

ARTHUR YAGLER, AUTHOR, EDUCATOR, SCHOLAR, COLLEGE
PRESIDENT, GOVERNOR OF PORTO RICO, AND CHAMPION OF SELF-
GOVERNMENT FOR THE PEOPLE OF PORTO RICO:

You first saw the light of day at Campbelleburg,
Henry County, Kentucky, in 1858. There you spent your
childhood; there you received your early training in the
public schools of your native town, until you entered
Georgetown College, one of the oldest and most reputable
institutions of higher learning in Kentucky. After pursuing
a four-year college course, you received the degree of
Bachelor of Arts in 1879. As a just recognition of your
worth as a student and your high personal qualifications for
teaching you were offered the principalship of the Preparatory
Department of your Alma Mater, a position that you filled in
a highly creditable manner for three years.

With the instinct of a true scholar, you soon sought
a new field where to carry on research and broaden your
scholarship. In 1882 you entered John Hopkins University,
our highest type of a great University, where research and
scholarship receive prime consideration and are far more
important than mere collegiate courses. Under the guidance
of those two able and distinguished scholars, Dr. Herbert B.
Adams and Dr. Richard T. Ely, you devoted yourself to
graduate work in history, economics and political science
with brilliant success. In 1884, after winning a competitive
university scholarship you were granted the degree of Doctor
of Philosophy as a fitting recognition of your extensive

culture and broad scholarship. Then you returned to Georgetown College to accept the professorship of History and Political Science. You continued to serve your Alma Mater loyally, devotedly and successfully as professor, Secretary of the Faculty, Chairman of the Faculty, and finally as its President until 1913. During these years every mark of honor and esteem which your Alma Mater had the power to bestow was conferred upon you and your resignation was accepted by the Board of Trustees with every possible expression of regret.

Your influence as an educator was by no means limited to Georgetown College. Throughout the entire educational system of Kentucky your preeminent position as an educational leader of high rank was recognized in every possible way. You were the founder and several times President of the Association of Kentucky Colleges and Universities, an organization that did more to purify intercollegiate athletics and to standardize the Universities, Colleges and Preparatory Schools of the State than all other agencies combined. As Chairman of the Rhodes Scholarship Committee for Kentucky you served practically from its very foundation until you resigned and left the State.

Your fame as a scholar and your influence as an educator extend far beyond the bounds of your native State and are duly attested by the fact that you were granted the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws by Howard University, Alabama, in 1905. As a member of the Filson Club, the American Historical Association and the American Economic Association you are adding further proof of your deep interest and broad

scholarship in your chosen field.

Reposing special trust and confidence in your integrity and ability, President Wilson selected you as Governor of Porto Rico in 1918. He chose both wisely and well. You are far more than a Governor in the ordinary sense of the word. You are the sincere friend, the sympathetic helper, and the wise counsellor of all people of all classes. No Governor that Porto Rico has ever had during the 400 years of her history has shown the deep personal interest and helpful attitude manifested by you in the numerous and complex social, economic, educational, and political problems that confront the people of Porto Rico. It may truly be said that you are the people's Governor.

From the very beginning of your administration, you have been the devout champion of a larger measure of self-government for and by the people. Whereas, any great and far-reaching result is not brought about by one person or one agency but rather by several; and without detracting one jot or tittle from the credit and glory so justly due those other distinguished statesmen and patriots who labored long and hard to bring about the passage of a new Organic Act for Porto Rico, in justice to the truth let it be proclaimed here and now that the Jones Act would not have been passed by Congress, had it not been for your constant personal efforts, for your unbounded faith in the justice of the cause you were defending, for your assiduous and unselfish labor, and for your direct intervention with President Wilson to secure his personal influence and interest in favor of the bill. This is the most conspicuous

service rendered by any Governor in behalf of the rights and ^{welfare} liberties of the People of Porto Rico.

The time is particularly opportune and it is eminently fitting that due recognition should be made not only of your lofty personal deserts, but more especially of your distinguished service in behalf of a long suffering people, as a humble expression of their deep affection and profound gratitude.

