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Editorials

Written By

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For The

Suburban Press

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 1931.

#### Our New Sheriff

Governor Pinchot certainly put the 21st Ward on the map, as far as front-page publicity is concerned, when he named William J. Hamilton, Jr.—a native of "the Hills"—to serve out the unexpired term of the late Thomas W. Cunningham, as sheriff of Philadelphia County.

As an unofficial public servant The Suburban Press, in furnishing the news of this locality, has always maintained a non-partisan attitude—especially so, in regard to political happenings—in order to provide all of its readers with information devoid of propaganda for any particular interest. In this instance it believes the action of the chief executive of the Commonwealth is one over which the people of this section should feel elated, and that it will redound to the good of the community in general.

Already the appointment has been the cause of nervous agitation on the part of the Organization forces. Sheer monotony—in civic administration, as well as in any of life's activities—dulls the zest of existence, and whenever a sudden change occurs, it always creates a spirit of animation which affects everyone that is involved.

William J. Hamilton, Jr.—young, keen-witted and aggressive—has been battling for several years to obtain political recognition, and anyone with those qualities can never be kept entirely subdued forever. He was bound to advance along the path he had selected.

In business, in sports, in every endeavor of man, youth and merit eventually get their opportunity to serve. And then, when the years pass, another person forges to the front to supercede the one in power. Politicians must realize this inexorable law, as well as everyone else.

"Billy" Hamilton is the type of fellow-citizen of which the people of Roxborough, Manayunk and Wissahickon can well feel proud, and The Suburban Press offers its sincere congratulations to the new sheriff.

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#### Oil in Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania noted for years as a premier producer of coal, iron and steel products, has developed within its own borders, a rival which has outstripped all three of these great industries. According to the export trade figures of the Nation for 1930, lubricating oil has assumed the lead as Pennsylvania's principal item of export with shipments valued at \$26,775,230. Bituminous coal ranks second, in-

Luracite third, iron and steel products fourth, while gasoline comes fifth with exports amounting in value to \$20,952,834.

Exports from the State include more than a hundred leading products, from silk and rayon hosiery and unmanufactured hair to automobiles and railway cars. However, oil is now king, no small part of which is due to the fact that the State produces a large part of the famous Pennsylvania crude oil, the premier crude of the world. It is peculiarly fitting that oil should assume the business lead in the Keystone State, since on its ground, it was first found possible to drill wells and produce oil in commercially paying quantities.

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**Will Cool Their Trains**

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad officials are doing something new. They will cool their trains in the heated months, controlling the humidity, purifying the air, and cleaning it of all particles of dust, cinders and smoke. The plan was tried out last year on one of the dining cars and was found to work perfectly both while the train was running and when it was standing still. If this system goes into general operation it ought to repopularize railway travel greatly.

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**Wrecking the Gangs**

The Gangster is the offspring of the Political Machine and the Shyster Lawyer. Police will never be able to eradicate him until the parents are put out of existence.

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1931.**

**Voting Is a Duty.**

It is of paramount importance for the people of this section of the Sixth Councilmanic District to participate in the coming election; and to persuade their friends, associates, and especially property-owners and business people to elect men who will best serve the interests of Roxborough, Wissahickon, Manayunk and East Falls.

Representatives in City Councils are the ones we must look to for the needed improvements of "the Great Northwest." There is still plenty to be accomplished. We'll need Councilmen who will do more than vote "aye" when the welfare of the city at large is to be considered. Every other section of Philadelphia is getting far more than is the Northwest. Roxborough needs transportation far worse than Frankford needs a Boulevard subway. The Henry Avenue bridge needs approaches. Manayunk's textile district might



be a little better off with less taxation on its mill properties. East Falls and Wissahickon need new public schools.

The lethargic voter must not continue any longer in indifference; every man and woman voter of the 21st Ward and of the 38th, too, should do his and her duty by voting on September 15th.

Let's ease our backs of the heavy burden of taxes, which are most certain to increase, by voting for men who will be real representatives. Let's forget the complimentary votes. Let's be deaf to the old phrase that "everything's fair in love or war". Let's not get caught in that kind of a trap. Let's use our heads and save our backs.

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**Trouble in the Senate**

Control of the Senate by the Republicans or Democrats next Winter will depend upon one or two votes. Senator Moses is President pro tem of that body, and if the Republicans organize the Senate he expects to be reelected. That would require a unanimous vote, but—some of the independent Republicans will not vote for Moses.

If they don't Moses will make the biggest fuss that has been staged in the senatorial bullrushes in recent years. He says that if he isn't elected that the chairmen of Senate committees will not be Republicans, either. Just like that! His own, and another one or two Republican votes is all that is necessary to upset the apple cart and defeat the defeated. That's what Moses promises will be done if they try to knife him. The Senator from New Hampshire evidently still thinks poorly of Republican progressives.

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1931.**

**There'll Be Some Business.**

The fact is that practically everybody in the country this year is going to wear clothes and despite all the talk of there "being no business" it seems that there really is quite a good deal of business in all this. That it was a good old American custom to wear clothes appears to be something that some people forgot when they were talking too pessimistically earlier in the summer.

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**Defense Against Epidemics**

The epidemic of infantile paralysis in New York City has evoked advice from authoritative sources which the public can well afford to apply the year round. That an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure is a truism that needs no arguing, but the methods of prevention in an epidemic of



disease are all too frequently ignored by the average man until the disaster has actually occurred.

The elementary precaution against the current epidemic, which is likewise basic for other diseases, physicians and health officials state, is cleanliness. Surely this incurs no hardship for the private individual or the community, but its importance to health can be gauged from the emphatic frequency with which it is urged. Where the exact cause of the disease and the method of spreading it are not definitely known, as in this instance, such careful habits may be considered the first line of defense.

In the ten preventive rules recently issued by Doctor Shirley W. Wynne, Health Commissioner of New York City, four items stress the need of cleanliness: 1. Eat only clean and wholesome food. 2. Dispose of flies, fleas, ants, mice and other vermin in the home. 3. Wash all eating utensils with hot water and soap. Use plenty of clean fresh linen. Always observe the rules of cleanliness.

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#### Correcting Children

The old idea that to spare the rod will spoil the child dates back to Proverbs, and it has been re-echoed down through the centuries by authors like John Skelton who lived a thousand years ago, and by every class and breed of rewrite artists who have used quills, pens and typewriters, during all the intervening space of time.

But civilization has improved and corporal punishment of children is not now demanded by leaders in the educational professions.

Old notions of threatening the child are tabooed by the United States Children's Bureau.

"A child who fights with his playmates should be removed from them. His inability to associate with them is ample punishment," says the Bureau. "One who refuses to eat food set before him may be punished by being denied dessert or some dish he especially likes. When the child gets into a tantrum and smashes his toy, he is sufficiently punished by not getting one to replace it.

"Physical punishment such as slapping and spanking should be used rarely, and if at all never in anger. The only justification for striking a child is when he has done something which if repeated might endanger his life, such as running into the street or playing with matches. The punishment for misdeeds of this kind should be prompt.

"The value of punishment is often exaggerated. A

child should never be threatened. It is harmful to threaten him with punishment or hold over his head a penalty like being shut in a dark room."

Don't lose your head when correcting a child. Use the brains in your head, and be kind.

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### Soft Soap

American beauty experts have done more to promote the pursuit of cleanliness than all the sermons that were ever preached. They have succeeded in convincing approximately 100 per cent of all American women that soap-and-water is the first and most fundamental stage in physical perfection and attractiveness. They have sold more bathtubs than all the plumbers in the world. They have increased the consumption of soap by a percentage that makes statisticians dizzy.

Now they are turning their attention to shower baths, and when Hazel Rawson Cades, beauty expert, tells her two million women readers that a shower bath is essential to good looks, the shower bath manufacturers immediately gird up their loins and prepare for the return of prosperity.

"Shower baths are growing steadily in popularity," Miss Cades says, "and American women are now waiting patiently for someone to invent a device for perfuming the water as it barges out of a shower." Apparently the device that's needed is one where you press a green button and get a pine odor, or press a purple button and get lavender, or a red-white-and-blue button and get an All-American blend.

In the meantime, however, the ladies must be satisfied with lots of soap on their washcloth. "You can't get clean without lots of lather," Miss Cades advises. "Women who don't properly enjoy their baths are the people who are just a little inclined to be stingy about soap, or laxy on lathering.

Some women, we are told, find it impossible to associate complete cleanliness with any perfume at all, and for them the only possible perfection in bathing lies in sticking absolutely to unscented soap and unscented powder, omitting bath salts and scents. The majority of the feminine world, however, get a lot of fun out of nice smells. They can now get everything perfumed, from soap to salts. And no matter what odor they have in their pernickety minds, they are pretty sure to find it.

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## The Greatest Need

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(An Editorial)

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Lethargic residents of Roxborough, who are sitting back hoping that the community in which they live will some day be more than a quiet residential section, may find some comfort in the proposal to put a cheaper-fare subway feeder bus line in operation on Ridge and Henry avenues, but practical persons must realize that DIRECT TRANSIT to the city centre is the extreme need of the locality.

Where is there a bustling business hub that is reached by the hop, skip and jump system of relayed transit? The bustle takes place—invariably—at the transfer points.

It is foolish to even imagine that the people of Frankford, North, West or South Philadelphia are going to press forward with offers of helping Roxborough get its very necessary DIRECT TRANSIT. Nor are they losing any sleep over the matter. The problem belongs to the people who live here.

Streets will still have to be paved. Yes! Taxes should be lowered. Yes! Henry Avenue must be opened up through the Ward. Yes! But the greater need is DIRECT TRANSIT. All other improvements will come in the natural course of events, after it is possible for more families to purchase homes and reside in Roxborough.

So it's up to the voters of the 21st Ward to select a councilman who will work with "a single track mind" until the "Hilltop" is hooked up with the centre of the city, which readily takes its citizens' taxes, and uses part of them to build additional transportation lines to sections which already have one, or more, routes in operation.



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1931.

### "Justifying" Religion

Religious people everywhere should rejoice in the recent decision of the executive committee of the World Conference for International Peace through Religion to expand its proposed single conference of world faiths into a globe encircling movement. There is encouragement in the increasing consciousness of responsibility which religious leaders of all faiths are assuming toward the establishment of a permanent peace, and the effort they are making jointly to rouse a public sentiment which alone can bring it about.

The first in a series of world wide conferences to study the conditions that make for war and the religious influences which can combat them will be held in Washington, D. C., in November, 1932. A second, according to present plans, will be held in India and a third in Geneva, Switzerland. Every large nation and every one of the principal living creeds will send representatives of its membership to join in earnest study and activity directed toward the abolition of war.

The distinguished leaders of this movement realize that no single gathering of minds, no matter how sincere or intellectual, can bring about the desired result. Too many faiths and too many factors are involved to transform the world overnight. The religious leaders of the world must build slowly, and now that they have a sound plan concurred in by prominent men of all creeds, their influence and success should be one which, in the words of Dr. William P. Merrill, "will justify religion to an unbelieving world."

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### Good Rules

Mahatma Gandhi, the leader of the revolution against British rule in India, told newspaper men the other day the rules of conduct which have governed his own life. He would not presume to lay down rules for anybody else, he said, but he had a code which he had consistently followed. These are the rules of life, as Gandhi observes them!

Love, Truth, Chastity, Fearlessness, Service to others, Control of appetites, Belief in the equality of all mankind, Abstention from alcohol, tobacco and drugs, Belief that all great religions are of equal worth, Taking nothing that is not paid for by one's own work, and Valuing possessions not for themselves but for their usefulness.

It is not easy to live in a world which professes, in the

main, such a code, and to obey it literally. For while these rules of conduct as laid down by Gandhi differ in no important respect from those laid down by Jesus Christ and before Him by Buddha, and other great religious teachers, very few human beings have had the hardihood to even attempt to live up to them. Gandhi himself, even his enemies admit, comes about as close to it as any man in modern times.

It seems to us that one of the causes of the trouble in which the world finds itself today is that most people have forgotten these ancient rules of life, which have always been sound and still are. We have been carried away, all of us, both in America and elsewhere, by the idea that there is some magic in material possessions which will make us happy in spite of ourselves. Nothing was ever farther from the truth.

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**Retaining Good Looks**

The normal girl who has been reasonably favored by nature and heredity should have no difficulty in attaining good looks and retaining them, according to some authorities. That is, if good looks are to be regarded as a native quality and not to be confused with the smartness and chic pursued by many of the fair sex through the medium of clothes and subtleties of make-up.

Those directing the home economics division of University Farm, Minnesota, pointed out to the girls attending the Junior Short Course, that there are nine qualifications for a good looking girl. They list first, a clear, smooth skin, with rosy cheeks and red lips. Other important details are bright, clear eyes without circles under them; smooth, glossy hair, strong white teeth; firm, strong muscles; good posture when sitting and standing; normal weight (from seven to ten percent above average weight is considered normal) happy, good natured disposition; and energy and pep for work and play.

The recipe for good looks and incidentally good health calls for three general practices: First, girls should do their sleeping at night, getting at least nine hours sleep, with windows open. Second, play or work outdoors at least an hour every day. Third, eat three regular meals every day. Milk or cocoa or some other substitute should be used instead of tea and coffee; vegetable other than potato instead of a second helping of meat; green vegetables or salad daily; fruit dessert at least once a day instead of pie, cake or pudding; oranges or tomatoes every day; fruit, milk and cereal for breakfast instead of griddle cakes, sausage and coffee.

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fruit, bread and butter, or milk, for lunches, between meals, instead of candy, pop, hot dogs or ice cream.

All of which is sound, sensible advice, with precedent and scientific findings to back it up. But it is doubtful if the average good looking girl enjoying a degree of popularity, will find nine hours a night in which to sleep, human nature being what it is.

There is more hope for observance of such a type of diet as prescribed, for women with their figures at stake, have for a number of years shown marked zeal and pertinacity, in adhering to a discriminating diet in spite of the temptations of appetite, pleasure and the inertia of sheer carelessness.



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## Over-Crowded Busses

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(An Editorial)

Last week someone—we know not who—caused the publication in the newspapers of a story pertaining to a proposed PRT bus route to replace the present Roxborough, Chestnut Hill and Norristown trolley line, on Ridge avenue. The change may, or may not be, for the good of the public here.

For if the PRT service which may be rendered is not far superior to that which is being provided by the same company's "E" Route, over the Walnut Lane Bridge to Germantown, the person who will try to reach upper Roxborough will be, in the parlance of the day—"sure out of luck!"

Only two busses are in operation on "E" Route; each with a capacity of thirty-three seated riders. Last Saturday night, fifty-eight people boarded one of these conveyances, at Chelton and Germantown avenues, to ride to Roxborough. And their fares were accepted smilingly. This instance is not an isolated case, but one which prevails regularly.

The driver—personally—is not responsible for the condition, for the route is regularly patrolled by an inspector, and it is understood that one, or more of them, in the various shifts, have been reprimanded for passing passengers on some street corners on the line of the route, despite the fact that the busses carried their full quota of seated passengers.

It has always been our understanding that the Public Service Commission specifically grants permits for such public carriers with the proviso that every rider be given a seat for his fare.

Time was, when there were three, and on occasions four busses in operation on "E" Route, but for the past six weeks, and probably longer, the service has been haphazardly carried on with two.

This sort of flagrant "Public Be Damned Policy" does not offer much hope for Roxborough's future transportation requirements.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1931.

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Gerard Swope's plan to stabilize human relations by a complete readjustment of industrial relations and methods so that there will be a fair deal for everybody has given Washington something to think about besides political quarrels.

As was to be expected, a sort of Torylike opposition has developed. We are being told that Mr. Swope's suggestion would interfere with the Sherman anti-trust law, which everybody knows is so full of milk-and-water that it retains less than 4 per cent of kickable content. Fear of price-fixing and other evils are expressed. But those who have considered Mr. Swope's public message find in it the only constructive suggestions that have come out of "big business" since the October, '29, debacle.

Mr. Swope emphasizes the necessity of ample safeguards for the rights of capital, management, labor, industry and the public. He is perfectly willing to have the Government assume the position of control, and to bring this about he would accept some such body as control, and to bring this about he would accept some such body as the Federal Trade Commission to have the final voice in deciding all differences that would develop.

The Nation owes Gerard Swope a debt of gratitude for his courageous efforts to improve human conditions and human relations, by providing new methods to protect the men and women who work for their living. He has "set people to thinking"—and that is good for them.

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#### The Teacher and the Child

Some 850,000 school teachers have returned to active leadership of some 26,000,000 children. Those teachers are not only instructors of the mind, they are guardians of physical health as well. More and more does the school share with the home responsibility for preserving child health, and for establishing health practices among individual children. Indeed, because what "teacher says" often carries more weight than parental admonition, the schools are recognizing their duty in building sound bodies to house eager young minds as a sacred trust that must be carried out even if personal sacrifices are entailed.

Not the least important health habit which teachers in our public schools can establish among children under their care is the frequent washing of hands, especially before meals. Children from the avenue and children from the alley alike get smudgy hands—hands that may pass on to

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others the organisms of communicable disease. Not every school is equipped to provide soap, towels, and running water, but the ingenuity of a few enterprising teachers has shown that even without satisfactory washrooms, this necessary health practice can be made a regular feature of the school program. Needed supplies are often brought from home by the children themselves when the teacher puts sufficient emphasis upon clean hands.

The schools of tomorrow will all permit—nay, encourage—every child to keep decently clean with adequate facilities provided from board funds. Improvements must come. Meanwhile, teachers will use makeshifts and exercise ingenuity in order to share with parents the responsibility of putting theories of cleanliness and health into practice.

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#### Better Business

There are a certain number of merchants throughout the United States for whom the year 1931 will prove to have been a year of better business and bigger profits. Not many of them, perhaps, but certainly some, who have contrived to use ingenuity, modern methods and elbow grease to make it so.

John T. Flynn, business author and observer, has just been in Washington at the conclusion of an extended tour, during which he visited successful merchants in many lines of business, located in every section of the country. The report of his investigations, according to government officials who have talked with him is an inspiring and momentous story of achievement.

"I found examples of prosperous merchants in almost every community I visited," says Mr. Flynn. "They are men who did better business in 1930 than in 1929 and who are doing a better business now in 1931 than they did in 1930."

But he found some other things besides. He found, for instance, that that fair and finicky lady, Mrs. Consumer, is sitting on top of the world. She is buying dresses for \$4.75 that cost \$8 a year ago, stockings that used to cost \$1.65 for a dollar, and that beautiful overstuffed chair that she longed for at \$125 is now crying for her to buy it at \$75. A wave of slashed prices is sweeping over the country like Japanese beetles in the garden.

Tons of red paint have been consumed marking down old prices. You can go into the stock market and help yourself to assets for nothing. If you have the money you can buy the whole United States Steel Corporation for less than the sum at which its railroad subsidiaries are valued. You



can buy Mellons' Gulf Oil Company for \$300,000,000, which is a sum less than the company spent on improvements in 1929. Always provided, of course, that the sensible people who own these stocks would be foolish enough to sell at present price.

The same tendency is indicated in retail trade. Taking losses fearlessly seems to have been the key to the successful negotiation of the present situation by sound merchants everywhere. Thrifty shoppers are lifting this country out of its depression. Smart merchants are lowering prices to galvanize these thrifty shoppers into life.

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1931.**

**The Impression Gains**

With Governor Roosevelt of New York, aspiring to be nominated to the Presidency by the Democrats, and Governor Roosevelt, of Porto Rico, angling for the Republican Vice-Presidential nomination, impression seems to be gaining that these gentlemen have a surname that has been somewhat over-capitalized.

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**Steel Leads Wage-Cutting**

The steel industry has always been a sort of outlaw in the labor field, and it seems perfectly natural in the light of historical events that the beginning of the wage cuts by large industries should have started with steel. To say that the National Capital looked at its morning newspaper recently, and was awe-struck when it read that wage reductions were at hand, is putting it mildly.

Of course the fool stock-market was "encouraged" and stocks bobbed up that same day. Like Gandhi, the voice of Wall street was speaking "for dumb millions"—whose money is "frozen" in stocks. But other voices have been heard since in emphatic protest. The readjustment of wages has been attacked not only by the American Federation of Labor and its allied trades union organizations, but by thousands of clear-headed American citizens who realize that we are entering an era of lower values with decreased purchasing power—a situation that most certainly does not fit in with mass production.

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**Needed Education**

It is customary when anything goes wrong to call on the schools to educate the children into better ideas. The programs of the schools are already full to overflowing, and it seems a burden to the teachers to take on any new respon-

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sibilities. Still, the schools have to change with the times, and enter on new lines of work as new developments indicate the need thereof.

At the present time the country is threatened with a wave of crime never before equalled. A multitude of young men and boys are entering criminal life. They are thereby committing a supreme act of folly. All their school education is worse than wasted, if they perpetuate this supreme idiocy.

It would seem vitally necessary that the schools should do something to give the children a powerful instinctive feeling against crime. They would better drop some of their existing book work, if necessary to find time to impress this idea on their minds.

They should teach their boys, and the girls sometimes need it, that while people who commit crimes may get away with one or two such offenses undiscovered, sooner or later they are sure to get caught. One act of crime places a blot on their life that can never be effaced. It is such an act of silly folly to do such a thing, that it should be possible to make every child see and realize it.

Also they should be shown what a contemptible thing it is for people to steal or commit other crimes. It should be made clear that thereby they gain the scorn of their associates, and are disgraced and debased. These things can be made clear to the children, if presented in the proper light.

