation upon matters of mutual concern other than matters in dispute; that there is a serious gap in an industrial organization that provides for conference only where one of the parties has a grievance. On this point the report states:

"The schemes recommended in this report are intended not merely for the treatment of industrial problems when they have become acute, but also, and more especially, to prevent their becoming acute. We believe that the regular meetings to discuss industrial questions, apart from and prior to any difference with regard to them that may have begun to cause friction, will materially reduce the number of occasions on which, in the view of either employers or employes, it is necessary to contemplate recourse to a stoppage of work."

The general idea that permeates the whole report is that industrial peace and efficiency demand candid and constructive treatment of the fundamental aspiration of labor, which promises to be voiced with increasing vitality, for a greater influence and control over those parts and processes of industry that most vitally touch the workman's interests. It is refreshing to see the framers of this report go past * * * inadequate expedients * * * and drive directly at the heart of the labor problem, although extremists contend that they betray only a Platonic interest in the full implications of the workman's interest in actual joint control. But the framers frankly state their convictions on this point in a manner that indicates a healthy appreciation that the questions of status and control underlie the more material issues of wages and hours. On this the report reads:

"We have thought it well to refrain from making suggestions or offering opinions with regard to such matters as profit sharing, co-partnership, or particular systems of wages, etc. * * * We are convinced * * * that a permanent improvement in the relations between employers and employed must be founded upon something other than a cash basis. What is wanted is that the working people should have a greater opportunity of participating in the discussion about and adjustment of those parts of industry by which they are most affected."

The Whitley report, then, is based upon these four general considerations: (1) the self administration of industry rather than governmental regulation; (2) the complete and coherent organization of both employers and employed in all industries; (3) continuous consultation instead of intermittent parleys, with the view of removing the causes as well as adjusting the issues of disputes; (4) the securing to the workmen a larger voice in the control of those parts of industry by which they are most affected.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PROTECTING PIGEONS

To the Editor of the Telegraph:

"Protecting the Pigeon—That it be, and it hereby is, declared to be unlawful to knowingly entrap, capture, shoot, kill, possess, or in any way detain an Antwerp, or homing pigeon, commonly called carrier pigeon, which is owned by the United States or bears a band owned and issued by the United States having thereon the letters 'U. S. A.' or 'U. S. N.' and a serial number.

—U. S. Comp. St. Ann. 1916, Cur. Supp. (Act April 19, 1918.)"

The increasing importance of the homing Antwerp carrier pigeon is attested by the above quoted act of Congress. It is no uncommon experience to find one or two carrier pigeons among the common pigeons who breed at the State Capitol in this city. These carriers can be distinguished by the metal tags attached to their legs. After a rest of a few hours, or perhaps a day or two, they disappear as mysteriously as they came on their homeward journey.

—Oliver D. Schock.

LABOR NOTES

Over 5,000 barbers in Buenos Aires have suspended work until their wages are increased and tipping abolished.

The unemployed men in New York city are becoming larger all the time and there are at the present time over 100,000 out of work.

At the request of 3,000 workers, the cotton mills at Attawaugan, Belleville and Pineville, Conn., have returned to a 55-hour working week.

Employment of one child for one day in conflict with the child labor tax provisions of the new United States revenue bill will subject the employer's business to a tax of 10 per cent. of the net profits of the taxable year.

Call For Mr. Henry White

[From the Grand Rapids Herald.]

We are disconsolately coming to the conclusion that the President didn't pick the really biggest Republican "representative" who might have been available. We are also coming to the conclusion that he might have helped himself in his imminent dealings with a Republican Senate if he had chosen a real "representative" who would have had some weight with the "party" when he returns. As the twig is bent so is the tree inclined. Meanwhile if we could only find our Mr. White in a "movie" or 'most anywhere it would cheer us to hope that all it not lost. The Sun is asking its readers to express themselves in answer to a most interesting academic inquiry, "Who is the most unknown man in the world?" Is there any likelier candidate than a certain Republican "representative" who fell into President Wilson's shadow one day last December and was sunk without a trace? Hawker was a piker. He was only lost for a week.