Therefore, on the recommendation of the Faculty of the College of Law and in the name of the Board of Trustees of the University of Porto Rico, duly authorized by the Legislative Assembly of Porto Rico, I have the special privilege of conferring upon you the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws; in testimony of which I hand you this diploma with the fond hope that you accept this tribute from a young but ambitious institution. By conferring upon you this honorary degree, the University of Porto Rico honors ^{itself} ~~itself~~. May God preserve you.-

GOVERNMENT OF PORTO RICO
INSULAR POLICEP.F.
Distrito de Juana Diaz, February 3 de 1916.PERSONAL

My dear Governor:-

To inform you regarding the past rioting in Juana Diaz on the first day of this month and give you such information which will give you an idea of the situation, past and present.

About fifteen days ago, the District of Juana Diaz, Ponce and Yauco, commenced a peaceful strike with the usual speech making, parades and demonstrations. A few small fires occurred in this District and several peons who did not care to join the strikers were beaten assaulted and threatened by strikers. About twenty arrests were made between the fifteenth of last month and the first of this month, but nevertheless, considerable excitement and interference continued towards peons who continued to work.

On the 30th of last month, a foreman of the Colonia "Ponceña" was assaulted and seriously wounded by a strike agitator, he was arrested and was released on One Thousand dollar bail. On the same day or about that time the Management of the Guanica-Fortuna interests, brought from Tallaboa, 25 working men (cane cutters) to work in their Cristina state, Juana Diaz. This movement created

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among the strikers, immediate excitement and from their actions, speech making and demonstrations, it was evident that they intended to concentrate all their efforts to the point that these peaceful labors would not be permitted to enter into their district and assist in breaking the strike. On the 31st, about 6 P.M., the Alcalde of Juana Diaz called on District Chief of Police Sierra and informed him that he was asked by a committee of strikers to interview him, to tell the district Chief that the people were considerable excited about the working men brought from the other districts and to see in which way he could avoid a conflict as the strikers were going to take them away. Owing to these informations and others received through various sources, District Chief of Police Sierra left on the morning of the first, about 3 A.M., accompanied by four policemen, armed with police riot guns, with shells loaded with nine bucketshots each shell. At about twenty minutes to seven, he was called to the telephone at the Critina State and was notified by Corporal Quijano that he and two policemen had been attacked, that the two police officers were wounded and that he and the policemen had fired at the people but that they still continued in a threatening manner, in large numbers and throwing stones. He requested that presence of the District Chief at the City as soon as possible.

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The District Chief and four policemen immediately started afoot for the City and arrived there in darkness and on Calle Comercio, met near the Plaza, Coporal Quijano and the police officers. He immediately instructed the Corporal to disperse a group of about 100 men who were in front of the Plaza and they refuse to obey the orders of the Corporal. The police then directed their attention to a second group composed of about 500 men who were by this time threatening and insulting the police. This second group was ordered to disperse, they replied in vile language and showed a threatening attitude, throwing stones at the police in large number. Shots were fired from the Italian Hotel and from the direction of the Presbityrian Church. The first group by this time started to attack the police throwing also stones at them. District Chief Sierra immediately extended his officers in skirmish formation with instructions that when he commanded them to fire, the police would fire in the air, over the heads of the people and at the second command of fire they would fire into the crowd. After the police executed the first command of fire, District Chief Sierra received a blow with a stone in his abdomen and was knock down, then he gave the second order to fire and he himself fired at the people. Whiele he was firing, he was struck by a striker.

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with a stone in his left temple. There were eight shots fired from the shot guns, four over the heads and four into the crowd.

The crowd immediately after the second command of fire was executed, dispersed and went to their homes and the police found one dead, Jesus Vega Hernandez, a striker. Three or four others were discovered to be wounded and taken by the police to the Municipal Hospital. A total of seventeen wounded were received at the hospital, and one of them is expected to die, the others of which two are women are but slightly wounded and will recover.