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1936.

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#### Restored Service.

Roxborough residents who are accustomed to using the PRT E route bus to reach Germantown, may thank The Suburban Press for having some of the former conveniences restored to the line.

During several recent weeks the rolling stock of that particular line was reduced to two conveyances, but since the printing of an editorial in this paper, a third bus has been placed in operation, thus providing a more frequent service and seats for all of the passengers who ride in the vehicles.

The staff of The Suburban Press never consciously criticises any individual or corporation unjustly, but when the welfare of the public at large, in the territory it serves, is affected, then they believe it is time to use the influence which is at their command. And in this instance, the PRT officials who are in charge of such things, went into immedi-

ate action. For which The Suburban Press and its readers thank them.

#### "Siberia"

Just for the satisfaction of our curiosity, we'd like to know what Director of Public Safety Schofield thinks of the 21st Ward, which is now commonly known in police circles as "Siberia".

In his mind it must be a territory of somnolence, in which the guardians of the law—no matter how efficient, or inefficient, they may be—can easily perform their duties, or perhaps, an area, the topography of which makes it a punishment, for those coppers who have broken some small section of the department's regulations, to pace their beats.

Be that as it may, why should Roxborough, Manayunk and Wissahickon be patrolled by bluecoats who are judged—justly or unjustly—as underisable in other police districts of the city?

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#### The Gold Standard

Great Britain sought to show that it was smarter than Germany, in avoiding the collapse of its financial house of cards, by "temporarily" abandoning the gold standard. Sweden, Norway and Denmark have imitated Great Britain's action.

For more than a hundred years silver and gold were accepted on a definite ratio of value at the mint. Then came the 1896 battle for free silver led by William Jennings Bryan, and his defeat for the Presidency. After the 1900 elections bimetallism lost its appeal in America. The movement for the gold standard swept the big governments of the old World.

The World seems dumb enough, and today only the United States and France are "sitting pretty" with their gold piled high. That is because the people of other Nations think that their precious money is safe here and in France.

London, a few years ago, was the "greatest bank of the World" but when payments in gold were demanded in tremendous volume for international obligations Great Britain's money was placed on an equal value. When sterling fell in international values that meant all of Great Britain's money fell, including gold.

London defended its gold standard to the last ditch. Maybe America will, with profit, return to the study of bimetallism.

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### Right in the Thick of Things

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One of the few—the very few—advantages of living in a city heretofore has been the cultural and educational facilities a metropolis offers. The city resident had access to the theatre, to the concert hall, to the art gallery—facilities which by very reason of a lack of population could be duplicated only on a small scale in the rural community. Offsetting these advantages were the overcrowding, the rushing pace of city life.

The overcrowding, the nerve-racking pace remain. But what else has an urban existence to offer today to a man seeking the best things in life?

Consider for example the single subject of music. The city resident dons evening clothes, fights the snarl of traffic, and sits stiffly uncomfortable for several hours to hear a symphony concert. Now, thanks to radio and the desire of broadcasters to bring the best to the listeners of the country, the country resident sits before his radio set in whatever stage of informal dress best suits him, lights up his smoke, and hears without a penny of cost the same great music as the city concert-goer.

Leopold Stokowski, the great conductor of the Philadelphia Orchestra, has planned in his series of seven broadcasts this season to make the lot of the listener even happier. The microphone will broadcast direct from the stage of the Academy of Music in Philadelphia, with a regular concert audience present. The radio listener will hear a regular concert from beginning to end, just as though he were present in person, instead of an abbreviated radio version. Further, the series will constitute a history of music, presenting in chronological order the masterpieces of the ages.

So your rural listener, sitting in his living room thousands of miles away from Philadelphia, hears exactly the same concert the elite of Philadelphia will attend. He will be absorbing the basis of a musical education without moving from his chair. City life, including a daily tussle with the subway, could bring him no more in the way of musical advantages.

Who wouldn't sell his penthouse and buy a farm?

October # 8th 1931

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## Faith In Our Banks

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(An Editorial)

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Very often we, of Roxborough, Manayunk, Wissahickon and East Falls, find ourselves complaining of the shortcomings of our neighborhood; a civic improvement, a lack of proper transit facilities, or things of a similar nature. But in some respects we are more fortunate than other communities. One such instance is the soundness which is being exhibited by the three local banking institutions: namely; The Commercial Bank and Trust Company, The Manayunk Trust Company, and The Roxborough Trust Company.

Through all the trying financial situation which has been our lot, these banks, conducted by men reared in our own community, have carried on their business in the calm, conservative, reliable way they have been accustomed to follow for years.

In other parts of the city, unthinking, rumor-believing people have resorted to withdrawing their savings and hoarding them in their homes and other places, to the point of hysteria. All this has happened before in times of economic instability. Yet, at the present time this practice helps to place further obstacles in the way of business. It has been the direct cause of the difficulties experienced by neighboring banks.

The Philadelphia Clearing House Association, and the various mutual savings institutions performed a praiseworthy deed on Saturday when they announced that the rule requiring advance notices of withdrawals of time and savings accounts will be adhered to for the present.

This, or any other method, that will check the needless and frantic withdrawals of funds from sound institutions must be viewed as a measure intended first of all to protect the depositors themselves. The banks which have been in trouble were the victims of circumstances imposed upon them when they were forced to turn their investments hastily into cash under unfavorable conditions, in order to meet the frightened demands of their depositors.

Therefore, the three local banks, for their service in the past, and their splendid attitude in the present, well merit the continued confidence and patronage of the people of this northwest section of Philadelphia.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1931.

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The American public is swindled out of more than \$1,000,000,000 annually through mail fraud schemes, according to Horace J. Donnelly, Solicitor of the Post Office Department. This seems to prove that there is still "one born every minute".

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New German scientific developments include a mysterious gas which can be released from shells on the battlefield and will stall the engine of any enemy tank or motor car—discharged into the air it will stop all airplane engines within a substantial radius. Other recent inventions are a process which extracts edible albumen (white of egg) from coal, and a potato which is completely frost resisting.

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#### In Times of Depression

In times of economic depression assistance is readily given to philanthropic organizations engaged in family relief. Even though a man is unemployed he must be fed, clothed and housed. But while help is generously given to family relief organizations that does not mean that support should be withdrawn from altruistic organizations described as character-building in their objectives. In times of business distress it is imperative that these organizations carry on.

The raising of funds for philanthropic purposes in many cities is entrusted to a community chest organization. These organizations are now focusing relief activities and in some instances have asked certain character-building societies to retrench.

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#### Poisoned Fish

Contamination of the waters of the Schuylkill river killed thousands of fish during the past two weeks. Carp and catfish died by the thousands and it was noticeable that were the fish taken from the river when they first appeared on the surface and placed in fresh water, they revived.

The first fish floating on the surface were noticed in the river here which may be taken as evidence that the contamination occurred nearby.

Constant pollution of the Schuylkill has made a beautiful river little better than a sewer.

Selfish interests ignoring the law have deprived the



people of the use and pleasure of a most beautiful stream and if there is not better observance of the law prohibiting pollution of streams, the taxpayers will have to bear the burden of the expense of a river patrol.

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#### Safety Demands Cars that Won't Stall

As time goes on the automobile becomes safer and safer. Better brakes, more accessible control, greater visibility, swifter response to the throttle, all contribute to safety. But still there are a few features which could, and no doubt will be improved in this respect by American inventors.

One of the greatest of these is the removal of the danger of stalling. Deep down below the fears of every nervous driver is the dread of stalling at some critical time. It may be on a railroad track, it may be in heavy traffic, or it may be at a time when the needs of the situation require quick response to the throttle.

The fear of stalling is not an imaginary one. Many accidents are caused every year because some driver under a nervous impulse either applies the brake too quickly before releasing the clutch or steps too heavily upon the accelerator pedal of a cold motor, or does something else which causes the motor to die when it was needed most. Automobile manufacturers will do much to relieve our fears both real and imaginary, when they give us cars with motors which thing or succumb to the chain-store threat of industrialized

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#### Public Utilities

No more revolutionary suggestion for farm relief has lately been offered than the one which comes from Professor Walter P. Pitkin, conservative professor in staid old Columbia University. He proposes that the farmers should grab control of all city marketing by having food declared a public utility.

"Food is just as much a public utility as telephones and electric lights," says Professor Pitkin in *The Country Home*. "Why not sell it as such? Farmers must either do that very thing or succumb to the chain-store threat of industrialized farming.

"Farmers must, first of all, convince themselves that food is a public utility. Then they must devise a sound method of handling it as such.

"Food is a public utility of course. Everybody needs his rations in daily doses far more than he needs gas, electricity or telephones. For millions of years our race man-

aged to get along without the latter, but there is no record in history of people getting along without food.

Of course, gas, electricity and telephones are natural monopolies. A community is best served by a single telephone system; it is plagued by several. Food isn't like that, the old-fashioned economists say. Any farmer can grow your potatoes; any grocer can sell them to you. It is no hardship to buy food from a dozen stores, and no striking advantage accrues to the community which grants a food franchise to a distributing concern."

Professor Pitkin's idea is a complete modification of the venerable public market plan, whereby the county farmers erect at their own expense a general market from which they guarantee to sell groceries, meats and other related supplies at prices which will net them seven per cent. profit and no more.

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1931.

### He'll Never Die!

We know of no finer editorial to write concerning Thomas A. Edison, "the Wizard of Menlo Park", on whose activities the curtain of earthly existence dropped last Sunday, than the message sent to his widow by Emil Ludwig, German historian, which were the old and familiar lines:

Lives of great men oft remind us,  
We can make our lives sublime,  
And departing, leave behind us,  
Footprints on the sands of Time!"

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Dr. Margaret F. Butler

Sorrow always accompanies the death of a pioneer in any field of endeavor, and was not absent in the case of Dr. Margaret F. Butler, who suddenly expired at the Women's Medical College Hospital, in East Falls, last Friday, while she was operating on a patient.

But after the initial awe, coming with the first shock of realization, had passed, there must have prevailed thoughts that this is the glorious way in which to pass on to The Silent Land.

Serving a fellow creature! Traveling on to greater heights, while still a power here! No diminishment of ability due to mental or physical relaxation! A full life, lived up to

the last second, in the alleviation of humanity's suffering!

Surely the Physician of Physicians must have planned this merciful end to an earthly existence, so that it might go on in Eternity to encourage those who are left behind.

Reflections like these should bring relief to the minds and hearts of Dr. Butler's family and associates, and the thousands of friends she acquired in the active life she spent in medical and surgical work.

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### Groans Won't Help

Asserting that the world today "is in a better position to go on to greater heights of prosperity than ever before," Dr. Herbert J. Tily, president of one of the city's large department store companies, last Friday night urged a large gathering of people to reaffirm their faith in American institutions and ideals as a means of changing present conditions.

"Today," Dr. Tily said, "the greatest menace to men is men. Here we are, in this beautiful land, in this great bounteous Nation, miserable because our thinking has stopped.

"We are hungry, yet we have much to eat, and odd as it may seem, we haven't any money because we have too much money. Economics is certainly an inexact science in this case.

"We all ought to be put in a sanatorium and have a neurologist attend to us. We have suffered a nervous breakdown. In 1914, when war ravaged the world, we knew what to do, but today we are undecided and are groping in the darkness for something that is easily attained.

"Why all this nervousness? Why all this uncertainty? We can change it. There is no scarcity of money and the material things of life today. But there is a scarcity of faith. I firmly believe that the next five years are going to see the greatest wave of prosperity that this country has ever known.

"You can't be anything but optimistic. We can laugh ourselves out of this so-called depression better than we can groan ourselves out of it. So let's get busy and not wait for the other fellow."

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### The Public School at East Falls

In an editorial appearing in one of Philadelphia's daily newspapers last week, it was stated that Dr. Edwin C. Broome, Superintendent of Schools, had recently made public his annual report, entitled "Education of the Whole Child."

The daily's comment included the fact that Dr. Broome said "the school of today has a BIG job. It must interpret



a complex world organism to the unfolding mind.

"It must take the place formerly taken by the mother in teaching the alphabet, the arts of the kitchen; by the father, in explaining rudimentary business procedure; and must accept NEW DUTIES, in teaching health, sound habits, sound world-viewing, which were formerly undertaken by no agency at all."

All very good, and this may be true of the schools in the greater part of the municipality, but does not entirely apply to the Samuel Breck School, in East Falls, which is so antiquated in its structural and mechanical provisions that girls, in order to learn the "arts of the kitchen"; and boys requiring manual instruction, are obliged to travel to another school miles distant. The lighting arrangements, including the setting of the desks in order to receive a maximum of daylight at a proper angle, do not allow much chance of preserving precious eye-sight in order to take advantage of any kind of "world-viewing".

Early next month the Board of Education will comfortably ensconce itself in new headquarters on the Parkway, but the pupils of the Breck School will continue to occupy their obsolete building which is neither good for their health or safety, or gives them any opportunity to obtain the educational advantages which are accorded the children of taxpayers in other sections of the city.

East Falls needs a new school! And the sooner every parent, organization, and public-spirited citizen unites to convince the Rowens, Brooms, Catharines, Merchants and others of the Board of Education, that this is so, the better it will be for the community in general.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1931.

#### The Capture of Yorktown

The one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown has just been made the occasion of an A-1 celebration. The President of the United States on the U. S. S. Arkansas, headed a naval procession that was participated in by French ships. On shore the atmosphere of patriotism was rampant. In reneacting the surrender to Washington all the glories of Revolutionary America were emphasized.

The George Washington Bicentennial celebration will be formally opened on February 22, and for nine long months exercises and ceremonies will be staged in Washington and in every part of the United States. The whole American

Nation is to be immersed in a tremendous patriotic wash-up. And it won't be confined to Saturday nights either. 24

Undoubtedly the Nation is ready and the time is ripe for a renaissance of those heroic days when the people did not hesitate to offer their lives in order that they might be Freemen.

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### New Ways of Beating the Depression

Nothing is more dangerous in business than to assume that there is nothing new on the horizon, suggests Dr. Julius Klein, Assistant Secretary of Commerce, in his latest comment on the depression.

"Do you think things stand still in a depression?" he asks. "Do you think it's just a matter of standing by and waiting for better times? If you do you may have a long wait before better times hit you. For a depression is just the time when things happen to business with increased speed."

Every business slump, it appears, has been the signal for new inventions, new methods of doing business, even new industries. And the men who were able to see what these new inventions meant in terms of their own jobs, who sensed the significance of these new ideas, who saw the possibilities of these new industries, were the men who got ahead during the depressions and went on to leadership in the new days of prosperity that followed.

Today history is repeating itself, Dr. Klein declares. "And if you want more money or a better job or increased business," he adds, "then strap on your watch and keep an eye on what old Father Time is doing. Make him work for you, because if you don't he's pretty likely to work against you.

"Look what he's doing now. He's changing the sales map of the world with the aid of constantly improving transportation and communication facilities. He's changing the whole system of marketing, with new ideas in merchandising, chain stores, cooperatives, new installment systems. He's opening up all sorts of magic possibilities in the field of production, through the work of efficiency engineers, research workers and chemists."

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### Big Business Plays Falstaff

There is something whimsical about the highly dramatized "Big Business." And it is with some difficulty that the smile is repressed when we see this great giant of modern times, toying with the little things of life. It is easy to imagine Big Business dealing in skyscrapers and railroads.



and steel ingots. The strain comes when the colossus begins to concern himself with hairpins and rattles for the baby.

Thus an announcement that now biscuit making is to be put into mass production serves to produce something of a chuckle. Is nothing sacred? Is this modern monster to be permitted to destroy our national traditions entirely?

With oven ready foolproof biscuits being sold in cartons in every neighborhood grocery store, what is to become of America's traditional wheeze about the bride's first biscuits? What will our leading gagmen do with the joke: "Why can't you make biscuits like mother used to make?" and the reply, "I would if you could make the dough Father used to make" erased from the comic literature. Then, too, how can future generations of girls be sufficiently unfitted to be wives if culinary art is reduced entirely to a can opener?

But, whimsical as we may feel Big Business to be; lightly as we may treat its creations, we have a feeling that the Giant goes on unmindful. With no thought to the dark clouds of depression, it turns its attention to something which no one else had thought possible. Aided by modern age of perfected refrigeration, scientific packaging and rapid distribution, it makes a biscuit in dough form in a bakery and delivers it to be cooked and served, fresh and tasty, in homes a thousand and more miles away. And housewives, to whom the task of good hot biscuit making has always represented a stymie, flock to this newest convenience in package form.

Ovenready biscuits! A whimsical sort of product—almost the latest to be thought of in terms of mass production! And yet, perhaps Big Business again will have the last laugh. Perhaps it plays Falstaff realizing that the world will make a pathway to good biscuits more quickly even than to Emerson's mousetraps.

Piping, hot biscuits—with plenty of butter—a consummation devoutly to be wished—yes, Big Business probably is right again!

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The world has no wicked side: life is all one. Bear your share of whatever must be endured, sin no less than suffering.



**Hallowe'en**

Hallowe'en has evidently lost the glamour of former years. The rising generation, thrill-sated with movies, jazz-parties, and dances apparently find little "kick" in the joyous King Momus custom of yesteryear.

None of the oldtime noise and excitement of former years was heard or seen in this section. The costumed promenaders on Main street, in Manayunk, were hardly noticeable. In Roxborough, there were greater numbers on Ridge avenue, but not up to expectations. The same was true of Wissahickon and East Falls. West Manayunk, had its house parties for the youngsters, with some of the old festivities, but taken all in all, Hallowe'en seemed to be "a bust."

More of the spirit of the season prevailed on Friday evening, when doors, fences, steps and walls were defaced by mischief-makers. Some adventurous youths found pleasure in releasing the air from automobile tires, and one group took a chance on going to jail for a long term, by maliciously sounding a false fire alarm from a signal box located on the Manayunk avenue bridge over Walnut lane. Firemen from Manayunk, Roxborough, East Falls, Tioga and as far south as 22nd and Columbia avenue responded, every one of whose lives were jeopardized for the satisfaction of the prankish soul of someone possessed with a perverted sence of humour.

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**Manayunk's Chance**

It is hoped that the merchants of Manayunk will see an opportunity for a business revival in that section, with the news that the proposed Fairmount Park-Valley Forge Parkway has been endorsed with the Tri-State Regional plans.

The new boulevard will start at the west end of the Green lane bridge over the Schuylkill river, and wind its way along the far bank of the river to Valley Forge. Motorists wishing to continue in to Philadelphia will have two ways left to their own inclinations to reach the city centre: one by way of Belmont avenue and West Philadelphia, or by the shorter route, over the Green lane bridge to Manayunk and down Main street to the East River Drive.

Now is the time to make Manayunk's principal thoroughfare an attractive highway, so that when the long-talked of

route tying together the two parks, is finished, such business as is obtainable will come to this section.

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### Armistice Day

Where were you thirteen years ago? If you can remember November 11th, of 1918, will you ever forget the sight? Bells, Whistles, guns—noise of every description—sending out their din as if Bedlam had broken loose. And well it might! For it was a medley of joyous sounds, pronouncing the end of the great conflict in Europe.

“Look back! The sky is flaming from a thousand hidden  
guns,  
Up to Heaven and back again the thunder echo runs,  
A whistle, “Up and at ’em!” blind in the blasted night,  
Strong men, strong hours, conquering for Country, for  
the Right!  
Look around! A sickly winter sun sifts into the room,  
Strapping lads with lantern jaws meek accept the  
doom,  
Down with bomb and rifle, up with pencil and pen!  
Free for so short a while, back in the rut again!”

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We experienced no surprise by the statement of Dr. Milton Metfessel, of the University of Southern California, who finds that 65 per cent. of the knowledge of the normal human being is assimilated through the eyes.

Twenty-five per cent. he says, is obtained through auditory experiences. The remaining 10 per cent. is attributed to the other senses—touch, taste and smell.

With apologies to the poet, we’ve always felt grateful for sight, because.

“We’ve seen strange things done  
‘Neath the far-off sun,  
By the men who toil for gold.”

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### Honey Much

There is a lot of hokum being printed throughout the country advising people to use concoctions of honey in automobile radiators. The Department of Agriculture says that it takes two parts of honey to one part of water to prevent freezing at zero, and the solution does not circulate readily at low temperature in automobile radiators. Better stick to your glycerine and alcohol, and eat your honey—on

cakes and waffles.

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A "return to prosperity" celebration was held Saturday, in cities in the Southwest. Oil advancing to 85 cents per barrel and wheat making a gain of forty per cent. in a month are the causes for jubilation. The effect of the advances will be shown in many industries. With the good news from the Southwest comes reports in stable gains in other businesses and bettering of conditions in the steel trade. There has been a great decrease in unemployment and as the buying power of the people is restored, the depression will decline.

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A fool's brain digests philosophy into folly, science into superstition, and art into pedantry.

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Greatness is the secular name for Divinity: both mean simply what lies beyond us.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1931.

#### Needed Transportation

An editorial in Friday's Evening Bulletin, an account of its local import, is worth repeating in these columns. It appeared as follows:

#### Service For Roxborough

"Settlement of the city's claims against the Reading Transit Company for default in paying payments by the moribund street car lines in Wissahickon and Roxborough by taking over their franchises, a measure too long deferred, is advanced nearer to consummation by approval of an ordinance to that end at a meeting of Council's Transportation Committee.

