

THE RICHMOND PALLADIUM AND SUN-TELEGRAM

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Special Session of Council

The general collapse of the city administration, arising from the resignation of the president of the board of works and the city attorney, as well as from the absence of a city court judge, resulted in the calling of a special session of the city council to meet tonight.

The purpose of the meeting, says the notice served on the city clerk, is to inquire into the conduct and actions of Mayor Zimmerman.

No one will deny that municipal affairs in Richmond are in a bad way, and that the city lacks a capable executive. The city council should be encouraged by citizens generally to ask for the resignation of Mayor Zimmerman.

The man himself, whose physical condition militates against a successful administration of public affairs, should realize that he owes to the city, which has repeatedly honored him with election to office, the duty of quitting.

The situation is approaching a serious crisis. Council should not halt with a half-way measure, but energetically proceed to provide the city with an executive head. The municipality cannot wait for 90 days before it undertakes the task of re-organization. Council should follow at once the legal steps necessary to declare the mayorality's office vacant so that a successor can assume the executive duties.

In the meantime, city officials might well heed the warning issued by President Gilbert when he criticized what he believed to be extravagant expenditures in the city affairs. The city has need to practice economy of the most measure.

Today's Talk

By George Matthew Adams

NOTHING COLLAPSES.

In a city where I was on business recently, the entire town was startled by the death of a prominent man who, in a moment of great discouragement, had taken his own life. His only reason for the act, was that the country was about to collapse.

But nothing collapses!

The greatest lesson that history or science teaches is that nothing ever really goes to pieces. Change is always going on. No single day presents the same man or woman, or tree, or house, or machine, in exactly the same state. All the time something is crumbling—but always to form something different—and better.

The walk of the world is forward and outward—into the whole.

When one civilization goes down, as is written, it really falls that something greater may take its place. If a thing cannot stand on its own legs, other legs will have to come—and maybe a new and different body.

While writing this little talk, I look over the waters of a beautiful lake, rich in historic incidents. Beyond its edges are great mountains, steel grey against the sky, and tall pines reach hundreds of feet into the air, forming a wonderful lace-like fringe at the foot-hills.

But a few centuries ago, this spot was a flat plain—till great glaciers grooved it and formed what is here today.

Nothing collapses.

Not even behind the curtain of marching armies does utter collapse come, terrible as is their devastation.

For the same God who makes the yellow and white and purple flowers, and warms the floor of the earth with His carpets of green, also "keep watch above His own"—and is not going to let anything collapse.

Dinner Stories

"What brought you here, my poor man?" inquired the prison visitor. "Well, lady," replied the prisoner, "I guess my trouble started from attending too many weddin's."

"Ah! You learned to drink there, or steal, perhaps?"

"No, lady; I was always the bride-groom."

Mrs. White looked up from the paper.

"One wife too many!" she exclaimed. "I suppose that is another case of bigamy!"

"Not necessarily, my dear," replied her husband sadly.

A teacher was reading to her class, when she came across the word "un-aware." She asked if any one knew the meaning.

One little girl timidly raised her hand and gave the following definition:

"Un-aware is what you put on first and take off last."

A certain young actress had a small part in a "war" drama—a very small part—and she was not satisfied. So one morning, after rehearsal, she set out to interview the boss.

"I have only one line in the first act," she pouted, "and but one in the second. Couldn't you give me a line for the third act, also?"

The actor-manager thought for a moment. "Well, yes," he replied. "When the bombardment scene is on and the hero is crouching in his dugout you may enter and say, 'Here is a dad!'"

"Oh, thanks!" she exclaimed. "And do I bring an unexploded shell on the stage with me?"

"No," answered the actor-manager. "It's not a speech, my dear; it's a confession."

An electric bulb attached to a vacuum cleaner is convenient for dark corners.

rigid kind. The deficit in the treasury of the municipal light plant shows how badly the city is in need of money.