Going back to the first incident which caused the first riot, occurred, and caused the entire disturbance when Corporal Quijano accompanied by police officers Florencio Rodriguez and Domingo Lugo arrested a drunken striker by the name of Juan Vega, who resisted arrest. The Corporal and the officers started with him to jail and at the entrance of the Municipal Jail they were stoned and threatened by three or four hundred people. The Marshal of the Municipal Court, Ramon Cintron came to their assistance and he was injured with a stone. Shots were fired at this moment from the Plaza. One police officer, Florencio Rodriguez, was struck by with a stone and knock down, then the Corporal and the police officers

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drew their revolvers and fired into the mob but found no results in their firing. He immediately left to the Cuartel and telephoned District Chief Sierra who was at the state Cristina and then return, with revolver in hand to the main street to meet the District Chief.

Upon receipt of a telephone message from District Chief Sierra, I immediately left about nine o'clock for Juana Diaz and upon my arrival at that point I found that Fiscal Torres Grau had held a preliminary investigation assisted by the Municipal Judge and the detectives and police from Ponce. As per telegram to you, Torres Grau found sufficient evidence and facts which left no doubt in his mind that the police had been provoked in such a threatening manner that the excited people had brought on a serious state of affairs which made it necessary to use energetic and strenuous measures. About 25 arrests were made and charged of riot before the District Court of Ponce. From further evidence taken from responsible persons, it is evident that this disturbance was premeditated. The lawyer for the Federation of Labor, Mr. Tolmes, telephoned Torres Grau at 1 P.M. and asked him if he had heard about the riot in Juana Diaz, he again telephoned Torres Grau about half past six P.M. that same evening before the riot had occurred and

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again asked him if he had heard about the riot, then Fiscal Torres Grau asked him what he meant and what he expected. A half an hour later Fiscal Torres Grau received word of a riot in Juana Diaz.

Mr. Honore, Assistant Chief of the Bureau of Labor, notified District Chief Silen, NOON of the day of riot, that there was going to be trouble at Juana Diaz and personally told me so, which statement was taken under oath, before the Municipal Judge of Juana Diaz, the day after the riot. He said that he expected this, that he knew that the people was excited.

Today I have examined many witnesses, citizens of Juana Diaz, they one and all condemm the action of the police, they claimed it was uncalled for, unnecessary and brutal, that innocent people was shot without cause, without reason, that they heard no shots fired by the people, threw no rocks and that no more than 100 persons in any group was gathered. They also admitted that District Chief Sierra and the police who have served in Juana Diaz for the past five or six month, are extremely sober, orderly, very peaceful, not aggressive police officers and can give no reason for the attack upon the people. They do admit that there is a strike, that there is speach making and also at times exciments also six or

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seven witnesses testified to rocks being thrown and to the disorderly and aggressive actions of the people.

The people are antagonist against the police, as you know they always have been and always will be, and I wish to state that the person who is held responsible for the maintenance of Law and Order of this town, is the District Chief. He was absolutely in command and have served many years with a clean record in this Department. He served two years and a half with credit in Vieques, and I do not hesitate to say that when he arrived upon the scene of the riot, he found conditions as described. Himself and officers were assaulted with rocks and shots. Six or seven hundreds of persons in different groups; upon him and his judgement rested the action to be taken. Police are not shooting innocent people, they have never done so in Porto Rico during my command. It is beyond human belief that they would have shoot into groups of innocent and harmless people who in no way or manner were threatening, therefore from the affidavits and statements under oath of the District Chief and his eight officers it is logical and natural for me to believe that the Chief did his duty as he believed it should have been done in this serious moment.

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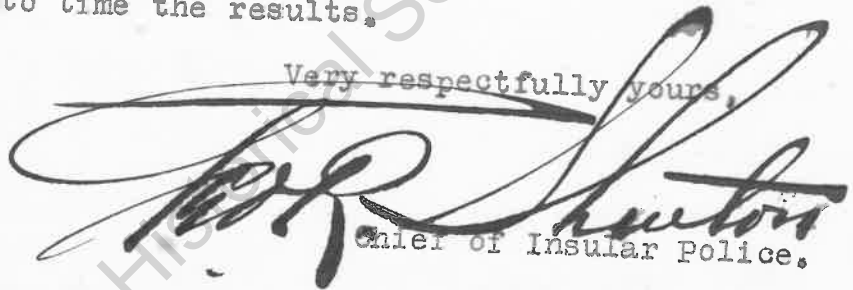
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I will continue my investigation and remain in this neighborhood indefinitely as naturally you may presume there is considerable under current of dissatisfaction and unrest.