"As a measure of justice to residents of the section concerned, that they may be provided with direct service to the city in lieu of transportation that does not connect with the P. R. T. system, this ordinance should be promptly approved and the necessary negotiations concluded.

"There is no part of the city so closely built up and as populous, that is as poorly accommodated with street transportation service as are Wissahickon and Roxborough. Fifteen years have elapsed since popular vote authorized a loan from which seven and a half millions was to be spent in providing those suburbs with a high-speed line via the Parkway, Twenty-ninth street and Henry avenue. The needs of the Sesqui-Centennial euhred the beneficiaries of this proposed service out of the promise, another popular vote and Council-



manic repealer disposing otherwise of the allocated money.  
"Being in no financial condition just now to provide such facilities as the section really needs, the least the city can do is to pave the way for unified surface service by linking Wissahickon and Roxborough to P. R. T."

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#### A Long Life of Worthy Influence

Dr. Richard Montgomery, Stated Clerk of the Philadelphia Presbytery, North, when speaking to the members of the Falls Presbyterian Church, who are this week celebrating the 75th anniversary of the founding of that church, on Sunday said: "Three-quarters of a century is a comparatively short period of time in the physical existence of a religious structure, when it is considered that for more than 1200 years religious services have been held on the site of Westminster Abbey, in England, but a long one when spiritual accomplishments are counted."

The value of this local church cannot be computed in historical facts or figures. Its worth in shaping the lives of those who have received religious training; whose hearts and minds have found comfort in the promises of God; whose characters have been fashioned along lines prescribed by the Master, within the walls of the Falls Presbyterian Church is beyond any measurement by man.

Like a stone thrown into the still mill-pond the ripples have extended to the farthest corners. The influence wielded on the lives of the men, women and children of this church has traveled wherever they have journeyed on this earth, and by the precepts inculcated by them, down through the lives of their children and grandchildren.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1931.

#### Six-Six and Seven-Eleven.

Those Twenty-first Ward parents who have long objected to the Board of Public Education's Six-Six plan of child training, on last Thursday came into possession of additional evidence that their complaint that it is not right to send children of too tender years from the elementary grades to High School, is justified.

Eighteen boys, most of them under 16 years of age, were arrested for playing a dice game. All but three, it is reported, were students at the High School.

Thinking parents claim that their offspring should be permitted to complete eight grades of study in the elementary school, or two more years, before being sent to mingle

with boys and girls of more mature age. But the Board of Education—that body which displays Gibraltar-like characteristics when it comes to making changes after it has settled itself—stands firm for the six years in each school, instead of the Eight-Four system suggested by the fathers and mothers.

Maybe the Board is right. And then, again, maybe it is wrong. But at least, last week's crap game scored another point for the opponents of the Six-Six.

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#### What Makes Unemployment.

One of the most progressive of America's merchants is Edward A. Filene of Boston. The Filene department store is recognized as a model in its industrial relations with its employees.

Mr. Filene recently appeared before a Senate Committee that is studying the subject of unemployment insurance and he told the Senators that he believed unemployment was principally the result of "bad thinking." He believed that it could be prevented through the elimination of waste in production and distribution. With business on an efficient plane, he said, production could be increased at lower unit costs, wages increased and working hours shortened so that purchasing power would be greater and all goods produced would be consumed. This would raise the standard of living, he said.

Unemployment insurance would assist in reaching this goal, according to Mr. Filene, by maintaining purchasing power in periods of depression and by bringing about the reduction of waste in business as employers took steps to keep down their unemployment insurance costs.

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#### Should We Keep Our Nose Out?

It is not hard to remember that immediately following the World war that the disposition prevailed throughout the United States to let Europe settle its own affairs. The League of Nations plan, fostered by President Wilson and which had been supported in principle throughout the United States while our soldiers were over-seas, was accepted throughout most of the World, but it was repudiated by the American Senate.

There has not been much disposition until within the last two or three years for the United States to participate in matters involving international affairs. President Hoover and the State Department and a few leaders in Congress who have been thrown into close touch with developments

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The Old World feel that there are opportunities at this time to establish better relations between Governments so that Nations will be able to satisfactorily settle their differences without recourse to war. In the face of such opportunities our American statesmen are meeting a plain duty in exercising their efforts to quench the smouldering flames in European nations, particularly in France and Germany.

But politics are rampant in the United States, and our naturally nationalistic people are heard demanding "why don't we keep our nose out of Europe's affairs?"

On the face of such a condition the politicians in Washington are likely to continue to play-up to this do-nothing sentiment, even with Japan and China threatening the peace of the World. It is perfectly plain that the people of the World are crying out to their governments to do their duty to civilization in clinching bargains and treaties to end wars.

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#### No Slump in Cleanliness

There is some anxiety among the advocates of high standards of living lest the decreased incomes of the day may be reflected in the mode of daily life. Discouragement, as well as straitened circumstances, they fear, may lead to neglect homes and to general carelessness.

Such fears should prove to be entirely without foundation. The love of cleanliness and order is too well established in American character to be discarded by temporary financial difficulties. It is more likely that our own reactions will be similar to those of the Germans recently described by a newspaper correspondent. "Cleanliness, order, frugality, these are what immediately strike you in entering a poor German home . . . There will be growing flowers on the window sill, the carpetless floor will be scrubbed white, the curtains will be clean, everything will be placed in such regimental order that the tiny room will seem airy, convenient and livable."

Certainly American housewives can be counted on to make their homes cheerful, clean and comfortable even in the face of a depression. A well ordered home helps to combat the discouragements and disappointments that many wage-earners meet almost daily. Such a home, such a standard of living, does not involve expense. The supplies needed are of the cheapest. But it takes character to use them.



**"Shop At Home"**

"Shop at Home" is an old cry with the merchants of outlying metropolitan districts, which most of us are accustomed to hearing, for which we can appreciate the reason.

A Sunday newspaper brought upturns to the corners of our lips, however, by publishing a story boasting of the oxygen equipment recently installed in a downtown hospital, for the cure of pneumonia cases.

The justification for our smile reposes in the fact that several years ago, we, personally, penned an announcement that just such a similar piece of apparatus was a part of the facilities of our own Memorial Hospital, in Roxborough. All of which goes to prove that at least one institution in this section is several jumps ahead of some of its downtown contemporaries.

Why is it that distance lends charm to things? "Memorial's" record or achievement, the standing and accomplishments of its staff of physicians and nurses, and the modernity and completeness of its mechanical curative devices, need no comparative apologies.

One specialist, who serves at the Memorial Hospital, and also another medical center miles away from here, once told us of a Roxborough woman who visited him for treatment, at the distant hospital. Upon asking here why she did not call at "Memorial"—near home—she replied that she didn't believe the proper attention was available in Roxborough.

The amused medico, true to his profession, was too ethical to embarrass the lady by telling her that he, himself, was the specialist at both institutions.

But we're not! And unhesitatingly suggest, as far as medical services go, at least, "Shop at Home!"

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**A Service Talk**

Even before the PRT bus lines for the 21st Ward—which are now in the planning—have been placed in operation, there are some persons who complain about the lack of free transfer privileges and that the lines will not provide through transit to the city centre. They apparently forget that one must crawl before he can walk.

Despite the lack of free transfers between the trolleys, or subway lines, of the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company, and the busses of the Philadelphia Rural Transit Company—two separate and distinct organizations—the fare will be cheaper than has hitherto prevailed. And, while it is supposed to be the present-day policy to furnish surface feeders

for the high speed lines, the proposed route will surpass any which has served this section previously.

The intended transportation facilities will be a step forward, and undoubtedly aid in bringing more residents to Roxborough, Wissahickon and Manayunk. With the added influence and strength of these newcomers, the prospects of securing even better service is greatly enhanced.

Let the pessimists groan. They sometimes inspire food for thought and always urge determined workers on to greater accomplishments. We appreciate what is already in sight, as we gaze along the horizon of transit progress for the 21st Ward.

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### Dogs for Children

What is the safest and best type of dog to buy a playmate and companion for a small child? Dog experts and child specialists have just completed a study of 80 distinct breeds of dogs listed in the official register of the American Kennel Club, and have selected ten of them which they recommend as desirable pets for children.

The Newfoundland is a gentle giant, who makes a patient, competent, big brother for any child, but cannot fairly be kept in the city or other limited quarters.

The English setter and the Irish setter are "gentlemen" of the dog world, patient and faithful with children.

The Samoyede, snowy white, is deservedly called "the biteless dog with the human brain."

Among the terriers, particular suitability is conceded to the Irish, wire-haired fox, Scalyham, Scottish and Cairn. All of these, and especially the first two, are keen rough-coated up-and-coming aristocrats, splendid playmates for children.

Last, but perhaps best, where a merry but rather gentle and affectionate smallish dog is desired, comes the cocker spaniel. He is an outstanding choice for a child inclined to timidity where animals are concerned.

Choice among these breeds depends very largely upon two factors: where you live and what the child is like. The larger dogs need plenty of space in order to keep happy and in good condition, and consequently should not be tried in the city. The others are all right for town, suburban or country life.

The closer the similarity of disposition in child and dog, the better the chances of their appealing to each other. Energetic, active children are happiest with one of the high-spirited terriers. For children of quieter type, the Newfoundland, setter and cocker spaniel are suitable. The Scot-

tish and Cairn terriers are so adaptable that they get along splendidly with children of all temperments.

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The survival of the fittest means finally the survival of the self-controlled, because they alone can adapt themselves to the perpetual shifting of conditions produced by industrial progress.

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We venerate civilization by doing unkind things in a kind way; saying bitter things in a sweet voice; always giving our friends cholera when we tear them to pieces.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1931.

#### St. David's Centennial.

Imagination may come to the aid of anyone attempting to picture the change in Manayunk, and the number of customs of the people here in the century since St. David's P. E. Church first came into being, but is of little value in ascertaining the worth of the precepts which have been instilled in the hearts, minds, and souls of those who have worshipped within those sacred walls during the past hundred years.

Men and women, boys and girls, who received their first religious training at St. David's have journeyed to the four corners of the earth, handing down the lessons they have learned, through several generations. Human valuations are in vain.

St. David's has had an honorable history. It has done much for missions, at home and abroad. It is the "Mother Church" of the 21st Ward, and adjacent portions of Montgomery County; and many of the most prominent families of this section are its parishioners.

The parishes of St. Timothy's Church, St. Stephen's Church and St. Alban's Church, in the 21st Ward, all sprung from St. David's; as well as Calvary Church, of Conshohocken. Fashionable people across the Schuylkill may not know that the choir of St. David's Church furnished the music at the cornerstone exercises of the Episcopal Church at Bryn Mawr, driving over in a hay-wagon and carrying their own luncheon, in order not to burden their poorer fellows over the river.

Three of its former rectors later became bishops: Dr. B. Wistar Morris, to Oregon; Dr. M. C. Leightener, to Colo-



rado; and Dr. Charles R. Hale, of Springfield.

This mouthpiece of the people of this vicinity, would indeed be remiss, if it failed to praise the past deeds and offer words of encouragement for the future of St. David's Church.

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12/10/31

## COUNCILMEN OF 1931

With wages, prices of living and house construction, and sheriff's hammers all falling, Philadelphia's councilmen want to raise our real estate and water taxes.

With unemployment never worse, and the ordinary householder struggling to keep out of debt, the blah-blah boys would make matters worse. Knife-in-the-back service in return for the ballots which put them in soft jobs.

Even baths, boiling the sauer krout, keeping a back yard garden, and a strict adherence to the liquid regulations of the 18th Amendment, would become luxuries for everyone except the wealthy.

Poor, blind, vote-casters will long remember the councilmen of 1931. The men, who when they were elected, told us they would lead us out of the "wilderness". Hear ye, hear ye, hear ye! Oyez! Oyez! Oyez!

But plundering Councilmen cannot "get away" with their scheme. Public opinion, like the winds—unseen, but powerful—aroused by newspaper and other advertising, may yet scotch their plan.

Strengthening their own positions by loading up the City's payrolls with a super-abundance of "Nickle-Rocket" jobs, they imagined they could get away with anything—even to killing the "birds" which have laid the "golden eggs."

Then the "birds" turned and by raising their feathers in righteous indignation, have scared the spiral-thinking Councilmen of 1931 into a position where they are likely to "pass the buck" on to the next administration.

Oyez! Oyez! Oyez!

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1931.

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**James Simmons Swartz**

Sadness followed the announcement of the death of James Simmons Swartz, LL. D., of New York, early this week.

Mr. Swartz, who died from the infirmities of age, in his 92nd year, joined the Falls of Schuylkill Baptist Church, on March 21st, of 1858, and although he reached a high pinnacle in commercial and educational life, which work called him away from his old home and friends, he never ceased to hold a fond regard for the acquaintances, events, and institutions of his young manhood.

But two years have elapsed since he generously contributed the funds to erect and fully equip a building—in honor of his parents—to inculcate religious truths in the hearts, minds and souls of youths for generations which are yet to follow.

James S. Swartz lived a life of extreme usefulness for his fellowmen, and personified in every word and action—practical Christianity—and the Creator, who has called him to the Life Everlasting, must surely have greeted him with open arms and could say with all sincerity, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant!"

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**Joseph Starne Miles.**

Quiet in his demeanor, unobtrusive in his habits, but withal the possessor of a kindly sense of humor, Joseph S. Miles, who traveled on to "the Greater World" last Sunday, will be sadly missed by a wide circle of acquaintances.

To but few persons is allotted the combination of patience and skill which Mr. Miles controlled to attain the enviable reputation which became his as a student of local history and a wielder of pen and pencil in portraying his findings in word and drawing.

A good husband, a kind father, a conscientious citizen, is lost to his family and to his community, by the passing of Joseph S. Miles.

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**The Transit Triumph.**

Last Sunday the 21st Ward pulled on a "pair of seven-league boots", when the PRT Bus Routes "R" and "Z" went into operation to serve the transportation needs of the people of Wissahickon, Roxborough and Manayunk. A progressive

stride in transit facilities from the modes of 1890 to 1931, and an advance over which everyone who lives here should feel justly elated. This, regardless of the unthinking, backward-glancing—or selfish—remarks of a few retrogrades.

And the greatest credit for the accomplishment must go to the sustained efforts and applied knowledge of one individual—John S. Turner, Manayunk plush manufacturer—who, for more than fifteen years, has devoted practically all of his spare time, and many others of his hours, to secure for the residents of the Ward, the transportation facilities they were fairly entitled to, and which were absolutely essential to the future growth of the locality.

True enough, business and civic organizations have taken a part in the long fight; political leaders and others have lent their aid; newspapers have kept the public informed of the various moves in the long-drawn-out negotiations; but the unremitting toil and patience of John Turner was the motivating force at all times, which finally won the battle.

A study of the problem from every possible angle was Mr. Turner's first action, followed by conferences with transit and municipal officials—always tactfully, thoughtfully, and patiently consummated, in order to hold the respect and friendship of everyone concerned—hundreds of letters in correspondence, answering inquiries and furnishing information; and lastly, by public addresses on the subject.

Any organization, or person, who would withhold acknowledgements of indebtedness to John S. Turner, for the splendid service he has rendered his fellowmen in this section, by securing for them the most modern transportation facilities, is indeed lacking in the most elemental of all characteristics—Gratitude!

And so, The Suburban Press—mindful of its duty to the community—thanks Mr. Turner, and extends its congratulations to him for the triumph which is so gloriously and rightfully his.

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**Be Yourself**

“Don't try to be what you aren't,” is a new slogan going around in so-called fashion circles where clothes are designed, made, sold and bought. This, after all, takes in a fair percentage of the women of the country. The garment industry is a gigantic one; retail stores are important business factors in every sizable community; and women members of the Nudist School are not yet in public eye—nor men members either, for that matter.

It may thus be said that if the “fashion circles” say



"don't try to be what you aren't," there must be a "be natural" movement under way.

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Whenever we behold brazenness in young women we know that nothing can atone for the want of modesty and innocence; without which, beauty is ungraceful and quality contemptible.

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In the morning ask yourself what you have to do, and in the evening, what you have done.

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The most mischievous liars are those who keep on the verge of truth.

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1931.

#### Santa Claus

Whenever Christmas rolls around and we hear little children asking whether there "really and truly" exists a Santa Claus, we cannot help but think of an editorial which appeared in a New York newspaper many years ago, in reply to a very youthful reader's query.

It was as follows:

"Yes," said Charles Dana's old journal—the newspaper that the child knew never lied—"there is a Santa Claus!"

Then followed the sentences of altruistic philosophy that have lived in the history of journalism and of Christmas:

. . . "He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy." . . .

An obscure editorial writer, died these many years, was penning a masterpiece, a confession of faith, an indelible contribution to child-lore. He continued:

"Alas, how dreary would be the world if there was no Santa Claus. It would be as dreary as if there were no children. There would be no child-like faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

"No Santa Claus! Thank God, he lives and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, nay, ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood."

## 1932 Is 1933's "Last Year"

The New Year, whether it be represented in our imaginations as an infant in swaddling clothes or an infant strutting forth in very grown up and sophisticated attire, still represents to all of us in common, New Opportunity. After all, what a blessed thing is a new start; a "putting off the old for the new." It was surely wisely written that we should live not in the past but for today and tomorrow.

That word tomorrow is a potent one. Yet it has been abused by thoughts, to do unnecessarily unfortunate things TODAY, believing all the while that TOMORROW we shall think and do differently. We forget the ever new fact that TODAY is YESTERDAY'S TOMORROW.

Strength should be ours in remembering that 1932 will become 1933's LAST YEAR.

There is always today and tomorrow. Let us make the most of them. Let us have faith. WISDOM is always ours.

There is no one who can not be MORE KIND; MORE HAPPY in 1932 than he was in 1931—that is, unless he postpones starting until 1933.

If the yesterdays, the yester-years and the bygone centuries provide one outstanding lesson, it is that knowledge, mental alertness and optimism, based on wisdom, have been apparent and profited by eternally. You may say that our civilization has not always been an upward moving one but surely the answer is that there is more universal knowledge in our world today than ever there was before. More people have the Opportunity for wisdom and happiness even if they do not use it.

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**You, You, You**

One curious characteristic of many of our modern songs—it is almost a habit—is the constant recurrence of "you" in the wording. It is a kind of direct address fashion, a personal appeal rage, in our present singing style. Hardly do our crooners and whisperers and whiners lift up, or depress, their voices any more about things or about persons. It is always "to" someone. The ballad style of "After the Ball"; the lyric outburst of "The Good Old Summer Time"; the touching philosophic of "I'm Forever Chasing Rainbows"; the humorous descriptive of "Yes, We Have No Bananas"—all are modes of the past. Now the rude valets of song ad-

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dress their words to some person supposedly in their presence—"You, you, you." Possibly singing into, or at, the microphone is responsible. Anyway, the "mike" doesn't have to worry about the chanter's halitosis or B. O. in this slightly indelicate vogue of personal application harmony. Come on, song writers, and give us something a married man can hum without creating suspicion around home.

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#### The Danger of Drunkenness.

An abundance of common-sense and food for thought was packed in an editorial which appeared recently in the Catholic Standard and Times, concerning the use and abuse of alcohol.

In referring to the drink evil it read:

"The only solution is to drive home a personal realization of the folly of drunkenness, both from a religious and physical standpoint. The truth of this may be gathered from the success attained by various temperance movements up to the last decade. With the passage of the Volstead Act much of this was lost. In a rebellious mood against what they considered an infringement of their personal liberty, many took up a defiant glass. Today the United States is facing a grave moral crisis, side by side with the economic crisis; and of the two the threat of drunkenness tends to be the more permanent.

"The work of the temperance movement must be done anew. The appeal must be made to man's religious instincts and to his powers of intellect and will. The appeal must be made with gentleness and dignity and patience. Sympathy and good example have a greater power than all the police power of law. The work of the Catholic Total Abstinence Societies has always been done by men and women of heroic charity. There were always others, willing to call the abstainer a fanatic. However, as we have already said, no sane man can deny the deplorable conditions of the drink problem today.

"Boys and girls in their early teens are the easiest victims. The revival of the Cadet Societies of total abstainers is a very clear need. The new generation must be trained to avoid the pitfall and snare of strong drink. Youth today is drinking in a spirit of fun and reckless imitation. The one hope of the younger generation is the inspiration of a religious purpose in abstaining from all intoxicating beverages



during their formative years."

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#### When Comes Winter?

In the good old days when weather was weather and 25 cents would buy a porterhouse steak instead of a sandwich, it used to be the easiest thing in the world to tell when winter was coming. Folks read the almanac, itched all over from woolen undies, and sawed wood. But nowadays, with "fair and warmer" being forecast in the northeast or northwest corners of newspapers, when modern comforts have robbed bad weather of most of its terrors and have enabled girls to wear silk stockings all year round—nobody knows just when winter will visit us this fall.

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Without friends the world is but a wilderness.

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 1932.

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#### Breaking the Camel's Back

Senator LaFollette appears to be the leader of the idea of floating a big Government bond issue in behalf of relief for the unemployed, and as a general tonic to improve the internal condition of Uncle Sam. As the United States is already running behind in expenses so fast that Andy Mellon is hardly able to keep track of the deficit, it might be well to stop and consider the plight of the fabled camel whose back was finally broken by "the last straw." Of course the United States is a very rich country but its credit has to be maintained with meticulous and patient care.

The President and his supporters in Congress continue to insist that the business of private relief belongs to local communities.