TELEPHILOSOPHY

[From System Magazine]

Once more—a bookkeeper wishing change for her petty cash sent a check and memorandum to the bank. The amount returned was not correct. The messenger who had brought the change told her he had been served at window A.

The bookkeeper called the bank, and asked for this teller.

"Is this the teller at window A?"

"Yes. What may I do for you."

"I sent a messenger to you for change. The amount I received is not correct, and * * *"

The teller broke in gruffly: "We never make any corrections or allowances after anyone leaves the bank."

"Oh! thank you so much," was the sweet reply. "I am $40 ahead. Good-by!"

The Bomb Conspirators

[From the New York Times.]

Has the gift of skill and genius in ferreting out criminals been denied to our present-day detectives? It is astonishing that they should fail to identify and apprehend the criminals who have attempted so many assassinations by bombs, when the conspiracy is so widespread, obviously involving so many persons, and when clues appear to be so abundant. Five weeks ago a large number of packages containing explosives were deposited in the post office in this city for transmission through the mails to judges, public officials, and other persons who had incurred the hostility of the conspirators. The nature of the attempt, the character of the packages, in respect to container and contents, furnished so many clues that the public confidently expected the prompt detection and arrest of the persons who had prepared them. Some three weeks ago it was given out that the detectives were "sure of their men," that they could put their hands on them at any moment, they were waiting only for some further evidence that would insure conviction, then arrests would be made. Evidently that statement was the fruit of over-confidence or was given out to inspire the public with illusive hope. So far as is known, none of the conspirators engaged in that early attempt is known to the authorities.

There is public disquietude already, and even alarm, at the large latitude and freedom allowed to Bolshevist and I. W. W. agitators and their aiders and abettors. They have been allowed to preach their doctrines openly. In various parts of the country they have instigated strikes and labor disorders. In speech and in writing, they are trying to persuade those who will listen to them to hate the government and its flag, to seek the overthrow of the one and to insult the other. They openly assail the Government, they preach the destruction of property and its owners, they demand revolution and the establishment of a rule of their own kind, with such certain consequences as we see in Russia. The sober commonsense and solid law-abiding character of the American people reject these disciples of destruction and all their doctrines, but there are certain publications issued in this and other cities of the country by persons presumed to be intelligent which give aid and encouragement to the depraved Bolshevist element by continual praise of their works, by dissemination and approval of their doctrines, and by heated protests against attempts by law or its enforcement to restrain their poisonous activities. Everybody knows the names, the character, and the teaching of these periodicals. Some of them have the backing of wealth, although directly or indirectly they preach the destruction of wealth and of society. Furthermore, it is to be noted that the old German propaganda, pretty effectually silenced while we were in the war, is again heard in the land, speaking by the same voices that came under the ban of the law a little more than two years ago. The old work is taken up where it was abandoned, a peace "satisfactory to Germany" is advocated, and here, too, the Bolsheviki, recognized as useful German tools, are openly encouraged. In Washington itself there has been too much of this Bolshevist and Socialist devilment. Now there is need that the Federal Government and the people of the country should clearly understand what all these things mean. This is a free country, very free, but the founders of the Government never intended that freedom of speech and of the press should cover and coddle attempts to destroy it. Nor is it the present opinion of the people of the United States that their Constitution should be permitted to become the bulwark of defense of a lot of miscreants, foreign born or foreign bred and taught, who seek the overthrow of American institutions and of American society.

Fish Wounded in War

[From the Contiental Edition of the London Mail.]

The inspector for the Eastern sea fisheries board, in a report, says: "The fishery officer at Mablethorpe informs me that of the cod caught on long lines one in five had bad wounds. Some were totally blind, others without an eye, and the larger number were wounded in the body. The Cromer officer told me that he and the fishermen on the Norfolk Coast had noticed many codfish with wounds and scars. The Sherringham officer states that the packers have come across many injured cod, some having as many as five wounds."