I will terminate this letter as the police have been called to a cane fire and will let you know from time to time the results.

Very respectfully yours,



Chief of Insular Police.

Hon. Arthur Yager,
Governor of Porto Rico,
San Juan P.R.

frs.

My dear Governor.

I have your this letter and its many mistakes a 38¢ pol is all I have to work the elements. But you can make it out no doubt I will see you and see you Sunday on the 10th of Nov. @P.

SAN JUAN, PORTO RICO, U.S.A., August 17-- That the Commission to investigate labor and economic conditions in Porto Rico, which will be appointed by President Wilson, will not in any way make an investigation of Governor Yager and his administration is learned here on good authority and it is said that this decision was reached by Secretary of War Baker.

When Samuel Compere, president of the American Federation of Labor, some weeks ago presented to President Wilson charges against the Governor as made by Senator Santiago Iglesias, representative of the American Federation of Labor in Porto Rico, newspapers published the statement that Mr. Compere had demanded Governor Yager's removal because of his alleged unfriendly attitude toward island labor.

If such a demand were ever made there has been no indication here that it was ever given serious consideration by either President Wilson or Secretary Baker, for the Governor has never been officially advised that any charges had been preferred against him and in fact has been advised through the Bureau of Insular Affairs of the War Department that the charges were not considered of sufficient importance to forward him a copy.

Nevertheless, labor representatives in the island are still working against the Governor and during the absence in the United States of Santiago Iglesias the work here is being conducted by Prudencio Rivera Martínez, president of the Cigarmakers Union, and in charge of Federación Libre headquarters during the absence of Iglesias. Yesterday Rivera said that everything possible was being done to have Governor Yager removed from Porto Rico.

As a part of the campaign against Governor Yager which the labor unions of the island are conducting there was recently sent to a large number of newspapers in the United States a new story under San Juan date which carried this heading, "One Million Porto Ricans ask President Wilson to Select a Good Governor; They say Conditions are Unbearable." The story proper then goes on to say:

San Juan, P.R., August. --Thousands of Porto Ricans all over the island are holding meetings and signing petitions requesting President Wilson to select Governor of Arizona, the Hon. Geo. W. P. Hunt, as Governor of Porto Rico.

The trade unionists and fraternal societies are taking active part in the campaign. It has been stated here that the labor unions of the states and President Gompers of the American Federation of Labor will favor the stand

taken by the Porto Ricans. The unfortunate workers of the Island complain that local authorities have denied them every right guaranteed under the Porto Rico Organic Act, and that strikes have been suppressed; strikers being cuffed and jailed when they suspended work to enforce a living wage. Thousand of these workers employed in raising and manufacturing sugar are being paid wage of 65 cents for ten hours work. The women get an average of 45 cents and the children 30 cents per day.

The workers of the Island and the people in general are very pleased with the news received from Washington regarding the appointment of a Commission by President Wilson to investigate the deplorable economic and industrial conditions that prevail down here. The people of Porto Rico want a fundamental change in the public affairs of the country.

As a COLONY, Porto Rico is a factory worked out by industrial serfs. The 70% of the wealth created by the Porto Ricans workers is going out of the country to absentee profiteers.

In accordance with the Organic Act approved recently by Congress the Porto Ricans are declared citizens of the United States, but a more recent decision of the United

States Supreme Court ruled that the Constitution of the Nation does not apply to the people of Porto Rico; notwithstanding more than 120,000 islanders have been drafted and more than fourteen thousand are now in active military service. There are 300,000 children of school age who can but read or write and have no school accommodations, and it is claimed that the number is increasing because of low wage standards.

The boasted prosperity of Porto Rico proclaimed officially by the sugar and tobacco trusts and allied interests, is shown to be a prosperity for the few.

No one can describe the pitiable conditions of these poor people, while it is generally conceded that this year was the banner year for the employers. No doubt some of them will clear more than 65%, still they could not afford to increase the wage of the men who created their wealth.