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#### Churches Back World Court

No one will be able to point an accusing finger at the religious bodies of this country if the present Senate does not act to have the United States join the World Court, for they have earnestly brought the affirmative weight of their influence to bear upon this important matter. Here is an issue regarding which all sects have presented a solid front.

Typical of this stand is the resolution recently received by the members of the Senate from the trustees of the Church Peace Union, a group of eminent divines and laymen representing the Catholic, Protestant and Jewish churches. "We call attention to the fact that if the Court issue is post-

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poned or fails of adoption before the beginning of the World Conference for Limitation of Armaments," the resolution reads, "the American delegation will enter that Conference greatly embarrassed by the failure of its country, and the whole movement for peace and the reduction of armaments will be set back, no one knows how many years, and our isolation in this important matter will tend to become fixed in the minds of our own as well as of other people as the permanent policy of the United States, with all that that means." 42

The Church Peace Union was founded and endowed by Andrew Carnegie. Its headquarters are in New York and its work extends throughout the civilized world.

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#### A Business Renaissance

American business has awakened to a considerable degree during the past month or two. This may sound contradictory news when all around there are still these dire tales of depression. As a matter of fact, the word depression itself may be more of a contradiction.

E. L. Starr, director of one of the great divisions of the American cotton industry, said a few days ago that many of the leaders in the quality cotton market are looking upon the present "economic situation as a time for sound progress."

"One of the most definite lessons of history," said Mr. Starr, "is that periods of reorganization—variously known as renaissances, depressions, reconstructive periods and so on—are in reality rife with progress. No nation is really progressing when it is thriftless, and expansion mad. Right now we are making much surer of the future than we were as a nation, in the boom year of 1929, for example.

"It seems to me that the outstanding sign of the times is a growing tendency on the part of the big men of the country to look for 'reasons why'. The country is no longer content—as it was at the beginning of this so-called period of depression—to bemoan change of any sort as bad. Many leading thinkers are growing fully aware that this period of reorganization may be even more valuable than were the years of rampant production and sky-rocketing stock market. Today we are looking sanely at such matters as basing supply upon actual consuming power. We are thinking more about quality and less about half-baked surface styling. In the cotton industry, we have had a gratifying year for this very reason. The women of the country have wisely chosen to look for quality fabrics in well styled clothes instead of not

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caring how long a garment might wear if it "looked smart" when bought.

"I believe historians in after years may refer to this particular period as a business renaissance with little or no reference to such words as depression or panic."

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#### History Says

People who think this depression will never end are encouraged by the writings of Mark Sullivan, famous Washington newspaper correspondent, which show that the gloom of all previous panics has been displaced by rapid recoveries and good times.

Apparently all we have to do is tighten up our belts and be patient!

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Those people who destroy a healthful constitution of body by intemperance and an irregular life, as manifestly kill themselves as those who hang, poison, shoot or drown themselves.

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The most anxious man in prison is the warden.

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Men are wise in proportion, not to their experience, but to their capacity for experience.

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How is it that moderation is never applauded for its own sake?

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It is better to be of the number who need relief, than of those who want hearts to give it.

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 1932.

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#### Proper Relaxation World Problem

Educators and authorities in physical training, physicians and scientists, unite in pointing out that one of the great dangers of the age is the apparent inability of a large part of the public to balance the stress of modern living with a sufficient amount of relaxation.

Many say that the rhythm of life has been broken by the hysterical efforts of the individual to meet the heavy pressure of the machine age. Overwork, worry, ambition which is greater than physical fitness can meet, ill-advised play, lack of proper rest and recreation, excess and unsound living habits say eminent observers are all leading to a condition of chronic fatigue which threatens health and well-being.

It is with this factor that many individuals today are



definitely concerned. For the medical profession has determined in recent years that fatigue existing beyond reasonable limits for a period of time develops a chronic fatigue poisoning, the result of an accumulation of waste products in the body, which the system cannot throw off unaided. It manifests itself in an inability of the affected individual to secure physical relaxation or mental repose, and by a very characteristic group of physical signs and symptoms.

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Overwork, faulty respiration or any condition which interferes with the carrying of oxygen to the bodily tissues, under feeding, improper feeding, indigestion and lack of assimilation are among the important causes ascribed as responsible for fatigue poisoning. The use of stimulants including tea and coffee, acting as a whip to the tired body and stimulating it to further fatigue excess, if not actually causing further functional disorders, have also been described as aggravating factors by eminent physicians.

In a civilization as complex as the present, no single master stroke can solve the growing problem of fatigue. But authorities on the subject state that simpler living, more cultivation of the joy of living and the inclusion in the program of living of forms of relaxation suitable to the individual's abilities would exert a salutary influence against this great modern enemy.

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#### Emotions and Heart Disease

Growing attention has been paid of late to the effects of emotional stress on the human body and particularly the part ascribed to it in diseases of the heart. The medical profession has been viewing with concern the growing part which this type of disease has been playing in incapacitating and shorting the lives of people in the United States. Statistics gathered by insurance and other organizations have forced upon them a recognition of the fact that there is a decided increase in the number and percentage of maladies of this sort and also that this disease leads in mortality figures. Particularly noticeable is the damage done among people in the prime of life.

Physicians have begun to look among the larger phases of life today for contributing causes. The hurry and worry and bustle of modern high pressure life has been shouldered with some of the blame. But recently and more specifically many eminent heart specialists are inclined to place the onus on the doorstep of the increased emotional stress of our civilization. The problems of the business depression, the quest for social precedence, the struggle for fine careers and sophistication with their resulting defeats and disap-

pointments for many are being "put on the spot" as culprits.

As one authority puts it, "It is an unhappy condition of the mind caused by unfulfillment of desires, conflicts, thwarted ambitions and man's efforts to escape from his environment and personal limitations that prepares the way for heart disease." The universal use of stimulants is no help in this situation, he indicates. He says, "Tea, coffee, tobacco and alcohol may make the heart more sensitive to emotional struggles." On the optimistic side he urges out of doors games played with congenial partners as one important aid on treating or averting heart conditions caused by emotional stresses.

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"Oh, Yeah!"

They always used to tell us in the old school days that "history repeats itself." Obviously it does! In a considerable number of cases, however, it is not so much a matter of eras producing similar episodes because of unseen and mysterious direction, as it is just funny old human nature reproducing its quirks, traits, humors, and inconsistencies. Two and two make four in any century.

But on one hand is the classic expression of the streets—"Oh, yeah." Surely no self-respecting ancient would really like to claim it. Some of us moderns, indeed, are inclined to feel that it will be the death of us. But by strict fact the pronunciation flamboyantly given by our bubbling and irrepressible young Americans is extremely close to the archaic "yea". "Yea" in its day of common usage was as formal as could be. Even yet it may be occasionally heard in ultra solemn orations.

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#### Iron In Industry

Iron mining fell of 47 per cent. in 1931 as compared with the previous year. About 82 per cent. of the iron ore shipped in 1931 came from the Lake Superior district.

Silver, copper, lead and other metals also slumped with the depression.

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All men of estates are, in effect, but trustees for the benefit of the distressed, and will be so judged when they are compelled to give an account.

### Talking About Hunger.

Philadelphia's new Mayor may not believe there are any people in this city who are starving, but we can take him to scores of homes where men and women are putting up the bravest of battles to keep the oft-mentioned wolf from the door. Battles, the like of which have never before been experienced by the people of the United States.

And if he'll inquire at the schools of the municipality, he'll learn that hundreds of hungry children must be fed before they are in a proper mental condition to receive the lessons of the day.

Of course, it is possible that but few of the frequenters of the Union League, and like clubs, know little of these conditions.

We know that there are people who will always take as much as they can receive from charitable organizations, even when conditions do not warrant it, and that there are a great many folk who are taking advantage of the present depression, in order to save what they already possess; but on the other hand, there is a multitude of citizens who are striving to keep up appearances, even though it taxes their strength and nerves to "carry on."

And we have an idea that in the interim between Humpy's two squats in the Mayoral chair, he, himself, was doing "some tall thinking" on how to make ends meet. But now that he's sure of a job for the next four years he is "acting up" like a bantam rooster.

We are beginning to believe that we erred again when we voted last fall. If Mr. Moore doesn't think there are any hungry people in Philadelphia, he might, at least, show some intelligence by not talking about it.

As we write, two slang phrases keep popping up in our mind, attempting to beat their way to the end of our pen. The words are "Windbag" and "Dumb-bell". But then, again, maybe Humpy is looking to the future and would appreciate a job at Harrisburg.

He'll have to change his tactics! For  
"Evil is wrought,  
By want of thought,  
As well as by want of heart."

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### Importance of American Shipping

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Representative groups of men identified with all branches of shipping are to meet in Washington the last of January for the purpose of considering the problems of American shipping. The meeting will be the fifth national conference of the kind that has been held in the interest of the merchant marine. It is likely that considerable attention will be paid to the subject of mail contracts, and legislative needs to meet foreign competition, particularly in the Panama Canal traffic and the European trade.

A lot of people seem to think that one of the great difficulties faced by our American ships lies in the fact that it is hard to get a drink on our boats. Evidently this is a sort of straw man. The real thing that needs to be done is for the Government and business interests to support our ocean shipping companies in the same vigorous manner that we employ in upholding the rights and interests of railroads. The rail carriers usually get everything that is coming to them, particularly in the shape of mail contracts, and favorable action by the Government. But most of our territory extends back from the seaboard, and the vast interior of the country fails to appreciate the full value of American shipping. The greater European nations have specialized more upon their ships than upon the railroads and all of these European countries; particularly England, Germany and France have gone the limit in the way of subsidies, mail contracts, and preferential treatment of their shipping interests. As a result their ships have been chasing around the American merchant marine, even in American waters, where the traffic naturally belongs to Uncle Sam.

If American business interests and the American Congress do their full duty by our merchant marine, it will not be long before the group of owners that took over the United States Lines will be able to place the American flag in a position second to none on the high seas. That day should be hastened.

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American farmers have begun to show an extremely hard-boiled attitude toward politicians in general and Congressmen in particular. Summing up their position on Congressional policies, Tom Cathcart, editor of a national farm magazine, has just made the following statement. "The attitude of intelligent farmers toward Congressional aid sug-

gests Theodore Roosevelt's story about the irritated sea captain who said to a too solicitous mate, 'All I want from you, sir, is silence, and darned little of that'. It is too much to expect silence from any Congress, but the nearer it is approached the better farmers will feel."

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The United States has always sustained the principle that the majority must rule, but a group of Senate insurgents seem to have the vantage point when it comes to passing laws.

While the country is trying to make credit more elastic the Senate insurgents are prepared to stretch their political elasticity so as to swing their minority power forwards and backwards, to the support of legislation they want.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 1932.

#### A Service Suggestion.

It is understood that last Sunday's change in the route of the PRT "E" busses, from Roxborough to Germantown, was made in order to better serve the large apartment houses, churches and the patrons of the Upsal station of the Pennsylvania Railroad, in the Lincoln Drive section.

The Suburban Press, more than a year ago, suggested that more Roxborough residents would utilize Route "E" if the line had its western terminus nearer the centre of the community which it is supposed to accommodate.

At that time we were informed that the PRT bus franchise did not permit the line to parallel the trolleys of the former Roxborough, Chestnut Hill and Norristown Railway.

That objective is now obsolete, and once more we suggest that Route "E" be continued west on Walnut lane to Mitchell street; thence to Roxborough avenue, east on that thoroughfare to Henry avenue; south on Henry avenue to Walnut lane, and over the present route.

Route "E" would then make a physical contact with Route "Z", at Roxborough avenue and Mitchell street, as well as with Route "R" at Ridge avenue, and probably increase the revenue on all three lines, at the same time that Roxborough riders received better service.

The suggested route, may, or may not be, the best one, but any one which will bring the "E" bus nearer the centre of Roxborough should be considered.

Germantown, despite the protests of its people occasionally, appears to be favored by the PRT route planners. Why?

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### Heroic Common People.

We pause to sing a paean of praise for the people of little means; many of whom felt the pinch of need, even before the unemployment situation reached the point where it affected all of our lives.

The families of laborers, mechanics, clerks, clergymen and others, whose incomes never made them feel opulent.

These folks—thousands of them—have displayed courageous spirits during the depression, that deserves the greatest laudation, for it often requires far more bravery to go on living for the sake of those we love, than it does to lay down our lives. With their little savings, if they had any, wiped out suddenly, they've gone on, and on, and on, enduring the trying times as best they possibly could, with spiritual, mental and physical fearlessness far beyond the breaking point.

Among those we would pat on the back and say "Hold on, Brother!" or "Patience for a little while longer, Sister!" we do not include those with salaries or accumulations of several thousand dollars, or who have incomes from other sources coming in with unceasing regularity, on which they can depend. For it is—in our opinion—this class whose fear has made living conditions for the rest of us, more difficult.

But it is to the ordinary man and his wife, and his sister, mother, and children that we credit the greatness of this country, and on whom we place our faith that it will once more emerge from the slough of despond.

No broken reeds, these!

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### Jobs for a Million Men

Senator Wagner, of New York, will urge Congress to enact appropriation measures to carry out the Federal construction program which has been authorized by Congress contending that a million men could be put to work and kept in employment for more than six months. The Senator contends that plans have been prepared and were the appropriations made, work could be quickly started on thousands of needed projects to be constructed.

Congress has been occupied with finances—in providing means for extending and expanding credits. Providing jobs will be the surest and quickest way to end the depression. Were the Government to start its vast building projects, a loan would be needed to provide funds. Government bonds would appeal to many, who are hoarding money, as an investment and great sums would be released for constructive use.

With a million additional men at work, a great and im-



mediate buying capacity would be created which would be reflected in all lines of business.

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Were the Government to start its program, industry would be encouraged to go ahead and provide more jobs. It is jobs that will end the depression and as there has been some gain in business and the prospects are more hopeful, the Government has an opportunity to hasten a return of prosperity by speedily adopting the suggestion of Senator Wagner.

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#### **What Women Should Know**

Jane Adams, Nobel prize winner, believes that American women should concentrate their attention during the next year on studying methods of protecting themselves and their families against the hardships of old age, unemployment and industrial accidents. "It seems to me," she writes, "that nothing could be so important for women's organizations at the present time as consideration of those questions of social insurance."

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Communists uprisings have occurred in the widely separated countries of Spain and Salvador. The Communists are taking advantage of world-wide depression to agitate the people to rise against their governments. The Communists give no aid to the afflicted people and would have them destroy their institutions and make way for a communistic government that would be a real oppressor.

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1932.**

#### **Preparing For Prosperity**

The following paragraphs are from an editorial which was published in the January issue of the Dobson School News, Manayunk, and are well worth reprinting:

"During this period of economic depression through which the world is now passing, children should not be allowed to suffer physically, mentally, morally or spiritually. Most of them will have reached young manhood and young womanhood when the country will again doubtless be in the midst of a great era of prosperity and plenty. This is the time for the rising generation to prepare for the work of the world which will follow a business recovery and which will call for trained leadership and trained men and women. The men and women of tomorrow should be prepared and ready to answer the challenge of a new era of prosperity that is bound to come again in our beloved country.

"Everything possible should be done to keep the child

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properly clothed. He should receive sufficient nourishing food. He should not come to school without breakfast. For young children, milk and cocoa should be substituted for coffee. He should have a bath at least twice a week, have clean hands, face, ears and neck. His hair should be clean and well combed. The child should have plenty of exercise and receive a sufficient amount of sleep and rest and should grow physically strong and vigorous, enjoy good health and be able to resist infectious diseases. The school stands ready to help where help is needed.

"For the child's mental equipment and training, nothing should hinder the boy and girl from taking advantage of all the educational opportunities that the city offers. The boy who is wise will apply himself and equip himself in school for a life of usefulness in the great era that is very slowly dawning upon us.

"Parents and teachers must see to it that the finest moral training is given to children to re-establish faith and confidence in men and in our institutions. We must all look well toward the moral equipment of the rising generation.

"The spiritual values, it is believed by many thoughtful persons, will play a more important part in the happiness of individuals during the next 25 years than they have during the post-war period. Let us not forget the spiritual development of our children."

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#### An Invitation

Japan, whose meteoric rise to a place among the great (?) nations of the world, in the past seventy-five years, has met on the fields of conflict a lethargic-moving, slow-thinking, lashed-into-service Russian military force, headed by a despotic Czar; played a comparatively easy part in the World War, and is now engaged with another nation, whose policies have always been along lines of peacefulness, and whose army of doubtful ability is a machine thrown together in the last couple of decades.

Despite the bravery of the Russians and the Chinese, Japan has never yet contested with a group of real fighters. And it seems to have been but yesterday since a Hohenzollern had to be spanked for having that "I can lick the world" spirit. But these little yellow fellows appear to be itching to be "smacked down". Those who go around looking for fights, do not usually have anything wrong with their eyesight, and are successful in their hunt.

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#### Football Rules

Football, with a death list of forty-odd for the past sea-

son, plus an unusually large number of injuries, will come in for a bit of reforming this winter. One of the earliest suggestions for rule changing wants a limitation of the number of men eligible to play in any one game. In professional football the squad limit is 22 men. The suggestion aims at safety through making the deciding factor in the game skill and speed rather than mere preponderance of hefty man-power. And after all, football is supposed to be something more than a test of man-power and numerical superiority.

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#### City Workers

There's a ray of sunshine in the thought that if the depression continues much longer, the personnel of Philadelphia's City Hall workers will be reduced to those who really earn their salaries. But there's still a plenty who go to municipal tasks on the 9.35 and a generous sprinkling of 'em on the 3.08 when it pulls out of the Reading Terminal each day.

#### Publicity

Pitiless publicity, from a Norristown viewpoint, appears to raise the very dickens with the happiness of willful women, youths lacking self-control, and soft-hearted parents.

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#### Rumors

Rumor—on Saturday—had the arsenals and powder mills hiring extra help. And despite authentic reports to the contrary, there are still a great number of ill-informed people who think that the canard is true.

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Since the first of the year, Philadelphia has laid off more than 1200 city employes. The 4000 county employes, whose salaries are fixed by law, are fighting the proposed reduction in wages of ten per cent. The county employes are not meriting public approval in their selfish attitude in refusing to accept a reduction to aid in curtailing public expenditures and save a threatened raise in taxes.



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1932.

**We're Coming Back** ..

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The economic depression from which the United States is just emerging is the seventh major attack of "hard times" that this country has been through in less than a hundred years. The people who are scared almost to death for fear that America can't come back are not a bit worse scared than were the same type of timid-minded folk in each of these previous panics. ..

But, as we all know, America came back after every one of them, and came back stronger than ever.

The first great crisis was in 1837, when practically every bank in the United States suspended payment, half of the property of the entire nation was sold in bankruptcy proceedings and there was no work for anybody, and nobody had any money. But we came back so strongly that in less than twenty years our national wealth had been multiplied by three.

We came back from the crisis of 1857, went through a terrific and devastating Civil War, and again much more than doubled our national wealth in the course of sixteen years. Then we had the panic of 1873 and that was followed by another great revival and again doubled our national wealth, until the panic of 1893. We came back from that one richer than before, and we did the same thing after the crises of 1907 and of 1920. Everybody knows how rapidly our wealth increased between 1921 and 1929, how prosperous everybody was in those fat years.

There is only one way to foretell the future, and that is by studying the past. It is certain as anything can be that we are coming out of the present crisis toward a greater and more wide-spread prosperity than we have even known. And if we have any sense we will take greater precautions against another depression than we did against this one.

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**Shuffled Again.**

Less than two years ago—on October 16th, 1930, to be exact—this newspaper printed an editorial deploring the too-frequent changing of the principals at the Roxborough High School.

Since the school was put into use, eight years ago, it has had four principals in charge. And now comes a fifth.

Without any desire to place any reflection on the work of the first three, it appears that Theodore S. Rowland—the latest to depart to other fields—"fitted in" better in this

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locality, than any of his predecessors. He very early obtained the respect and friendship of the faculty, the pupils and their parents, and will long be remembered here for the fine things he accomplished while laboring with the boys and girls of this vicinity.

But continual executive changes play havoc with the disciplinary rules of the school, which being continually revised cannot fail to have anything but an unwholesome effect of the teaching staff and the pupils.

"Roxborough High" is evidently a sort of an educational proving ground. Which may be fine for the Board of Education, but doesn't work out to the best interests of the community.

The only balm which can be found for the present sore spot is the fact that Mr. Rowland has been rewarded for the energy he expended during the time he labored with the rising generation of the 21st ward.

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#### An Official Tune

Many people are apt to conclude that George M. Cohan should have rested on his laurels as the author of his exhilarating "Over There" of the World War, instead of attempting the role of writing the most popular song for the Bicentennial. The thing is as flat as a griddle cake. His composition entitled "Father of the Land We Love" apparently has very little depth as "the representative bicentennial song," despite the fact that it has been authorized by the Commission as the recipient of that great honor.

"One need not be a professional critic of music to deplore the official sanction accorded Mr. Cohan's effusion," comments a contemporary newspaper, which adds: "It is not merely of doubtful taste. It is very definitely of intolerable bad taste. It is utterly Cohanesque. Which implies that from the viewpoint of music it is deplorable.

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#### Feminine Intellect

The lovely lady you see these days smiling forth from a roto-gravure page in a batiste afternoon gown; or the lady in a diagonal bathing suit looking up into the camera's eye from a sandy beach; or the lady in rough worsted stepping into her waiting car in front of a bootlegger's mansion, is no longer a skinny wretch. Her very clothes deny this possibility. The new fashions have "lines" which must be supported by a figure.