Evening Chat

The State of Pennsylvania and the city of Harrisburg are in competition for dirt. They are bidding against each other for plain earth. And up to date the State is having the best of it. At present the State is engaged in filling up Capitol Park extension and the city is extending the river bank. The city has a long haul and the State a short one. The State also has a large fat bank roll and the city is offering places to dump dirt. The competition broke out recently when some cellar excavations were started. City people invited the contractors to dump over the river bank at certain places, as clean dirt with an admixture of rocks makes a fine fill, especially when some chunks of asphalt from torn up streets are added to it. The State authorities needed the ground for filling at the Capitol and proceeded to get it. The fills in the park have gone beyond the two lines of the proposed streets and the basis for the landscaping is being made. The first sections to be filled up to date will be along the lines laid out for the rows of Pennsylvania oak trees, which are to form the new wall and stretch from the East front of the Capitol to the approach to the pylons at the entrance of the Memorial bridge. Meanwhile, the State officials are going after all the dirt that can be bought and the city fill above Maclay street is suffering in consequence. The plan is to get the bulk of the park filled up to grade in the next eighteen months and even at that it will be some task.

* * *

A couple of seventeen year old locusts strayed into the hall of the House of Representatives yesterday by mistake. They were blown in by the breezes which swept fitfully around the Capitol and which all windows were wide to open to catch. Both fluttered around for a time and gave page boys some fun, one meeting its fate in an aisle during the debate on the Philadelphia charter bill. Just what killed it was not divulged.

* * *

"How many people are asking for the excess fare slips?" was the question asked of three trolley conductors yesterday. "About one in twenty-five," said one man. "I have just one man who asks for them and that foxy guy puts the slips into his pocketbook the same way each day," replied the second man. The third conductor said "No one seems to care any more and not even the fellows who were advising people to demand them last winter have quit asking for them."

* * *

The Sunday evening evangelistic services have been resumed on Capitol Hill. They are in charge of a branch of the Dunkards and there are earnest prayers and congregational singing every Sunday about sunset on the plaza in front of the Library. Several members of the Legislature were called on the telephone Sunday about the time the services began and invited to attend. The excuses they gave were various. Two members, however, did attend and until yesterday thought the man in charge had bidden them to service.

* * *

A prominent and good-natured business man of Harrisburg is wondering what is the matter with the Burleson administration of the postal service. The other day he received from New York city a letter from an important firm which contained a two-cent stamp and a demand for one cent additional. Inasmuch as the same business man a few days before was notified that certain letters which he had inadvertently mailed with two-cent stamps, when they should have contained three-cent stamps, were held for additional postage, he couldn't understand why a letter would come through from New York and be delivered on the two-cent basis, subject to "one cent due." Curious about the matter he visited the Harrisburg office and a polite clerk asked him for the envelope that he might start an investigation. This envelope was sent officially to New York city for an explanation and, much to the surprise of the business man, it came back to him with the added legend "Received Without Contents." Still curious, he again took it up with the local office and again the same envelope was officially returned to the New York office for explanation. A few days later it came back through the regular channels to the business man with the magic legend, "Received Without Contents." Also without explanation. Now the business man is wondering whether the Burleson system or lack of system is not responsible for much of the trouble concerning which complaints are so general.

WELL KNOWN PEOPLE

—Henry C. Frick has been asked to be one of the speakers at the Pittsburgh meeting in aid of returned soldiers.

—Councilman Enoch Rauh has suggested to Pittsburgh council that employes be given vacation with full pay if there is no cost to the city to secure substitutes.

—Judge James I. Brownson, of Washington county, has been elected president of the trustees of Washington and Jefferson.

—Representative W. W. Dithrich, of Allegheny, served in the cavalry during the war.

—Senator Robert D. Heaton, of Schuylkill county, says that he likes Harrisburg, but not legislative sessions in June.

DO YOU KNOW

—That Harrisburg is making steel for freignt cars for Government service?

HISTORIC HARRISBURG

—The first surveys made for the town of Harrisburg contained plots for the jail, courthouse and Capitol.

Two Hundred Years Ago

[From the Outlook.]

"And herein it is that I take upon me to make such a bold assertion that all the world are mistaken in their practice about women; for I cannot think that God Almighty made them * * * so glorious creatures * * * with souls capable of the same accomplishments with men, and all to be only stewards of our houses, cooks, and slaves." This advanced doctrine, which in its climax sounds somewhat as if it were uttered in a present day convention, was written, as is noted in a recent book on English literature, some two hundred years ago, by Daniel Defoe.