The petition to President Wilson reads as follows:

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

We, the undersigned, citizens of the island of Porto Rico have abiding faith in your declarations of democracy, especially wherein you have declared that it "can be realized only by the determination of what the thinking

peoples of the world desire, with their longing for justice and for social freedom and for opportunity."

"Social Freedom and industrial opportunity are today non-existent for the mass of the people of Porto Rico as has been plainly set forth by General McIntyre, Chief of the Bureau of Insular Affairs, in these words:

"The unfortunate conditions of the agricultural workers in Porto Rico and of the much more numerous and more unfortunate agricultural people in Porto Rico, who can not work because the work is not there for them, have been officially set forth in the reports of Governors of Porto Rico, in the hearings before Congress, since the report of the first Military Governor on American occupation of Porto Rico. The facts which would be developed by an inquiry would show conditions much worse than they are painted by Mr. Iglesias, for the reason that Mr. Iglesias' present interest is in the sugar workers, who even at the low wage they are receiving are of the relative fortunate class in Porto Rico.

These things being so, and the appointment of a governor for the Island of Porto Rico by you being called for by the Organic Act of Porto Rico sometime during the year

1918, we do most respectfully petition you to appoint to the said office of governor the Hon. Geo. W. P. Hunt, now Governor of the State of Arizona, whose reputation officially and unofficially for fair sympathetic relations with the Spanish-speaking peoples of his state, and the English-speaking workers as well, is of the highest.

It is our conviction that the critical conditions of affairs in the Island of Porto Rico calls for the appointment by you of a man who has already made a public record of his friendly, fair and just dealings with the working people and the people in general in their longing for justice and for social freedom and for opportunity in the State of Arizona.

The situation in Porto Rico is being used to the discredit of our Republic in Spanish-speaking countries. The story of injustice in Porto Rico has already been carried to the Spanish speaking people of North and South America, and even to Europe.

The United States Government, which is now in a war against the principles of autocracy and denial of human rights, can not longer remain responsible for a condition

in territory over which it has jurisdiction, which is totally at variance with the ideals and institutions for which our government and our nation have declared."

When asked about this story Rivera Martinez said that so far approximately 8,000 signatures had been obtained to petitions which are now being circulated. He estimated that 50,000 signatures will be obtained within a few weeks. He said that it was not the intention to circulate the petitions among workers only but that fraternal and other organizations would be asked to take the matter up. He said members of the legislature and others had signed the petition. He said further that Gov. Hunt, of Arizona, was considered as a desirable man for the governor of Porto Rico because of his known attitude toward labor.

Despite the activity of the organized labor element here to have Governor Yager removed there is no indication whatever that officials at Washington have taken at all seriously any of the charges made against the Governor. On the other hand there is every reason to believe that the administration of Governor Yager has met with the approval of his superiors at Washington ^{and} that it is not considered at Washington that there is anything connected with the Gov-

ernor's administration that is not commendable.

Ever since Governor Yager first came to Porto Rico there has been a widening breach between himself and Santiago Iglesias, the island's labor leader, caused originally, it is generally believed here, by the failure of the Governor to show Iglesias any special consideration. Locally and in the United States proper the attacks of Iglesias on the Governor have been more and more bitter until he finally took the matter to President Wilson through Samuel Gompers.

Governor Yager and Iglesias agree on one thing, that laboring conditions in the island are deplorable. Iglesias puts all the blame on the Governor, while Governor Yager asserts that the causes for present conditions are a century old and cannot be remedied overnight. The Governor himself, early in his administration, called attention to the unfavorable economic conditions here when he spoke exhaustively on the subject at the Lake Mohonk Conference in 1915.

In talking of general labor conditions in Porto Rico with the correspondent of the Christian Science Monitor on Thursday, Governor Yager said:-

"Labor conditions in Porto Rico are undoubtedly

bad, and when compared with continental United States they appear to be very distressing. Wages are relatively low and housing conditions are shocking. But the standards of life, character, intelligence and morality of the laborers are also low, and all these conditions have existed in Porto Rico for more than a century. They were inherited by the American administration from the Spanish regime and they cannot be remedied by any short or ordinary processes. The fundamental causes of these conditions were discussed by me in an address at Lake Mohonk in October, 1915, and in brief the fundamental cause lies in the enormous population of the island, more than 550 to the square mile, and in the fact that there are practically no manufacturing industries for the steady employment of the surplus labor.