All of this is a preamble to explaining that we are surprised that Premier Mussolini has had to call upon the doc-

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tors of Italy to stamp out the feminine fashion for slinness. This he very recently did before a medical convention. They may be in Rome but the so-called smart woman in America today is neither skinny nor obese. She's really a very nice looking person and her regimen requires quite sufficient food. She takes plenty of exercise and displays a cheerful non-chalance. Cynicism "went out" with boyish bobs. It's entirely proper these days to be sweet and healthy and intelligent—for the return of "romantic" fashions has not required a reduction in feminine intellect. Let it try, we hear the ladies saying!

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1932.

**Not Exactly New.**

The only guide we have for present, or future actions, is a knowledge of things which have happened in the past.

This is substantiated by the following letter written by Abraham Lincoln, to Colonel E. D. Taylor, of Chicago, in December, of 1861.

"My Dear Colonel:

I have long determined to make public the origin of the greenback, and tell the world that it is one of Dick Taylor's creations.

"You have always been friendly to me, and when troublous times fell upon us, and my shoulders, though broad and willing, were weak, and myself surrounded by such circumstances and such people that I knew not whom to trust, then I said in my extremity, 'I will send for Colonel Taylor; he will know what to do.'

"I think it was in January 1862, on or about the 16th, that I did so.

"You came, and I said to you, 'What can we do?' Said you, 'Why, issue Treasury notes bearing no interest, printed on the best banking paper. Issue enough to pay off the army expenses, and declare it legal tender.'

"Chase thought it a hazardous thing, but we finally accomplished it, and gave to the people of this Republic the greatest blessing they ever had—their own paper to pay their own debts.

"It is due to you, the father of the present greenback, that the people should know it, and I take great pleasure in making it known. How many times I laughed at you telling me plainly that I was too lazy to be anything but a lawyer.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN, President."



### Wages and Cost of Living

American skilled and semi-skilled railway employees, according to an editorial in the Railway Age, enjoyed in 1930 a purchasing power which ranged from 78 per cent to 208 per cent in excess of the purchasing power of corresponding classes of railway employees in Germany in that year, and which likewise ranged from 11 per cent to 67 per cent in excess of the purchasing power of similar classes of rail employees in Great Britain.

These figures of the Railway Age are based upon a study of the cost of living in the United States and in various European countries recently completed by the International Labor Office at Geneva. With the findings of the International Labor Office have been combined official figures of railway wage payments in Germany and Great Britain which, it is stated, "have been published in a manner to make possible some measuring of real wages of railroad workers in those countries as compared with those in the United States."

The average skilled railway shop worker in Germany received in 1930 an hourly wage equivalent in our currency to 24.04 cents. The corresponding class of employees on the American railways received 83.20 cents an hour.

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### The Land Bank

The Federal land banks and joint-stock land banks have been receiving helpful consideration at the hands of Congress. They can't collect their mortgages and of course they don't want to foreclose. Neither do they want to close up shop. Congress has been anxious to provide the answer to the distressing situation by supplying more money to the banks, which is to be accomplished by extending credit to those institutions.

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### Starting At The Bottom

Gene Tunney, who has just received the price of a king's ransom for writing his autobiography, started earning his own living at the age of 15. "I got my first job with the Ocean Steamship Company," he recounts, "by mailing a letter of application which closed with the old-fashioned phrase 'Your most obedient servant.' My salary was \$5 a week. At the end of the first year I was getting \$11 a week."

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### Specification Writers

Manufacturers are forced to produce a multiplicity and

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variety of their products to meet the whims of specification writers who have no real knowledge of their commodities, says a publication by the United States Bureau of Standards.

The Bureau has for many years fought the great waste that is occasioned by an unnecessary variety of products, method and practice.

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#### Trot Out Your Horses

There is a shortage in work horses on the farms and the result that work horses bring good prices. The Department of Agriculture say that in 1921 prices of horses declined only half as much as all farm products. The Department adds that from all indications the raising of horses should prove profitable.

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#### The Beneficent Radio Trust

What would we do without the "radio trust?" It has become a part of our life since it furnishes exercises at dawn, "Cheerio" and religion to start the day with, and messages and music from everywhere in the world. Life would be a dud without the help of the radio trust.

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1932.

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#### Washington's Dream

The school books of childhood seldom leave lasting impressions upon the minds of those who for some reason or other feel that they are being imposed upon and that valuable time for recreation is being denied them.

But some of the lessons of those never-to-be-forgotten days still cling to our memory, and of these none demands greater respect than the life of George Washington. His youth, with the cherry tree incident so well known, has caused no end of discussion among certain historians. Some argue that this incident never occurred and that Washington's truthfulness was about on a par with the average boy of similar age.

Our purpose is not to discuss his life from this angle, but to endeavor to bring forth some new thought which may add to the reverence of his name.

To those who have tramped across the hills of Valley Forge, there come visions of the days when the little army of patriots under the leadership of General Washington encamped on the bleak, barren hillsides. One can almost vision through the blinding snow the tiny huts, hastily erected, wherein the heroes of the Continental Army shiver around

log fires. The paths across the hills and down through the valleys are deeply worn with the footprints of the men, and here and there amid the drifts of snow one can see the blood red imprints of the feet of the unshod men.

Ragged, tattered clothing, totally inadequate to combat the winter's fury, hangs upon the tired, gaunt frames of these men who suffer keenly from the lack of food. Tired, cold, hungry, yes; disheartened, no, because as they peer from their huts they see the form of their Commander as he wends his way from outpost to outpost and a new strength is awakened—a new courage is discovered.

Was it not told from hut to hut throughout the entire camp that night after night Washington had been seen kneeling in the snow in the shelter of the pines praying for Divine comfort and guidance for himself and his men?

The valiant band of patriots, tired, hungry, homesick, cold, suffered much, and all because of the vision which Washington had pictured for each of them. A new freedom, a land of peace and happiness wherein all men could rejoice and be glad. A land in which everyone would have the rights and privileges accorded them which had never been enjoyed previously.

And so, in spite of the suffering, the heartaches, the hardships which each endured, the tiny army of Washington eventually brought to our land the many blessings of which their brave Commander has so long dreamed, and now through their untiring devotion we today enjoy the results of the visions and dreams of Washington, through whose efforts there opened a new and brighter era in the history of our country.

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### Science Brings New Wonder

Proud parents may now preserve the clever sayings of their children, amateur entertainers may record their efforts for posterity, sweethearts may now "converse" intimately though far apart and business men may now "say" their correspondence with the "smile that wins." This new wonder is not a harbinger of the millenium, it is merely the latest entertainment contribution of science—home recording.

Home recording apparatus is part of the new three-in-one radio instruments, combining the last word in radio and the highest development of the phonograph recording and reproducing art, which have been developed in Camden, New Jersey. In addition to preserving intimate "snapshots" of home life and providing a novel means of communication, the new apparatus automatically records and preserves fav-



rite radio programs while the radio receiver is in operation. It's all done simply. You merely turn a switch and talk into a microphone for from four to ten minutes on each side of a special record. The record may then be played back instantly and repeated as often as wished.

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### Who's to Blame?

If people will continue to hoard their money and hide it away; if they will refuse to help their neighbors and the "other fellow" in times of disaster; if they will gamble, play the ponies, and stick up for the bootleggers, who's to blame? They are the very ones who are always asking, "Why doesn't Washington do something?"

As a matter of fact the President and the Congress of the United States has met the battle "on a hundred fronts", and there has been more constructive legislation considered and passed since early December than in any previous peace time period since the beginning of our Government. Washington has paved the way, but prosperity never came to any people unless they secured it for themselves.

When we get over being so "soft" and get back to hard work perhaps the Nation will "turn the corner". Are you one who is to blame?

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### Old Fashioned Education

Owen D. Young is positive that the old-fashioned cultural college was a better training school than the new-fangled university which tries to teach all the modern fancy subjects. Young men planning their education ought to chew thoroughly his plan and so perhaps should educators. The question is, "has this so-called vocational training in America run wild?"

THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 1932.

### Want Light on Subject

Electric light bulbs which have burned out, as most people know, are as useless as tassels on an umbrella. And this is true of the ornamental lamps on bridges, as well as of those in the home.

The Walnut Lane Bridge, over the Wissahickon Creek, is embellished by the presence of the beautiful candelabra in the daytime, but as sources of illumination at night, they are, as the younger generation would say, "a bust!" For several weeks past, apparently no one in charge has observed

that the bulbs in the lamps have burned out.

It's about time that they were changed, so that motorists and pedestrians can see their way across the bridge.

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#### Visiting Parkers

With thousands of motorists among the visitors to Philadelphia's historical shrines during the Washington Bicentennial, which extends until Thanksgiving Day, Quaker City police officials should adopt lenient parking measures for the strangers, none of whom will get a good impression of this city if they are forced to become involuntary members of our famous \$6 Club.

Atlantic City was in vogue a courteous system of warning uninformed, out-of-town traffic violators of the rules for motorists, which is worth emulating by the local authorities.

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#### Taming the Wild Broadcasters

Advertising agencies and sponsors of radio programs are complying with the recent R. S. V. P. communications from the Federal Radio Commission which asks for further light on the perplexing question of regulating the nature of commercial broadcasts. The Senate of the United States, convinced that something drastic must be done to tame blatant advertising over the air, shows a disposition to frame a law limiting the amount of sales talk on any radio program.

The advertising world has always been able to keep in step with public demands and moods, and to keep up with that will o' the wisp we call psychology. Already a number of national advertisers have eliminated certain objectionable features and have made many improvements in their programs. These have been recognized by radio officials but they believe that there still is more to be done.

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#### Team Work

The "War Against Depression Campaign" being directed by Carl Byoir, the well known New York publicist, conveys the good tidings that 20,000,000 Americans belonging to 7,000 organizations are already battling along the unemployment line. The campaign is being conducted from New York City and it is adopting the most helpful suggestions that comes to it in its efforts to win this "war against depression."

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Delvers into American history have just discovered why the President's residence is called the White House. The name goes back to the War of 1812, when a British admiral

set fire to the building, leaving it a mass of blackened ruins. According to Dare Stark, the smoked walls were painted white to cover the stains as well as to preserve the Virginia freestone from the weather, and the re-built structure was thenceforth popularly dubbed the "White House", although that name was not authorized on the official letter head until Roosevelt's time.

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Prophetic statesmen on Capitol Hill are signaling the "restoration of normal business" conditions throughout the country as a result of the pasage of the Steagall-Glass bill to improve the facilities of the Federal Reserve System.

It will "loosen up credits and dispel the fear that wears upon the minds of the people with regard to the stability of the banks, as well as restore confidence generally among the people" is the essence of the statements of statesmen from the Capitol.

Yea, boys! Won't this be good if it comes true?

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As the blade of wheat while growing and empty holds itself proudly up, but as soon as the ear is filled with grain, bends humbly down, so is real wisdom and worth modest and unassuming, while ignorance and folly is forward and presuming.

THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 1932.

Committees may come and committees may go, but the task of fighting for a new school building to replace the obsolete, dangerous, incomplete structure now used for public education in East Falls, goes on and on. And will continue to do so until the taxpayers of that particular vicinity get facilities somewhat in comparison with other sections of the city, in return for the monies they turn into the city's coffers.

First private individuals; then the East Falls Business Mens' Association; followed by co-operative work on the part of the Falls Mothers' Club; and finally a combination committee made up of members of these two, augmented by committees from the Queen Lane Manor Improvement Association and the Breck Home and School Association. This latter committee on Wednesday of last week, received a courteous reception at the Board of Education headquarters, and came home with a report which has, at least, a gleam of hope in it.

The group was promised that an investigation of the



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conditions prevailing at the Breck School will be launched. And we believe it will. But the investigation must end in a contract for a new building, or the step be nothing more than a gesture and mean further procrastination.

It is understood that \$800,000 now available for a building to replace the present Girls' High School, can be switched and used for a building at East Falls.

Let's see what happens!

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Last week we printed an editorial concerning the useless, burned-out, bulbs in the lamps on the Walnut Lane Bridge, across the Wissahickon Creek. The Suburban Press appeared on the streets on Wednesday night, and on Thursday morning. Thursday evening the lamps were glowing at full capacity.

We ask to credit for the improvement made by the delayed action of those who have control of the lamps, but are glad to know that, at last, someone has "snapped out of it!"

THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 1932.

#### A Second-Hand School?

One of the plans discussed by the Board of Education, relative to school conditions in East Falls—according to newspaper reports—dealt with the rebuilding of a portion of the present school, for those pupils who reside west of the Norristown branch of the Reading Railroad, and to erect a new building for those east of the tracks on the top of the hill, in the Queen Lane Manor section.

Such a proposition, coming from the Board of Education, which always infers that it is free of politics, smacks of class distinction. Why should the greater number of the pupils of the old Falls of Schuylkill territory have to put up with a make-shift building—while those of the Manor locality have modern facilities? The parents of the former have been enduring curtailed educational provisions for their children for years before Queen Lane Manor was anything but open fields. And while we realize the population trend has moved northeastward, ninety-five per cent of the parents living east of Vaux street send their offspring to private schools.

The people of East Falls, who have been endeavoring for decades before some of the present members of the Board of Education were named to that body, should vigorously oppose any measure that will not provide a centre of child

training, for all the boys and girls of the entire neighborhood, which is equal to that in other and newer sections of the city.

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This city began its drive against hoarding last week when a call was issued for employers to meet and discuss means of bringing money back into circulation.

The drive is not against the dollar in the bank. It is not against the dollar in the savings fund, the dollar in any other capacity where that dollar is at work. It is against the dollar that through fear and apprehension has been placed in a hide-out—hidden away. Every dollar in circulation is worth five dollars or ten dollars in credit. Credit stimulates business. Business begets employment. Employment means spending and so the circuit is complete.

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#### The March King Passes

John Philip Sousa was perhaps the greatest band leader that America has ever known. Less than two weeks before his sudden death he filled a place of interest next to that of the President of the United States, in the ceremonies of the Bicentennial, on Washington's birthday, February 22, 1932.

At the conclusion of the President's speech John Philip Sousa became the center of interest when he stood at the East entrance of the Capitol and directed the patriotic program of band music of the combined Marine Band, the United States Army Band and the Navy Band. This was Sousa's great hour of triumphant leadership.

"The March King is dead," said Captain Taylor Branson, the present leader of the Marine Band. To Branson and other musicians Sousa was "the greatest of them all." He was born in Washington and brought the Marine Band, which is known as the "President's Band," to a degree of perfection. His fame was heightened when he composed "The Washington Post March," and "The Stars and Stripes Forever."

Those who saw him on Washington's birthday will remember him as an old man with whitened hair, but still possessing the vigor and ability heightened by his wonderful successes.

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#### Secretary Mills is a Veteran

Ogden Mills, the new Secretary of the Treasury, is a

political veteran who began at the bottom and worked his way doggedly up the ladder. In his instinct for work, he resembles his grandfather, Darius Mills, who as peddler and prospector, piled up a fortune of forty-odd millions. Ogden started as a ward heeler, pulling doorbells, hustling out the vote, handling human problems in East Side of New York. Though much sought after in society he rarely goes out. He lives quietly and works like a dog, keeping in touch with every current of financial thought and theory.

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THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 1932

### Easter

The sun shines brightly as the winds softly blow through the streets of the ancient city of Jerusalem. Crowds throng the tiny shops, as merchandise of every description changes hands. On all sides the many activities can be seen, while here and there sprawling among the buildings are the beggars—the blind, the lame—as they appeal to the passers-by for alms.

Suddenly a glad shout breaks the quietness and there at the gates of the city stands a throng of singing people. Calmly seated on a beast of burden rides a figure around Whom there is a strange light. The business is forgotten as merchants and shoppers alike hurry toward the portals to learn the mystery of the song which floats across the town. What is that singing? "Bless Him Who cometh to bring us salvation."

The crowds grow rapidly as the march proceeds and the trees are stripped of their foliage by the excited, singing multitude, as with the branches they pave the way of the Saviour. The song grows in volume until the echoes resound and the joyous strains again reply from the surrounding hillsides.

What a glorious entry for the Christ of Bethlehem! What a wonderful demonstration for the Saviour of mankind! And yet, ere a week had passed, this same throng were crying, "Crucify Him."

The Christ, who healed the sick, restored sight to the blind, and who raised the dead will be honored on Sunday throughout the world. Sermons appropriate to the day will be delivered, special musical selections will be presented and all who honor and revere the Name of the Master will attend



some church service.

You will be welcomed in church next Sunday!

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### No Approaches

Although the Wissahickon Memorial Bridge, at Henry avenue, will be completed within the next month, little or no work has been done on preparing the approaches to the huge span so that it may be utilized.

Thoughts of the business depression seem to have driven the great bridge and its bearing on the future growth of Roxborough from the minds of the people who live here. The best rule to follow at the present time, as well as in any period of darkness, is to keep on working—as much as is possible—on plans for individual and community advancement, remembering that the prevalent economic hysteria is but temporary, and when people regain their common-sense, will pass away, providing everyone will get back to earth, and try to earn a livelihood honestly instead of trying to obtain a fortune through visionary get-rich quick schemes or by gambling in its many forms.

There is little doubt that those who direct the political destinies of the 21st Ward will do everything possible to have the Wissahickon bridge put into practicable use, rather than to have it stand as a monument to engineering skill, or as a thing of beauty.

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### Editors

After considerable studying we have at last figured out why so many editors get rich, and here is the secret:

A child is born in the neighborhood; the attending physician gets \$50; the editor gives the loud-lunged youngster and the "happy parents" a send-off and gets \$0. It grows up and marries. The editor publishes another long-winded, flowery article, and tells a dozen lies about the "beautiful and accomplished bride"; the minister gets \$10 and a piece of cake, and the editor gets \$000. In the course of time it dies and the doctor gets from \$25 to \$100, the minister gets, perhaps, another \$15. The undertaker gets from \$50 to \$100; the editor published a notice of the death and an obituary two columns long, lodge and society resolutions, a lot of poetry, and a card of thanks and gets \$000. No wonder so

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many editors get rich.

But, it is a poor editor who can't get in on the cake, somehow!

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#### Street Lamps.

Residents of Manayunk are complaining that street lights are being removed from certain highways in that section. It is said that a number of lamps have been shut off on Green lane, from Silverwood street, to Ridge avenue. It is understood that a young woman was held up by a ruffian on this thoroughfare, between Pechin and Mitchell streets, in Roxborough, last Saturday evening, and that she reported to the police that the man stepped from behind a tree, in a darkened portion of the street. Her screams brought assistance and the attacker fled.

The same lack of proper illumination prevails on Levering street, between Cresson and Silverwood street. It seems to be a blunder to have had the lamps in these particular sections removed.

#### THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 1932.

It was poor cooperation the weatherman gave for a display of Easter finery. His cooperation is like that given by Congress in relieving the depression.

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Governor Pinchot advocates a sales tax for Pennsylvania and opposes such a tax outside of the State. Such inconsistency cannot long be maintained without being exposed.

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In the new tax bill before Congress, a tax is levied upon malt syrup and wort, both used in making "home brew." The Government recognizes a great home industry has been built under prohibition. Thousands of speak-easies offer "home brew" for sale. The Government is aware of a great illicit business being carried on and is willing to participate in the profits by taxing the raw materials. Congress showed a willingness to tax an illegitimate business and refused to legalize the manufacture of beer that would produce a large revenue and give employment to many. Such hypocrisy can-

not continue and the nation be safe.

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### Sunday Radio Programs.

We doubt if there is anyone, more than ourselves, who appreciate the true value of radio broadcasting to mankind, when we arise to protest against the commercialism which has crept into the programs sent out over the air on Sundays.

We realize that not every person is interested in sermons, sacred music, or lectures, but we cannot understand why a Government supervision, which grants the broadcasting stations their licenses, cannot put a stop to advertising on the Lord's day. None of the large companies are guilty of this nuisance, the practice usually being one of little two-by-four firms which have no sense of proportion, and which have no respect for the day, and craftily use it to scatter their commercial notices through the ether, to the great annoyance of the majority of the people who listen in.

And, incidentally, these advertising broadcasts have little value, even on weekdays. Once the speaker has concluded his line of blah, the hearer forgets all about him and the product he has been talking about.

The large manufacturers, who utilize and have made a success of radio advertising, don't attempt to cram their commodities down the throats—or into the ears of their prospective patrons—continuously, but offer a worthwhile surrounding program, subtly introducing the name of the product being promoted. Very often their offerings are a distinct addition to the cultural advancement of the listeners. But not so the unethical tooth-puller, the old clothes renter, or other low-ideaed tradesman, whose thoughts never seem to rise above nickels and dimes.

We're fed up on him, and his Sunday radio broadcasts!

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### Slandered Presidents

No more illustrious list of distinguished Americans could be compiled than a mere mention of slandered Presidents. Throwing mud at the White House is no new pastime. Washington was charged while in office with about all the meanesses that envy and malice could invent. Lincoln was lampooned savagely and denounced as a criminal usurper of despotic powers.