The loss of Mr. Gilbert and of Mr. Robbins will be felt keenly. Both were competent officials and did good service in keeping the administration from going to pieces. Both gave to the city's affairs a conscientious service, and their counsel was sound and trustworthy. It is to be regretted that they are retiring.

If Richmond needs further proof of the advisability of supplanting the present system with a managerial or commission form of government, developments of the last few days ought to supply the necessary evidence.

Care Need in Drafting Home Rule Bill

Citizens of Richmond, convinced that a change in the FORM of municipal government is desired, must not deceive themselves into believing that this change can be put into effect at once.

Even if the special session of the legislature would pass a law giving cities home rule, the present city officials would hold their office until their terms expired, which is next year.

Immediate remedial changes, therefore, are impossible. The present system will remain for a year. But that does not mean that a capable mayor should not succeed the present incumbent.

Mayor Zimmerman should be asked to quit the office.

If the legislature should pass a bill giving cities the right of determining the form of government they want, the election determining this change would not be held until next year, and the new system could not be inaugurated until the present administration has served the term for which it was elected.

A home rule bill will demand careful study and should not be enacted until it has been thoroughly analyzed. There are as many pitfalls in a managerial form of government as in the old system. These can be obviated only by the careful forethought of the people who draft the measure.

Mahan, city controller, and M. J. O'Brien, president of the sinking fund commission. Controller McMahon said that the plan was to guard against an administration spending all the money in the municipal light fund for repairs on the plant which might be unnecessary.

Suburban

MIDDLEBORO, Ind.—Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Roll of Whitewater, called on Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Reid Sunday evening—Orville Thomas and family spent Sunday evening with Frank Thomas and family—Frank Allen and family were guests Sunday of Mrs. Mary Alexander and sons—Mr. and Mrs. Fred Vornau and daughter called on Mrs. Mary Vornau Sunday—Mr. and Mrs. Orlando Little, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Reid and son Wayne of Richmond, called on Mrs. Little Sunday evening—Mr. and Mrs. John Reid and Elmer Ellman of Whitewater, called on Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Reid Sunday afternoon—Mr. and Mrs. Joe Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Thomas and family visited Sunday with Charles Showalter and family—Mrs. Ralph Roll and Mrs. Little called on Mrs. J. E. Reid Tuesday afternoon—Mr. and Mrs. Ben Morris and Miss Berdice Morris visited Sunday with U. E. Morris and family—John Hawkins called on Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Bogan Wednesday—Harry Patti and family motored to Jackson, Michigan, Monday to visit relatives—Mrs. Walter Brooks of Richmond called on Mrs. VanZant Sunday afternoon—Miss Hazel Berney was the weekend guest of Mr. and Mrs. E. V. Stambach—Clem Alexander and family spent Thursday evening with Elwood Alexander and family—Mr. and Mrs. Hector Utton had as Sunday guests Mr. and Mrs. Fulton of Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Peterson of Richmond—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Brawley were Sunday guests of Charles Little and family—Mrs. D. Golden and children, Mrs. W. B. Golden, called on Mrs. N. A. Kirtman Saturday evening—Mrs. Clark Hardwick called on Mrs. Marie Canaday Monday evening—Mr. and Mrs. Frank McCord of Cambridge City, called on Charles Townsend and family Sunday—Russell White and family visited in Richmond Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Zurwell—The Ladies' Aid met Thursday with Mrs.

We have so learned to regard all good news with suspicion that we can not bring ourselves to believe in that government report of a bumper crop of wheat this year.

These may be the most prosperous times the country has ever known, but why can't we have sugar and potatoes like we had when we were hard up?

A school teacher who saw "Why Teachers Go Crazy" told of these answers he saw in a geography paper submitted by a pupil recently.

Define export. Answer: An export is a guy who had a lot of money and ain't got none now.

Name a large trunk line in the United States. Answer: The biggest trunk line in the United States is the Adams Express company.

The community was greatly shocked to learn that this innocent old party carried such a kick, and the reason for the popularity of Buttermilk in the past, in certain circles, is now explained.

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