Theodore Roosevelt, even after he left the White House,



had to establish his innocence of charges made by scandal mongers. Grover Cleveland and Woodrow Wilson were the victims of malicious whisperers. Andrew Jackson was declared guilty of crime and immorality, and Thomas Jefferson was charged with atheism. 68

The presidency of the United States, being the most powerful and exalted position in the world, is the most tempting target for the slanderer. History seems to suggest that the greater the crisis faced by a President, the viler the slanders. The more difficult the times and the more bitter the rivalries, the more disgraceful will be the assaults. President Hoover, faced with the greatest national crisis since the World War, has not escaped this inevitable tendency. He has lately been the object of abuse in a flood of scurrilous literature. In an article, Arthur Train offers impressive evidence in refutation of the major charges concerning Mr. Hoover's business and philanthropic career.

Mr. Hoover need not concern himself greatly over the flood of printed abuse. It carries its own rebuke. Actually it creates for him friends and sympathizers. No matter what a man's politics may be, he will find gratification in the compilation of Mr. Train's defense.

One thing to be remembered is that almost invariably the scandal books are prepared by persons of whom the public never has heard, and are published by concerns of equal obscurity. In most instances, the writers overplay their hands so rashly as to defeat their purpose. Intelligent readers quickly discern evidences of falsehood and malicious intent, and conclude that no man could be so completely base as the slanderers set out to prove the President of the United States to be.

THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 1932.

#### The Spartan In Council ..

It is easy to understand why political organizations persist in having "yes-men" elected to high offices, but the reasons for continuing to put unthinking, yea stupid, individuals into positions of responsibility, is a problem that is far beyond our humble powers to solve.

This thought was brought back with renewed force last Friday when the newspapers of the city published the remarks of one of our own Sixth District councilmen—Clarence E. Blackburn—which had been made in the Council Chamber on the day previous, concerning Philadelphia children and the Spartan idea of disposing of weaklings.

We care not whether our Councilmen was misquoted, or

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not—the thought was in his mind and the sentiment in his heart, or he wouldn't have said anything, and being so, we wonder at the tolerance of a people, who placed him in office, that can condone his retention there.

The Spartan plan, as we understand it, included mental as well as physical defectives, and Mr. Blackburn, by his original statement and in his hasty apology to put himself in a better light, voluntarily classified himself.

Mothers, particularly—who have the right to vote—and fathers, too, should rise in the might of their numbers to politically obliterate any person who impugns the holiness of their matrimonial bonds and parenthood.

When Lacedaemon, son of Zeus, founded the Spartan state, on the banks of Eurotas River in Greece, he never exhibited the absence of thought that was displayed last week by Councilman Blackburn, whose remarks, correctly, or incorrectly reported, were entirely uncalled for.

When Sparta waged war against the Arcadians and Argives, and threw the natives of these lands into slavery, that bondage was never as obnoxious as that which Blackburn and his type exert today.

Sparta became enfeebled by the Theban War which ran from 378 to 363 B. C. and now the taxpayers of this section of Philadelphia lose a vast portion of their great strength every time they endorse a "Spartan" theorist.

Blackburn merits punishment—whether it be for heartlessness, or thoughtlessness.

And the voters can do it!

Remember "The Spartan"!

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#### A Bad Sidewalk

Three years have passed since Contractors Jafolla and Marks started to demolish the buildings along the right of way of the Norristown division of the Reading Railroad in Manayunk. Since that time all of the improvements have been completed except a sidewalk along the station retaining wall on Baker street, between Conarroe and Carson streets.

Mr. and Mrs. Jay Public are about fed up on this particular sidewalk. On dry, clear days, no one can use the walk on account of diminutive marble shooters. Drivers of automobiles, too, often have to stop to permit a long shot from the street. On wet days, the mud and pools of water make it absolutely impossible to use the walk.

Somebody who is neglecting a duty should receive a gentle but nevertheless persistent urging to have this sidewalk finished. If it were some ordinary taxpayer there is little

doubt that the job would soon be done.

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### If You Go, Use American Ships

It may be cheaper to go to Europe this summer than to stay at home, as the steamship companies have made persuasive reductions in their rates.

American steamship owners have "rolled up their sleeves" in preparation for a fight to make our merchant marine a dominant power in world transportation.

Years and years ago—perhaps, dear reader, before you were born—our transcontinental railway systems were dependent upon the support of English and German capital. It was a big step forward when American money came into control of the carriers.

The situation is not quite the same with the merchant marine, because England, Germany and other nations have long dominated ocean transportation. Right now many new American ships are being built, and the whole giant program to boost our own merchant marine is an all-American undertaking.

In this effort to conduct our foreign commerce with our own ships, the one thing necessary is to have the united support of the American public. That public united can put the Stars and Stripes in every port in the world.

So, if you do decide to take that long-deferred trip to Europe this summer, do it in real American fashion by patronizing your own country's ships. Besides, you will get better service if you do!

\* \* \* \* \*

State Highway patrolmen should be instructed to perform their duties with courtesy to their employers, the public. The patrolmen are stopping motorists late at night to see drivers' cards and to see if the machines have been inspected and approved.

A number of motorists have been frightened by patrolmen suddenly appearing in the highway and signaling a driver to stop. With holdups so frequent, the patrolmen should be provided with a signal that would identify them to the travelling public.



THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 1932.

**Roxborough-Born.**

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Deep down in the vale of the Wissahickon, along the Monoshone Creek—or Paper Mill Run, as some call it—in the confines of the original Roxborough Township, two hundred years ago a shrill cry announced the entrance into a peculiar world, of one of America's greatest citizens, in the person of David Rittenhouse.

Matthias Rittenhouse, son of William Rittenhouse; who gave the Western Hemisphere its first paper mill; and his bride, Elizabeth Williams, were the parents of four sons and six daughters, but of all their babes, none but the first son, David, is now remembered.

And well he should be!

This lad, despite the Spartan thoughts of some of our present day sages, was of frail physique, but withal a mental giant. He called himself a clockmaker, but he fabricated astronomical instruments which were marvels of precision; he created surveying devices which permitted him to accurately ascertain the boundaries of Pennsylvania; he was a writer, a vice provost of the University of Pennsylvania, a State Treasurer, was the first director of the United States Mint, the second president of the American Philosophical Society and gave to America, before it had achieved nationhood, a leadership among the countries of the earth in the field of science.

In these days of specialization it is good to think of great men who have traveled on, especially those who retained all of their wholesome simplicity regardless of their achievements in widely separated lines of endeavor.

And it is good for 21st Ward residents to feel and express their pride in the fact that David Rittenhouse was Roxborough-born.

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**Average Chinese Farm Yields Dollar a Day**

The average Chinese farm is five acres in size and supports a family of five to ten persons on crops worth a dollar a day or \$365 a year. Yet the Chinese farmer is, on the whole, a cheerful and happy man. A picture of his life and a summary of his philosophy has just come from the pen of Pearl S. Buck, author of several notable books on China.

"This average Chinese farmer," says Mrs. Buck, "is a lean brown man, habitually clothed in blue cotton. He has

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blue cotton trousers loosely girded about his middle with a strip of cloth the same color, and he wears on his upper body a blue cotton coat. Both are patched, but they are quite clean. He wears no socks, but only a pair of very baggy cloth shoes or straw sandals.

"He has a wrinkled kindly face and looks somewhat older than he is. Perhaps that is because several of his teeth are gone. He says worms ate them away. But it is a good face, full of humor and interest in life, with perhaps a hint of laziness in its good will.

"The average investment of a Chinese farmer in his land, tools and house, is only about \$1300 in American currency. His farming is done with very primitive tools. He would be astounded if he saw all the American farmer has, particularly the machinery. His most elaborate machine is a pump, made of wood, used to pump water into the rice fields from the pond.

"His plow is a crude affair of rough unpainted wood, but it has an iron point. He hitches a water buffalo to it and with the buffalo pulling and him pushing, they manage to cover an acre in a day. The chief trouble is that the plow does not plow as deeply as it should.

"If his receipts are low, so are his expenses. Labor is his highest expense and is one-fifth of all his expenses, which total \$131 a year. Taxes are a burden to him, for they constitute 4 per cent. of his expenses—and he gets nothing in return from an impotent government.

"The average farm house has two rooms. It has earthen floors, walls of brick and a tile roof. Inside the house are all his possessions. The fowls come in at night and roost under the table of the living room, while the pig is tied to a table leg. The water buffalo is brought into the kitchen at night and the door fastened. There are no windows in the house except one about a foot square."

The Chinese farmer's cheerful disposition is obviously not due to prosperity. It is rather due to his ingrained belief in a "destiny" that rules over all—and who can strive against destiny?

THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 1932.

#### Dump a Nuisance.

Residents of Cinnaminson lane, and Lemonte street, in Roxborough, are protesting against the city dump on Parker avenue. These long-suffering people have been annoyed for a long time with acrid smoke from the dump fires, and conditions are becoming worse.

Last Sunday the high winds carried great quantities of loose papers and deposited them in trees, shrubbery and back yards. The iron picket fence surrounding St. Mary's cemetery was almost hidden by old newspapers that adhered to it, and the graves, too, were littered with the debris.

There is no good reason why the taxpayers of this section should be sufferers from the cause mentioned, and the quicker the condition is ended, the better it will be for everyone concerned.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### Trouble Ahead

Philadelphians are warned to brace themselves against a probable deficiency of at least \$7,000,000 in tax receipts this year.

The Bureau of Municipal Research, after a long study of probabilities based on previous tax collections, issued its findings this week.

Pointing out that the 1932 municipal budget was "balanced" partly by inflating estimates of real estate taxes, and partly by short appropriations, the bureau asserts that trouble may be expected.

"Trouble would result from the short appropriations," the report said, "if every cent of anticipated revenue were received. But the difficulty will be still more serious if cash receipts are insufficient to meet even the inadequate appropriations."

\* \* \* \* \*

#### Baby Bonds for You

One of those new baby bonds issued by the Government is a fine piece of paper to tuck away and you can preserve it so much more safely than you can hide paper money in a tin can or a sock.

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The National Capital is so full of wet and dry propagandists chattering about the loss of their liberties that one might suppose that all the other great national questions did not concern family relief, unemployment, a balanced budget, or protection from foreign wars. Even the country newspapers are being fed propaganda by "their own correspondent," and they seem to be falling for it.

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#### Signs in the Skies.

President Hoover is again talking optimistically about the approach of better times. There seems to be considerable optimism among the Senators and Representatives in Washington. Why for? Do they read new signs in the skies, or what kind of literature is it that serves to boost the hopes of those who have been so depressed. But maybe it is the Spring time that we have to thank.

"Sweet April showers  
Do bring May flowers"

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#### Goodwill.

Industry today has its three graces—tangible assets, profits, and goodwill—and the greatest of these is goodwill.

No industry can bridge the gap between economic inflation and sane re-adjustment without that basic element—public confidence. The industries of America that are successfully maintaining public confidence are those which have maintained quality in their output. The American people cannot be induced at any price to re-buy merchandise that has proved itself untrustworthy. When quality-cutting and price-cutting unite the stage is set for industrial suicide.

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#### The Government Pay Cut.

Congress is battling with the proposition of cutting Government salaries as high as 11 per cent. The Government clerks are an educated and a very high class of men and women. They are the financial backbone of all the churches and the cultural institutions and organizations of Washington. If they are obliged to submit to 11 per cent. cuts, most of them will be unable to continue their liberal support of the churches. That sounds like a threatened depression in religion.

Besides, every Government employee is morally obligated to help sustain the Community Chest. They will have

to decrease their subscriptions to charity if Uncle Sam cuts their pay.

Washington is not very happy over the prospect of a wage cut for the majority of its best citizens, but, as usual, is the last to realize what the conditions are that exist throughout the remainder of the country.

We've been unhappy for a long while!

\* \* \* \* \*

#### From the Top Down

People are hearing so much about the steps which are being taken to relieve the business depression by liberalizing the banking laws, by lending money to the railroads and other big financial interests, that it is natural for the ordinary man to ask:

"What good does that do me?"

Directly it doesn't do the average person any more immediate good than the spring rains do the farmer. The immediate effect of rain is to give everybody who goes out in it a good wetting. But the farmer who has gone through one or two seasons of drought knows that a season of rain at the right time is going to do him a lot of good in the course of a few weeks or months.

Under our capitalist financial system, the tendency of money and credit is to concentrate in the hands of a comparatively few trustees, the large banking and insurance companies, the big industries and the like. It flows out from them through the nation, in the form of loans for the purchase of goods, the financing of industry and business. It percolates through those channels into the hands of the mass in the form of salaries and wages and the price of raw materials, produced on the farm, in the forests and mines. As the final recipients spend it, it flows back through other but similar channels to its sources. In normal times this process of outflow and inflow is continuous and the movement in both directions is equal in volume and speed. But in the times we have been going through, some of the larger channels of inflow have been blocked and there has not been enough left in the main reservoirs to maintain the normal outflow.

That is the way our financial system works. It may not be the ideal but it is the existing system, which works better than anything else that has been tried, and it is not likely to be changed very soon.

But our point is that every measure for easing credit and replenishing the supply of money must necessarily begin

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at the top. The main reservoirs must be filled first. And if that is done—and the reports we hear indicate that there is already a great improvement—funds and credit will begin to resume their old rate and volume of outflow into industry and business and so into the pockets of the public at large.

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It is foolish for the individual to get impatient over the delay in getting his share as it would be for the farmer to get impatient for his crop to ripen. Once the rain begins to fall, his crop is assured if he gives his fields their proper attention. The economic rain has begun to fall and those who will reap the best and earliest crops of prosperity will be the ones who give the closest attention to their business and their jobs right now instead of sitting around grumbling because they haven't got their share.

THURSDAY, MAY 5, 1932.

Mother's Day.

Today let mother take her ease  
With book and sweets and bright bouquet  
And idle as her heart may please.  
Today, you know, is Mother's Day.

It is our day to sweep the floors,  
To do the dishes and essay  
The hundred other household chores.  
Tomorrow will be mother's day

—L. H. Robbins in Sunday's N. Y. Times.

Yes, next Sunday and the next one and the next, month after month—well, until Mother's Day (capitalized) comes round again. Mr. Robbins has achieved in these eight lines, ending with their gentle note of irony, one of the best Mother's Day poems we have seen.

We have never been able to write a better one, and we've had our chances. The lady who invented Mother's Day (another "Philadelphia First," by the way, for it was made here) once provided an opportunity to get in on the ground floor. We remember how, many years ago, she called upon a writer with the eager suggestion that he immortalize himself.

"Just a few beautiful lines," said she, "in honor of Mother's Day."

"One day for mother?" he asked. "Why offer her less than seven?"



"How do you mean seven?"

"Well, there's Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday."

So he didn't get the job. And he never has written that beautiful poem.

But he should have?

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#### Progress of Business

The idea that romance passed out of our national business life with the disappearance from the high seas of the old clipper ships is a delusion. Phenomenal growth in recent years of the automobile industry, the motion picture business and of radio too often seems taken for granted.

One of the great romances in business today—a romance which affects every man, woman and child in the United States concerns the creation of package foods, and their nation-wide distribution.

For instance, one of the largest package foods companies has annual sales exceeding \$128,000,000 for approximately eighty products which are sold in more than 400,000 grocery stores in this country, and in groceries in more than fifty foreign countries. This huge business development from an idea of an ill traveling salesman who felt a need for a change of diet. That man was the late C. W. Post, of Battle Creek fame.

Elaborated upon, the idea of package foods has had a most romantic rise, until now nearly all foods can be and are obtained in package form. There has even been romance in the creation of the packages themselves. As an example, the process of packing coffee now eliminates oxygen and insures fresh ground coffee over a period of months or years and regardless of weather conditions.

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#### Vacant Lot Gardens.

During the World War those who had not volunteered or were selected for military duty, were advised to cultivate backyard and vacant lot gardens, to assist in the conservation movement. Owners of vacant lots were usually patriotic enough to permit less fortunate neighbors to raise vegetables on their idle land.

Why not a return to this sensible idea during these days of depression, when more than a point of honor is involved? It would keep many men occupied and at the same time permit the men and their families to be less of a burden on their relatives, or charitable organizations.

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#### Bus Fare Reductions.

The reduction in the bus fare to Germantown, through

the issuance of 3 cent exchanges from Route "Z" to Route "E", from forty cents to twenty-six cents, which will go into effect Sunday, will be welcomed by residents of the 21st Ward. But with different feelings by the local business men. For obvious reasons.

But then the public is not as interested in the business men, as the business men are interested in the public. But it should be! For a shopless community wouldn't be much of a place to live in.

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**Coal Bootleggers**

Up in Reading, Pa., the city legal lights are considering legislation to properly tax the direct-from-the-mine-truckers, or "bootleggers" as they are called.

It is claimed that the railroad companies, as well as the legitimate coal dealers, who pay a merchantile tax, are injured by the unfair competition.

The same sort of action should be instituted here, in order to protect local merchants.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Let's Vote**

It is said that the Cabinet of President Hoover is pretty well agreed as favoring a referendum on prohibition.

We have had prohibition many years. Everybody knows how they feel about it. Why not vote and convince some of these folk who feel that their opinion is in the majority?

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**THURSDAY, MAY 12, 1932.**

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**Service or Co-Operation.**

A man and a woman were riding to Roxborough, last Saturday, on an "R" route bus, from Broad street and Erie avenue, with their destination being Krams and Manayunk avenues, where they had an engagement at 8 p. m.

At Wissahickon hill, where they intended to transfer to Route "Z", several people rushed aboard the "R" bus, with questions for the driver to answer, permitting the "Z" bus to pull out before the couple could alight.

"Oh, well", said the man, "We'll ride up to Leverington avenue, and catch that "Z" bus there!"

At Wissahickon station, two passengers were picked up and just as the bus was about to leave an aged couple came running out, waving for the driver to wait for them, which he did.

At the end of the Kenworthy Bridge, three riders got

The Suburban - sec. 1. Dates  
Revised

**Letter To The Editor**

Mr. A. C. Chadwick, Jr., Editor,  
The Suburban Press,  
Roxborough, Phila., Pa.

My dear Mr. Chadwick:

We were much pleased to read your editorial headed "Service or Co-operation," which appeared in the SUBURBAN

General co-operation on the part of the public in the things your editorial points out would, in many instances, result in added convenience to riders and speed up their service and avoid at times the missing of connections at points of intersection. In other words, they will not only be helping PRT, but also assisting themselves. Your thoughtfulness in mentioning these factors in your paper will no doubt prove to be of assistance.

We appreciate your co-operation.

Very truly yours,

PRT Company  
JOHN J. DAVIES  
Ass't to President



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on, all with queries of various sorts, for the driver to answer. At Hermit lane, a woman waited on a porch until the bus was about ready to start off again, then ran out to hold it back on its running time.

All the way up Ridge avenue the same sort of things happened—questions, dives into handbags for fares, tardy mounting and dismounting—until, when the "R" bus arrived at Leverington avenue, the "Z" bus had departed and was going down the hill to Manayunk.

This time the couple, from town, had to leave the "R" bus and wait a quarter of an hour for the next "Z" bus. And they were not at all pleased.

The question arises: Was this poor service on the part of the transportation company, or was it a thoughtless lack of co-operation on the part of the public?

We're inclined to believe that most of the passengers are only concerned in themselves, and give no thought about how or when their fellows will reach their destinations.

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### What'll We Do With the World?

The World looks to the United States for leadership, for money, and for the best products that ever came out of factories. Even Russia with its new egotism has turned to the United States for brain-power to initiate mass production, scientific agriculture, engineering plans, and schemes to get the most out of life with the least amount of energy. Sometimes the United States trade successfully with the World, but right now our Government and our institutions are running in red ink because the World has gone flatter than ever Dowie could imagine. The question naturally suggests itself: What'll we do with the World?

President Hoover recently said that during the past two years, as compared with the pre-war decade, the proportion of our foreign trade carried by ships under the American flag has substantially increased. And note this important note in what the President added: "It has notably grown in trades where no American flag services previously were provided."

Our countrymen long ago learned that they had to have carts and wagons if they expected to trade in the markets. And then they built railroads that brought the different parts of the country into closer connections.

The old clipper ships did fine service on the seas, but they have passed. The American merchant marine is being expanded, and great lines now are operated under the Ameri-

can flag between Europe, Latin America, the Orient, and in the coastwise service.

The United States is competing with the World for World trade. That's why the United States is building its own great fleets to meet the ever-increasing competition in foreign commerce.

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#### The New School

What has happened to the movement to secure a new public school at East Falls?

Has the project expired through a lack of interest? Are the plans to lie dormant through another vacation period, only to be made more difficult of consumation in the fall?

We hear, as the Indians used to say it, "Big Talk" for a new building in East Falls, from a group of parents who reside in the Queent Lane Manor section, who daily haul their offspring in motor cars to the Keyser School, in Germantown, a building which is also inadequately provisioned. If these (how) deeply interested folk would send their children to the Breck School, where it is logical to send them, and thereby overcrowd it a little more, the action might assist in convincing the Board of Education that East Falls is in deplorable need of new facilities.

What about that school?

\* \* \* \* \*

#### Mother.

Our idea of a splendid way for a maternal parent to have observed last Sunday, was to have listened to the fagged-out voice of her offspring singing "Mother of Mine", over the air from a dance-marathon hall.

Of all the silly amusements of modern times, we think marathon dancing is the most ridiculous.

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#### Just a Thought

Those old iron trolley poles, on Ridge avenue, in Roxborough. If the city authorities removed them, could they not be sold for enough to pay wages for a group of unemployed men.

THURSDAY, MAY 19, 1932.

#### Taxes

From all over the country we read and hear reports of a rising tide of protest against the cost of government.

National, State, County, School and local taxes have

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grown in the past dozen years until the combined burden is more than most taxpayers can bear even in normal times. And in these times of reduced incomes and poor business the tax burden has become intolerable.

Congress is trying to "balance the budget" by imposing more and higher taxes. Doubtless there will be some show of reducing government expenditures, but so far we have heard very little about those. It seems to us that should be the first point of attack, not the last. This country got along very well for a hundred years and more without trying to regulate everybody's business and teach everybody how to live. We think there are hundreds of millions of dollars literally wasted every year by Federal bureaus which never would be missed if they were abolished entirely.

The same is true of State governments and, to perhaps even a greater degree, of most county governments. It is characteristically American, and something in which we take pride, that as a people we all want the best of everything. We want the best possible roads, the best possible schools, the most magnificent public buildings, the finest parks, and all that. But haven't we been trying to get these things too fast, without counting the cost, without finding out first where the money is coming from? We think that is the principal trouble with the United States today.

The inevitable result of this orgy of public spending is to stir up widespread discontent, which may easily result in an actual revolt on the part of taxpayers. Too much of the tax burden is laid upon land and its improvements, not enough upon the individuals, groups and enterprises directly benefited by specific expenditures of public funds.

What this country needs right now is to cut all governmental expenses squarely in half—Federal, State, County and local. That might cause some temporary embarrassment, but it would be only temporary. Relieved from half of the tax burden, property of all kinds would earn more for its owners, capital would be free to go into productive enterprises, men and women would get their jobs back, prosperity would return speedily.

We would like to see some real leader arise who would adopt for his political slogan: "Cut taxes in half!" He could be elected to any office to which he might aspire, in the present temper of the American people.

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#### Education Guaranteed

Time was—and not so long ago—when the best which insurance companies could find to concern themselves with



was life and economic independence. These comprise two fairly important items in human existence, it is true, but they fail to become as fundamental as child training.

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There is something extremely significant in the new "educational insurance" policy. It seems to definitely mark the emergency of this vast industry—insurance—from adolescence to be the concrete symbol of maturity and a wider, more comprehensive activity.

We have seen the tremendous benefits, both economic and social, which have resulted from this country's universal free public education. And yet, statistics presented by life insurance statisticians in behalf of an educational policy show that, even in this country, only 23 out of every 1,000 children who enter grade school graduate from college—a meager 2.3 per cent.

It is pleasant to speculate on the benefits which would accrue if this percentage could be doubled, trebled—multiplied by 10—by 25—even if the vast majority of the 977 who are missing at college commencement exercises could be present at a high school graduation.

It is largely a matter of funds, the statisticians find, which transfers the great 87.7 per cent. from the classrooms to the factory and the minor office positions, and in attempting to remedy this condition, insurance has taken on a function which will make it even more a public benefactor.

A prominent insurance company has charted a course which wise parents everywhere will follow assuring their children the greatest gift which they could give—a complete education regardless of what family finances may be; of what may befall the parents.

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#### Washington's Lobbyists

President Hoover used a neat phrase when he referred to the "locusts of lobbyists" swarming about the Capital. Our Presidents never have liked too many outsiders interfering with their plans to regulate the Government at Washington. When the Democrats were trying to get a tariff bill through Congress during the first Wilson Administration the domestic sugar interests put up a bold stand in opposition to the Democratic plan, and President Wilson referred to them as an "insidious lobby."

Long ago a lobbyist was defined by a Senator, who said: "If he is against you, he is a lobbyist; if he is for you, then

he is a patriot. Just so!

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### Wasting Time

Some bright chap has worked out a statistical chart to prove that American motorists are losing about thirty years every day waiting on red lights. Add the time of "waiting for something to turn up" and there is hardly any left.

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May 12-1932

## GOLD

Has Gold become God?

What has become of the peace-ful contentment of our fathers? Where is the security they were accustomed to?

Everywhere one travels is heard the cry for money. Little thought of beauty, of quality, of tradition, of utility, of honor, of service, of bravery, of religion, of loyalty. Nothing but money. Money for food, money for fuel, money for clothes, money for pleasure, money for medicine.

And who has the money for all

these?

Gold worshippers!

Men and women who fear life. Men and women who are bluffing—keeping up with the multitudinous Jones family. People who are afraid to loosen their strangle hold on nickels for the welfare of their fellow human beings; a'tremble with fright because they may have to sacrifice a few of their personal luxuries or comforts.

They say they earned their gold by their own efforts. Well, why don't they shake their fear. If they're so very competent in accumulating a "pile," why not display their faith in themselves by using it to make more. And thereby permit others who have not hoarded to live, too.

Not long since, we heard a professional man, who resides in the 21st Ward, but who has his office on Chestnut street, where he serves a wealthy clientele, make the statement: "Where is this depression? I haven't come into contact with it?"

No, probably not. In his business more than half of his patrons hypocritically labor under the

hallucination that they are deteriorating. People who could well do without his services, and not suffer at all, but who are able to pay for the pamper the Roxborough man provides for their imaginary ills.

A gesture of the great god of Gold!

Would this "depressionless" professional worker relinquish his lucrative practice among wealthy supporters to administer to the poor

people, nearer his home, who can pay but little, but who are in dire need of his services? Men, women, and children who are in the process of disintegration because of the lack of sufficient funds to pay the price for the attentions which they must receive if their lives are to be prolonged? We doubt it! For he, too, is salaaming before the golden idol.

But this man is not alone.

Everywhere may be seen the stiff-jointed kow-towers of Gold, whose knees (and hearts) have grown callous from their obeisance.

Statesmen, commercial giants, churchmen, teachers, writers, bootleggers, public officials, gangsters, society matrons, debutantes, legal lights, factory workers, and the friends of these, all groveling in the dust beneath the glittering image.

And such homage as this, with pleasure and sense-delighting orgies, ruined the wonderful Greeces and Romes of old. Are we, too, riding for the same kind of a fall?

Someone shall rise to knock the "L" out of Gold, so that all of us can see a greater and truer God in the life which stretches out before us.

Ecce Signum

May 19, 1932

## Gangdom

An Editorial

Since last Thursday, when the mutilated body of Charles Augustus Lindbergh, Jr., was found half-buried in the fresh Spring vegetation of Rose Hill, a few miles distant from the New Jersey home from which he had been kidnapped on March 1st, many have been the comments upon the callous brutality of the whole sad affair.

From the President of the United States down to the humblest of citizens, statements have emanated stressing the desire to see the perpetrators of the crime brought to justice.

Governors, Mayors and police chiefs of cities throughout the nation, issued orders for a renewed and implacable hunt for the kidnapping murderers. For the persons, male, female or both, who after taking the life of the child aroused more than ordinary hatred by making efforts to obtain ransom money for its safe return. And one group was successful in getting \$50,000 from Colonel Lindbergh, but it is not yet definitely known whether the money went to the actual kidnapers of the Lone Eagle's son, or not.

And then there have been the Means, Capones, Curtis, and others who attempted to trade upon the misery of the worried father and mother.

Gangdom, with all of its ramifications, entered the case.

One radio broadcaster, when informed of the discovery of the child's body said: "Now we have been challenged by the death of the Lindbergh baby to eradicate the gangster and the hoodlum from our country. My deepest sympathy goes out to Colonel and Mrs. Lindbergs. May their sorrow be an incentive to every American to make this a better country for the children of the growing generation."

And in that statement lies an indictment of the American people. We, ourselves, are responsible for the Lindbergh tragedy, and thousands of other similar crimes, ranging from petty larceny up to murder.

America, once "the land of the

free and the home of the brave" has become a nation of saffron-streaked grafters. We've all become lobbyists for our own special interests, with nothing but forgetfulness for the phrase, "United we stand, divided we fall."

The United States—the great Melting Pot—has accumulated a crust of slag, which needs skimming off.

Europe is sneering at us, as is expressed in an editorial which appeared on Saturday, in the London, England, News-Chronicle:

"Since Lindbergh is an American approximation of the Prince of Wales, the crime is particularly astounding. It is a deplorable conclusion, but it is irresistible, than unless prompt steps are taken to end the disgusting tyranny under which the great country apparently groans, it will become increasingly difficult to count America any longer among the forces of modern civilization."

The merchant, the motorist, the householder who sends for a division leader to aid him in escaping punishment for a slight infraction of the law; the respected citizen who voluntarily ingratiate himself and other members of his family by asking for a political "pium"—perhaps just a five-dollar-a-day job for his son or daughter—the politician who seeks power by allying himself with unscrupulous monied interests; the technical protectors and liberators of law-breaking friends or clients; weak-kneed enforcers of the laws of the land; the stay-at-home voter, who by his lack of concern for his fellowmen, aids shallow-thinking, reward-seeking parasites to gain public office; all these are responsible for gangdom.

At the recent Primary Election, only about two-thirds of the registered voters went to the polls to cast a ballot. The stay-at-home voters are the greatest Gang-makers. They permit a small minority to select candidates for office, at whom many so-called respectable citizens later shrug their shoulders and ease their consciences by saying "We couldn't vote for a disreputable person like him." But, by not voting at all, these persons actually assist corrupt candidates to gain office, and to be valuable protectors of Gangdom.

This "holier than thou" attitude, as far as it affects voting will have to be abandoned before the gangs will end. Voting, like public edu-



cation, should be compulsory.  
Ruthless, courageous action is needed to quell these hordes of lawbreakers.

Gangdom cannot go on forever! Eventually, for self-protection, the rank and file of the people will stop it!

We're not overly optimistic about the task which lies before us. We know that thuggery cannot be wiped out in a week. We see obstacles presented by corrupt alliances between criminals, law-enforcement officers and other public servants.

We realize that there are many people and institutions in this country which depend for power on a political organization, which in turn, depends for votes on a

criminal ring.

The mass of men and women of America—already—is beginning to forget the Lindbergh baby in individual cares of the day, and after a little while none but the child's parents will remember the poignant seventy-two days of suspense before his little body was found to end it.

But as time goes on—and Gangdom with it—these same people will find themselves up against its machinations again, and again, and again, until finally what is now a powerful machine, will be smashed!

God speed the day!

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THURSDAY, MAY 26, 1932.

### Memorial Day

Memorial Day is in truth nothing more than a secular All Souls' Day. It owes its origin, according to some accounts, to the women of the south, who began the practice of decorating their graves less than two years after the close of the Civil War. That struggle of four years had kept our country in a constant state of commotion and excitement. Every part of the nation had contributed its men, young and old, to the conflict. When peace was restored there was scarcely a village or town that did not have a grave to remind it of the fearful cost.

A New York newspaper first published a paragraph stating that a few women of Columbus, Miss., had strewn the graves of the dead soldiers, Union as well as Confederate. This touching tribute caused a thrill of tenderness to pass through the north, and it aroused, as probably nothing else could have done, a feeling of national amity and love.

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### A Turning Point?

May was featured with the assassination of the Japanese Premier Inukai; President Doumer of France was shot down; and the dead body of the Lindbergh baby was discovered in a New Jersey woods. What next?

A few days ago a delegation from the railway brotherhoods not only issued a warning of the dangers ahead but in a visit to the White House they told President Hoover that their mission was to present to him certain "economic

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facts," and "to offer constructive recommendations." They performed that mission so well that a Washington newspaper commented that their bread and butter proposition contained a quality of wisdom for politicians of both parties.

At about the same time Secretary of State Stimson returned from the Disarmament Conference at Geneva, rather encouraged, perhaps, but fully acquainted with France's intentions to postpone definite action until after the Lausanne Conference, to be held in June, when fourteen European Nations will discuss reparations, war debts and "other economic and financial difficulties which are responsible for and may prolong the present world crisis."

When Premier Laval was in the United States last October it was well known that he sought guarantees to enable the French Government to collect its pound of flesh from Germany. But there was nothing doing.

When the French delegation mentioned cancellation of debts Senator Borah and others served notice that there must be an agreement for disarmament before cancellation could be discussed.

Whatever happens, France stands in the position of a Nation ever eager to finance its tremendous military enterprises out of money extracted from Germany, or withheld from the United States. France knows that there are still "more ways than one to skin a cat!"

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#### Hours of Labor.

A general shortening of the hours of labor in all branches of industry may come about as one result of the present business depression. An increasing number of large concerns are operating on a five-day week. There is a great deal of discussion among business men of the possibility of making the six-hour day the standard. A bill has been introduced in Congress for the reduction of the working day on government work, with a corresponding reduction in compensation to each worker, and for the adoption of a general five-day week in all industries. We don't expect very much to come out of that, because we have given up expecting Congress to do anything to bring about the millennium. But we hear encouraging reports from industries that have adopted the shorter day and the shorter week, and it wouldn't surprise us to see this movement grow very rapidly.

Of course, the earnings of workers are necessarily less, individually, when they work shorter hours; but it takes more workers to operate the business and, on the whole, it seems a better thing for the nation at large to have every-

body earning something than to have a few earning big pay and a lot earning nothing. Fewer people are going to be able to buy luxuries in the next few years than were able to buy them in the few years preceding the big slump. But even if everybody earned twenty-five per cent less for the next ten years than they did in the years from 1920 to 1930, our average income and buying power would still be much higher than that of the people of any other nation in the world. And if the five-day week and the six-hour day will result in putting everybody back to work, then we are for it.

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**"Told You So"**

The usual political bragging about what a quick and a clean job Congress would do by the forepart of June has been succeeded by announcements that "they can't get through and there will be a Summer session of Congress after the Chicago conventions." They must have been reading correspondence which has stated several times in the past sixty days that Congress will not finish its work before mid-Summer.

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**Oh, Yeah!**

The signs of the times are that the times are "better", according to reports to the Government. But that report has gone out from National headquarters so often that even the most hardened newspaper correspondents pass it on to their editors with the precaution to "believe it or not."

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**THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 1932.**

**1932 Models.**

The Scene: School House Lane.

The Time: Last Friday Afternoon.

Characters: A young man, accompanied by a youthful woman, evidently his wife, to judge by the wedding ring she wore.

The woman was observed first, waiting at the gateway of a large estate. Trudgily the man came down the path from the great residence inside. As he drew close to the woman he was heard to say, "Nothing there!"

On to the next house went the couple. This dwelling was closer to the highway, and it was possible to overhear the man's request after he had knocked upon the door. He



was asking for employment.

"Work of any kind!" he said, "We are willing to anything!" But he was unsuccessful once more. How many times, that day, he had received negative answers, we do not know. And we'll never know how many days that man and woman tramped about the city in their fruitless quest.

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And yet there are people who marvel at the courage and stoicism of folk who landed at Plymouth Rock, and other points along the Atlantic Coast in the early days of America.

Those Aldens, with their Priscillas, came to a haven. They had a chance. Everything depended upon their nerves, health and muscles. The land was wide and spreading; the materials for sustenance and shelter were abundant; there simply for the taking.

The young husband and wife of today—in a land of supposed plenty—are helpless. Not dependent upon their own efforts, but relying on man's humanity to man.

Don't say that they shouldn't have married with conditions as they are. Everyone; male and female; is born with that right; for that purpose; or the good God who created us all was entirely wrong in all of His plans.

Brave hearts passed along School House Lane last Friday! Doubt it not!

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#### A Sales Tax

Laying a sales tax in place of high excise taxes as prevailed during the war, will come up for consideration by the Senate, presumably this week. The House rejected a sales tax and would save the poor man from the burden of taxation by soaking the rich, who if subjected to a heavy tax will pass the "soaking" along to the poor man.

Since the beginning of organized government, the poor man has had his champions in the legislative halls who would save him from the burden of excessive taxes and would have the rich man carry the load, which he never has done and under the present economic system will not do.

In the beginning of organized society, it was found necessary that there should be public funds for the establishment and maintenance of government that life and property might be protected and civilization might progress. In the early years of organized society, the vast majority of the people were illiterate. Education was confined to a few, who became the ruling class and possessed the wealth. It was this class who devised the first tax laws. They faced a most difficult problem. People who have nothing can give

nothing and the wealthy, ruling class was confronted with the problem of taxing themselves to raise public funds. This was done and the next problem was how to get the tax money returned and place the burden upon the multitude. The answer was simple and quickly found. The multitude must live and must work to live. The ruling wealthy class owned the land and became the employers. They took their toll from the fruits of the land produced by their employes and set the scale of wages which has resulted in the ones "who hath not" paying the big share of the tax bill. The same system is in vogue today and Congress is fighting to maintain it.

A sales tax can be just and equitable in that the one who buys the most pays the most. With a progressively rising scale of taxes, those who buy the higher priced articles will pay the most tax. This is as it should be and prevents a shift of the tax burden.

The tax system is unfair because of its complications and the more intricate and complicated it becomes, by the levying of new taxes and permitting numerous exemptions, the greater the burden is placed upon those least able to bear it.

The opponents of a sales tax oppose fairness in taxation. They would continue and enlarge the present system and make more unfair and unequal the distribution of the tax burden to be borne by those least able to pay.

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#### Wanted—Leadership

Complaints that the country lacks "leadership" in its present economic crisis, are being heard on all sides. According to an almost overwhelming chorus of appeals received in Washington, "the whole nation is crying for a leader, and no man answers the cry." Bruce Barton, editorial commentator, observes, however, that this complaint is not new, but has sprung up in every period of distress. "Seldom has the Almighty dropped a full-fledged leader out of the sky," says Mr. Barton. "Leaders are pushed up out of the pressure of conditions, and so it will be now."

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One prominent politician has learned that it is profitable to cultivate the good will of children.

THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 1932.

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### The Church and The Men.

One of the finest movements we have seen started in this, and other sections of Philadelphia, within the past year, and which is steadily developing, has been the action taken by various Protestant churches to attract men to the work of the different congregations.

Organizations of male adults in the vicinity of these churches have been instituted, with sociability and educational features leading up to a finer spiritual feeling, which is highly gratifying. The groups assemble on regular nights—monthly, weekly, or oftener—and hear good speakers, play games, and partake of refreshments. Shuffleboard leagues have permitted the men to indulge in friendly contests and to become better acquainted with each other.

Holy Name Societies, among the men of Catholic faith, have been carrying on this splendid work for a great number of years, binding the males of the various parishes together into a unit which has been extremely successful, and it is good to note that the Protestant churches have adopted similar measures to aid their men in learning the full meaning of brotherhood.

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### Big Political Show Coming.

Approach of the big party conventions in Chicago has set all the prophetic tongues wagging. The Republican result is easy to forecast. Everybody feels sure that Hoover will be renominated, and that Curtis will probably be his running mate again. Among the Democrats, however, there is real struggle and complete uncertainty. Anything can happen in the Democratic convention. It will be the biggest and best show of the year. In drama and intrigue, in action and color, in the thrill of conflict and the flow of human passions, there is nothing like it.

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### Strategists at Work

The platform-makers, the keynoters, and all the leaders of the Republican party, from Senators Fess, Watson and Moses to Norris, are fixing up their prize packages and bags of tricks to present to the Republican National Convention in Chicago next month. But the platform-makers will find their most knotty problem in providing a prohibition plank, as the wets and the dries are insisting on their points of view



being carried out. Doubtless some kind of compromise plank, which will suit nobody, but which will not chase away votes at the polls, will be agreed upon.

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#### When?

It is futile to attempt to furnish an answer to the question: When will the depression end?

It always has stopped raining, and depressions always have ended! Comforting?

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#### A Lot of Stuffed Shirts.

It seems to us that one of the things which the world has learned out of the economic depression is that nobody was quite as smart as a lot of people were reputed to be. We used to hear so much about the giants of finance and the captains of industry that we got an idea that anybody who could make so much money must be a lot wiser and smarter than the average man. It turns out that some of them were only a little luckier than the average man, and some of them were just plain swindlers. And now that we are hearing about how great banking houses were fooled by financiers with international reputations, we have about come to the conclusion that the ordinary man who works hard at his own business, and doesn't buy anything on somebody else's sayso without knowing all about it himself, is a great deal smarter than the people who thought they could get rich quick by taking the advice of the so-called big men of affairs.

We can think of nothing more disillusioning than the downfall of Ivar Kreuger, the Swedish "match king," who committed suicide in Paris some weeks ago. Even up to the moment of his death Kreuger was regarded as one of the world's ablest financiers and greatest business man. He could walk into any bank anywhere in the world and borrow any amount of money he asked for without having to put up any security. He had only to tell them that he owned so many billions of bonds of this, or that or the other government, or that some nation had given him the exclusive concession to manufacture and sell matches, and they forked the money right over. The head of one of Boston's biggest banking concerns admitted, at a public hearing the other day, that they lent millions to Kreuger on his unsupported word. But it turns out that the government bonds which he held were forgeries, manufactured by clever engravers

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on his orders; that the match concessions which he claimed to have obtained by secret treaties never existed; that, in short, the whole vast reputation which he had built up was founded upon fraud. He will go down into history as the world's greatest swindler.

We don't think people are going to be so eager to put their money into speculative securities on the strength of big reputations as they were a few years ago. Not for a long time, at least, or until men who are children today grow up and begin to think that they are smarter than their fathers were.

THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 1932.

#### Father's Day.

Mother's Day was observed in May. It was first on the calendar with an honorable history dating back to the ancient English custom of visiting one's mother on a mid-Lenten Sunday. This day was known as "Mothering Sunday." And then, along about 1908, a Philadelphia woman conceived the idea of setting aside a special Sunday in May as an anniversary to honor the mothers of the country, with gifts of flowers, candy and other tokens of affection.

Several years ago murmurs were heard—and to the credit of both men and women, they came from mothers and daughters—to the effect that Father also deserved recognition, and a special anniversary of his own. The result was the establishment of Father's Day—the third Sunday in June—and another occasion for Dad receiving a lot of loud neckties and bad cigars.

Sons and Daughters, Wives and Mothers, we implore you. Forget neckties and cigars for Father's Day. It will be considerably more appreciated if you sneak up behind the old curmudgeon and kiss him on the bald spot which is yearly growing larger on the top of his dome. Affection for these old fellows grow less as they travel further along in life, and is usually valued more. But the cantankerous old bean won't say so. Men are thataway!

But all jesting aside, we never think of Father's Day, but that J. W. Foley's old poem comes to mind, part of which is quoted.

"He has been through all the sorrows  
Of a lad of nine or ten;  
He has seen the dawn of morrows

When the sun shone bright again;  
His own heart has been near breaking,  
Oh, more times than I can tell,  
And has often known the aching  
That a boy's heart knows so well.

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"I am sure he well remembers,  
In his calendar of days,  
When the boy-heart was December's,  
Though the sun and flowers were May's.  
He has lived a boy's life, laddie,  
And he knows just how it goes;  
Let us go and talk to Daddy,  
For I'm sure that Daddy knows.

"Let us tell him all about it,  
How the sting of it is there,  
And I have not any doubt about it  
Will be easier to bear;  
For he's trodden every byway,  
He has fathomed every joy,  
He has traveled every highway  
In the wide world of a boy."

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#### The Cost of Government

We have always felt that taxpayers do not object to paying reasonable taxes, provided they get something for their money. Lately there has arisen a widespread outcry against the steady increase of taxes, Federal, State and local. We think that outcry has its roots in the general feeling that our governmental units are not giving us value received for the taxes we pay.

Almost all of our government units have been taxing, borrowing and spending beyond the means of the people to pay. Taxes are remaining unpaid. That causes forced sales of property and destroys values. Nothing but drastic retrenchment can possibly restore our governmental units to financial health. And one way to retrench—the best possible way as we see it—is to stop spending money on fads, on things which benefit only a few, and particularly upon the effort to regulate everything by law.

As a nation we are dedicated to the principles of individualism and a minimum of governmental interference in private affairs, and yet we have built up the biggest and most expensive governmental machinery ever created. We object to government in business, and yet we spend more money on government promotion and regulation of business



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than any country in the world except Russia. We talk loudly about the vast expenditures for armaments in Europe, and yet we spend more on armaments than any country in peace time in the world's history. Likewise, we spend more than any other country in the attempt to enforce the laws, and at the same time we have more crime of all kinds than any other nation.

If the editor of this paper knew the perfect answer to all problems of government and finance, he would not be running this paper, but might be running the government. We think that there is an answer, but we think also that the answer will only be found when everybody who contributes a cent in taxes to local, county, State or national administration devotes a lot more time to thinking about these things and expresses his thoughts than most people do now.

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Another lip-service politician and "friend" of the farmer and workingman has served "boloney" so often to Iowa Republicans that they have refused his offerings and accepted the chicken stew of Henry Field. Iowa Republicans have chosen as their candidate for the Senate a man who has built a big business and rejected him who has used the party to his own political advantage while railing at big business.

THURSDAY, JUNE 23, 1931.

#### Ban On Motors.

In reserving the upper Wissahickon drive for the almost exclusive use of the horse and pedestrian, the Park Commissioners will find plenty of people in this section to laud them for their action.

The only customarily permitted invasion of this sanctuary from the motor car, with its odors, and very often reckless driver, has been at certain crossings, in the vicinity of Valley Green.

Wise Mill road has recently been barred to motor traffic by the action of the caretakers of the Park, who limit a stretch of the Wissahickon drive to horses, carriages and hikers. While Thomas E. Mitten was living at Dunroamin Farms, in Roxborough, that particular section of the road was left open for automobiles, mostly for his use. Now it has been closed again. For which everyone except some motorists are grateful.

Give an inch and someone is bound to take a yard. Open this stretch at Valley Green permanently and very soon the

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whole valley will have to be made available for automobiles. The numerous curves, and the costliness of the upkeep of motor traveled roads, are good reasons for keeping the drive closed to the speed demons, let alone the destruction of natural beauty which would follow the permission to allow automobilists to enter the secluded peacefulness of "the valley greene".

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### What Are We Waiting For?

We have had a moratorium of the War debts.

We have had international conferences, and lots of them, in the interests of peace and in behalf of disarmament.

We have organized gigantic methods for relief of the drought sufferers, the unemployed, and the unfortunate.

We have massed the credit of the Government and loaned billions of dollars to the farmers, and to the processes of keeping crop prices from falling through the cellars; and to the railroads and to the steamship lines.

The question of balancing the National budget has been solved by a patient and overly-abused Congress.

The gold standard has been upheld in the United States.

The crash of country banks has been checked.

High window-jumping has decreased as "a way out of the whole mess."

There aren't quite so many divorces.

There are fewer drunks.

THUS: The political and the social ills are in pretty good shape.

This cock-eyed world should wake up, and put the props under its ECONOMIC structure. Uncle Sam has started everything except soup kitchens to help everything and everybody.

Perhaps if we just forgot all about IT and the depression, everything would be all right again.

WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR?

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### Clarify the Prohibition Plank

In writing the prohibition plank adopted in the Republican platform, the authors used so many words that the meaning of the plank has become a matter for controversy and there have been so many interpretations as to confuse the public mind as to what the Republicans will do, should they be successful in the November elections, towards the repeal or continuance of the eighteenth amendment.

There is need for the Republican leaders to clarify the

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meaning of the prohibition plank. It is assumed that it was designed to satisfy, or at least to console both wets and drys and has failed. Both wets and drys are dissatisfied with the party's plank, although it is far more favorable to the wets than were the prohibition planks of either the major parties four years ago, which were practically identical and committed both parties to law enforcement. A great change in the attitude of the American people on the prohibition question has been wrought within the past few years. While prohibition is not a partisan political question, it is nevertheless, a political question so dominant that it has affected the fortunes of candidates in congressional districts and in States. Many nationally prominent men who were sincere supporters of national prohibition have changed their views and now advocate repeal of the eighteenth amendment and will demand the major political parties be as frank in their attitude towards prohibition as leading individuals have been in their public statements.

There is strong public sentiment for a change from prohibition, which the major political parties cannot evade or ignore. The issue must be fairly met while the question is just as bothersome to the Democrats as to the Republicans. Will the Democrats be as verbose as were their rivals or will they make a clear, straightforward statement either for or against repeal? Undoubtedly many votes will be given to the candidates of the party definitely standing for repeal and some will be lost. How many, is the problem perplexing the politicians.

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Governor Pinchot has issued a call for a special session of the legislature for the purpose of providing legislation to relieve the economic distress throughout the state. With the experience of the last special session still fresh in the minds of the people, it is believed the Governor and legislators will forget politics for the time being and give to relief measures the most serious consideration.

THURSDAY, JUNE 30, 1932.

#### The "Fourth"

Next Monday is the day we celebrate as Independence Day because in every village, town and city in the United States there will be exercises commemorating the anniversary of the day when freedom was proclaimed in this country. We have other holidays which are generally ob-



erved, but in a peculiarly emphatic manner the Fourth of July is the great National Holiday. It is right that this should be so because the sentiments expressed in that first Declaration of Independence, and the foundations afterwards laid so prudently by the Fathers of the Republic, have contributed to the greatness and glory of the Nation.

But while we are still devoted and patriotic Americans, there is a gradual change coming over our way of showing our feelings to the world. In the old days it was the ambition of every Fourth of July orator to make the eagle scream; to shake figuratively our fists at Europe and to strut around with a chip on our shoulder. We still proclaim the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, but we are now more solicitous that these same blessings be enjoyed by the other nations of the earth. The World War and our participation in it had the effect of making us more "Internationally-minded." Some wise man said long ago that nations, like men, are never safe when their chief thought is their own safety.

It has been said that the Fourth of July is a memorable day to the Englishman as well as to the American. It long ago ceased to be a sensitive subject to the people of the British Empire because the sentiments expressed in the Declaration of Independence are those harbored by the typical Briton. Some years ago the late W. T. Stead, a notable English writer, said that he wished with all his heart that the Fourth of July could be adopted as the festival day of the entire English-speaking race.

Perhaps it may sound like a longing for the millennium, but it would be a glorious thing if it could be extended to all the nations of the earth—to have all agree that the people of each of them be unanimously accorded the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

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**Human Nature: The Same.**

We hear a good many people remarking that the younger generation has no manners, that the boys and girls of today are rapidly sliding down to perdition and that things were so much better when these complaining individuals themselves were young.

We seem to remember having heard old folks talk in a similar strain when we were young. We are strongly inclined to believe that the bad manners and worse morals of youth have always been a subject of complaint by their parents and grandparents from King Solomon's time, and

perhaps farther back than that.

Our belief is strengthened by recently seeing a letter written in 1795 by an English woman who said among other things:

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"Our manners become more licentious, our men are indifferent, our women bold and assuming. The pertness of fifteen is allowed to give her opinion on all subjects. She awes into silence her superiors and understanding, for who can wish to hold an argument with a flippant tongue? But a more serious consideration is the hideous undress of the present day, for to be perfectly fashionable is to be half-naked."

In the same letter elderly women were criticized for resorting to cosmetics in the effort to make themselves look younger. We have heard people around here talk about how disgusting it is for a woman old enough to be a grandmother to try to look like a flapper. Regardless of whether it is disgusting or not, our point is that it is nothing new. A hundred and thirty-seven years ago people were saying the same things.

One thing is certain. That is, that each generation has to learn its own way about and find its own way of living. In other words, codes of manners and behaviour generally are good only for the generation that subscribes to them. And when we consider that half of the people of the United States are under twenty-six years old, it seems to us the young folks have about as much right to decide such things for themselves as the older ones have to prescribe for them.

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Opposition is developing to the proposed plan to have the legislature, which is now in special session, authorize the diversion of a part of the motor fund for direct relief of the unemployed. Another item on the tentative program is to permit municipalities to borrow against uncollected taxes. Municipalities have done this for years. They are compelled to by reason of the antiquated tax and assessment laws.

The entire motor fund is for the purpose of highway construction and maintenance and once it is diverted for other purposes, the highway fund will not be secure.

The legislature should find other means to raise funds for immediate relief and use the motor fund for the purpose for which it was intended. The State might increase the highway program and furnish work for a large number of men. Legislation that will provide work is needed and would be more appreciated than legislation for charity.

### Signs of the Time

For two years the industrial captains and political prophets have been saying that if automobile production would pick up, other things would start. Now here you are! Official reports show that May was the best month among the automobile manufacturers for a year.

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### Reductions.

Gas, in Philadelphia, is to be reduced to 90 cents a thousand cubic feet on October 1st.

This new rate will bring the price of gas down somewhere near the level of 79 cents a thousand feet of Detroit, and the 82 cents a thousand feet of Milwaukee.

Costs of labor and material have dropped a'plenty during the past two years, cutting the operating costs of our utilities.

Electric rates should follow the trend of the times.

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### Sickness Among Veterans

Despite the warnings of Government and city health officers the bonus army in Washington has been living in insanitary places and sickness and disease has broken out. Thousands of these men have been supported by private charities. Their food supplies have been inadequate and the conditions of the campers-out have become filled with dangers.

There is absolutely no purpose for these visitors going to Washington as Congress has closed their case for the year, and nothing can precipitate any further official action that would be of benefit to the bonus seekers. They have set out on senseless joy rides, and the results are proving to be very bad.

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### The Politicians' Task

The convention of the two great political parties are now history, and the time between now and November will be largely devoted to spell-binding.

However, the politicians will find that 1932 will be different, as far as campaigning goes, than in any previous year.

First: Because of compulsory public education, which



enables the youth of the country—and these predominate—to think for themselves. 100

Second: Lack of employment will provide men and women with sufficient time to discuss the candidates and the issues among themselves, and also the time to form their own opinions.

Third: The radio will furnish information—has already done so—especially of the larger meetings at a distance, which formerly came through the medium of the press, with first, second and third hand opinions of writers and editors.

The prevalent public discontent will also have to be considered, and the cure for most of this will be found in employment. When human beings are working they are happier, and more oblivious, or more tolerant of political conditions.

The job of the political leader is JOBS.

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### Created Equal!

When President Lincoln wrote the famous Gettysburg Address, he gave to the world one of the outstanding literary gems of all time, and there have been but few people who have attempted to assault its true meaning. But the fact that Lincoln wrote that long-loved tribute far back in 1863 would lead one to believe that were the martyred President among the living today he would at least revise some of his phrases and possibly add a few words to one sentence.

Our Nation is in the midst of upheavals. Thousands of men and women, through dire necessity, have been compelled to ask for aid from charitable organizations. Families who once were prosperous have on more than one occasion felt the pangs of hunger and the unrelenting cold of long and dreary winter nights.

Men who formerly held positions of honor and trust have been forced to wield the pick and shovel to furnish food for their loved ones, and in every big city shelters for the homeless have been thrown open, so that the unfortunates would at least have a roof over their heads.

Almost daily the newspapers of the country have noted the sudden passing into Eternity of the hopeless and helpless; of the throng who fought a losing fight and chose a quick method of self-destruction.

One cannot help but feel that there is something lacking in our American manhood, and that the Scriptural passage relating to "My Brother's Keeper" has been entirely disregarded; for while hundreds, yes, thousands of our citizens lack the very necessities of life, still others more unfortunate have floated along in their own little world of self-

righteousness.

There are many of the upper strata who basked in the sunshine of Florida during the winter months and who now lounge in comfort aboard palatial yachts, or who motor along the highways of sunny Italy, while their brothers who are not so fortunate ask for a crust of bread or its equivalent to carry them on for one more day.

Lincoln's Gettysburg Address is a splendid tribute to a deserving people, and yet, were he alive today, would he have written it in part in this manner:

" . . . . And dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal—for the first ten minutes."

THURSDAY, JULY 14, 1932

#### Over Confident Motorists

Ever since the organization of the paid fire department it has been the rule of the road, that when an alarm is sounded from fast traveling fire apparatus, that drivers of other vehicles pull to a safe place at the side of the thoroughfare and come to a full stop. Even street cars stop on the track, in order to permit the firemen and their trucks to pass quickly and safely.

But every once in a while, there appears an impatient motorist who thinks that with his high-powered engine, he can keep ahead, or get out of the way, of the fire apparatus. With a result that there are often collisions which could be avoided. One such happened last week at Ridge avenue and School House lane, two men being very seriously injured when Fire Truck No. 25 of Manayunk crashed into their car.

The rule of the road is still applicable. A gong, or siren can be heard for several blocks before the fire trucks come into sight, and there doesn't seem to be any excuse for people to get in the way of these men who are doing a public service in property saving.

Then again, the regrettable incident of last week was the result of a false alarm, sounded by some supposedly humorous fool. Each time that the fire apparatus is called from the station, the action costs the taxpayers money, and needlessly jeopardizes the lives of the firemen, pedestrians and drivers of vehicles.

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#### Setting Up Shop

In a month from today the card indexes in the different

National political headquarters will completely catalogue every county in the United States and indicate just who may be called upon to straighten out Anton Cermak who lives down behind the vinegar works in Chicago, or Battling Norris of Squash Center, Nebraska.

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A million dollars worth of radio; thousands of dollars worth of "boiler plate," and enough orators to form an Expeditionary Force to collect war debts from the French, et al., will be mobilized. There will be literature and copies of speeches for all who want to read how the old parties have made, served and saved the people.

Thus a massive business organization somewhat similar in its methods to a great publishing business that would combine the New York Times, the Chicago Tribune, the Hearst papers, the Scripps—Howard groups, and all the other big papers, is thrown together into two great political organizations.

Through these tremendous educational organizations—for that's what they are—the Republicans and the Democrats will appeal to the reasonableness and the reason, and perhaps also to the prejudices and the passions of the millions of men and women who vote. And Chairman Sanders at the top of one army and Chairman Farley at the top of the other will stake every effort in convincing the great American public to "vote right" in November.

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#### Free Press

A free and unmuzzled press is essential to the social and economic well-being of the people. A muzzled press is the first sign of a decadent people. Take the States in which evidence in divorce cases is not available to the newspapers, and divorces are far more numerous than in those States where the ones seeking divorce know that the evidence will be printed. It is the same way with crime. Many a man has kept to the straight and narrow path for no other reason than he feared publicity more than he feared the law.

No newspaper seeks to deliberately injure the reputation of anyone no matter how lowly they may be in the walks of life. Every man's reputation is looked upon by every newspaper as his greatest asset, and just as long as he respects that reputation the newspapers are going to respect him. It is when he loses respect for himself and his fellow-men that the newspapers feel it a duty to print the facts and thus protect the public.

We are often urged by some citizen to "take a rap" at somebody for some movement, as though the newspaper's



mission is to carry a stuffed club and pose as censor of public morals. But always we try to explain that unless we can print something helpful we prefer not to print something harmful. It doesn't indicate cowardice. If the welfare of the community appears to demand it, we will print it if the heavens fall. But scandal-monging is not to our liking, nor can we find any satisfaction in tearing down when it is just as easy to build up. That is the way most every newspaper man in America feels, and that is why America is a better country than those countries in which the press is muzzled.

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**Left Overs**

This Congress has put through an unusual amount of useful legislation, but the number of bills that will be left over is unusually large. "Too many big things to look after" is the explanation of statesmen waiting to pack their luggage.

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Congress may have acted very unwisely in advancing the postage rate for first class mail and instead of producing additional revenue may result in a continued loss. Many concerns, who have large billings monthly, are having their salesmen deliver the bills and statements. This system is likely to become permanent as it assures a personal visit to each patron and gives opportunity to increase patronage.

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**THURSDAY, JULY 21, 1932.**

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**Clayton R. Entwistle**

Snatched from the midst of his fellows with all the shocking suddenness which leaves mortal man unable to solve the mysterious workings of the Great Physician's plans, Dr. Clayton R. Entwistle, whose death occurred on Monday, will live on in the memory of the thousands of people who knew him, until, they, too, are called Home.

A gracious and skilled medical adviser, a cheerful and true friend, a kindly father and husband, the East Falls doctor will be missed by those who were best acquainted with him, the staff of the Memorial Hospital, and also by those whose pain-racked bodies he eased; and others whose hearts and minds he comforted while he labored among us.

The public, in general, joins with the Suburban Press in extending its sincere consolation to his family and

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friends, in this hour of sorrow, and would attempt to comfort them for his loss by pointing out the fact that although he was a man young in years, his deeds were such as will long live to rever his memory.

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### Happiness

We don't know who the happiest man on earth is, but we know who the unhappiest people are. They are the people who thought they could buy happiness with money and who, now that their sources of money have dried up, find themselves thrown upon their own resources, and have discovered that those resources are not sufficient to bring them happiness. We do not know whether to feel sorry for these people, especially the younger ones, or indignation at their parents and teachers for giving them or permitting them to get a wrong slant on life.

We confess to a considerable degree of indignation when we hear people advising young folks to buy this, that or the other thing because it will make them happy. We think there are very few commodities, and those very inexpensive ones, that can make any material contribution to individual happiness. Possessions may enlarge one's sense of self-importance. Money may enable people to do things which give temporary pleasure. But the idea that the rich are any happier than the poor is just as false now as it always has been.

We think one of the real benefits of these hard times to many people has been that it has forced them to develop their inward resources and depend upon their own efforts for happiness. We have certainly heard much more complaining from people who still have a good deal of money left than we have heard from people who didn't have much of anything to lose. The man or woman who has learned in childhood to get along with little is far better adapted to face the realities of life than the one who has always been able to buy whatever pleased his or her fancy. Those are the unhappy ones today—the ones who cannot spend money as they used to spend—while the happy ones are those who never had any money to spend.

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### Chips Off The Block

It seems that children can learn from the experience of their parents. A prison warden studied the cases of 15,000 former inmates, and found that only two had children with prison records.

"The results of the survey," he declared, "revealed that

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the children of those who had been in here are less likely to jump into trouble than their parents or children of good family antecedents.

"Either the children of men who have spent time here are more careful about violating the law or the fathers' experiences have some influence upon them."

How often the younger generations tells its elders: "We must make our own mistakes. We cannot learn from yours." Apparently the son of the burnt father DOES learn to fear the fire.

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#### An Idea

An owner of a general store in a western state used a novel plan to secure a new store building, collect old accounts and provide employment. He announced to his customers who were unable to pay their accounts owing to the store, that he would build a new building and give employment to all who owed him, crediting their account with wages earned and to continue them in employment until completion of the building and pay wages in food, clothing and supplies, should they agree to the plan. The offer was accepted. The plan worked out to the satisfaction of everyone. The storekeeper secured a new building, cleaned up the old accounts. The customers paid their back bills and maintained their families without going into debt.

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#### Good Riddance

Immigration in May totaled 2,479 while the number of aliens leaving the country to live permanently in foreign countries was 8,577, according to a statement, July 1, by Harry E. Hull, Commissioner General of Immigration, Department of Labor. Ten aliens are leaving the country for every three admitted, it is stated.

Aliens, unlike citizens, are takers and not contributors.

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It is going to take a mighty strong convincer to explain Mrs. Mabel Walker Willebrandt to both the wet and dry voters.