There has been rapid improvement since the American occupation has been hindered by the continued natural increase of the population which has been even more rapid and continuous since the American occupation than before.

However, since 1915, these conditions have markedly improved. While still far from ideal there has been a notable change in the past two years owing to the natural results of the great war. Wages have undoubtedly increased and there is far less unemployment in the dull season than

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"However, since 1915, these conditions have markedly improved. While still far from ideal there has been a notable change in the past two years owing to the natural results of the great war. Wages have undoubtedly increased and there is far less unemployment in the dull season than

heretofore. Those who deny this improvement are simply suffering from wilful blindness due to prejudice or political ambitions. Improvements have been due chiefly to these causes:-

"First, increased emigration of laborers from Porto Rico, especially to the neighboring island of Santo Domingo, where the intervention of the American government has made possible the development of industry. There has also been increased emigration to the United States, Cuba, Venezuela and Haiti.

"Second. Increase of opportunities for employment due to the expansion of industry of the island, especially sugar and tobacco caused by the great war. For instance, the exportation of sugar increased 40 per cent in quantity and doubled in value in the two years 1915 to 1917. Moreover there has been a large increase in food production caused by the necessities of the war and the propaganda of the Food Commission. All of this development has been reflected in the labor situation.

"Most important of all, however, have been the military operations of the Federal government. The Porto Rican regiment was completed and raised to war strength in 1916-17, and the recruiting of these men took 1,400 able-bodied work-

ers from the fields and the towns. The formation of the three officers training camps and the calling of the first quota of the National Army have removed more than 15,000 more. The calling of the second quota, ordered for September, will remove 15,000 more young men from ordinary employment.

"It is clear that all of these influences combined operating in a small island must have had some effect upon labor conditions, and it is equally clear to an impartial observer that the effect has actually been produced and labor conditions have been changed for the better.

"Along with these causes of improvement have constantly gone the efforts of the insular government through its various departments for the social uplift and betterment of the masses. The reach of the schools is wider and stronger, and their work more wisely directed toward practical ends than ever before. Especially is this true of the educational work in the rural communities. The department of health is constantly widening its facilities for guarding the health of all the people and the new department of agriculture and labor is perfecting its organization for the development of agriculture and assistance to the laborers. Labor legislation notably the workmen's compensation act and laws for the

protection of the women and children engaged as workers, have been passed and in many other ways the government of the island has sought to improve the condition of the laborers and the general welfare of the people. The work of the Food Commission to increase local food production has had happy and permanent results from which labor has benefited.

"There is still an abundance of labor in Porto Rico and this is the controlling factor in the whole situation, but there is not such a superabundance as there was two years ago and after the second draft there will probably be still further improvement.

"There is one other matter pertinent to the labor situation that is hopeful. For the past three years there has been a continuous decline in the rate of natural increase of population. This decline in rate of increase has continued now for three years and the rate of annual increase has fallen from 2% in 1915 to less than 1 1/3% in 1918.

"It is unfortunate that among the ameliorating agencies for the laboring masses as a whole it is not possible to give a prominent place to the Free Federation of Labor. This organization does not represent the agricultural laborers at all and as at present organized it is in reality a political

party and seeks political rather than social ends. I have suggested the organisation of local unions with committees to discuss with their employers, matters of dispute as they arise. The chief difficulty in this as in every other scheme of practical betterment lies in the utter illiteracy, ignorance and helplessness of the agricultural laborers, and this is a condition that will require time to remedy."

name.

EMILIO DEL TORO, associate justice of the supreme court of Porto Rico, who is a visitor in Salt Lake.



PORTO RICO'S FUTURE SECURE, SAYS JUDGE

**Emilio del Toro, Associate
Justice of Supreme Court,
Discusses Conditions.**

Supreme confidence in the future of Porto Rico is expressed by Emilio del Toro, associate justice of the supreme court of Porto Rico, who is here to attend the conference of commissioners on uniform state laws and the sessions of the American Bar association. Justice del Toro is a commissioner from Porto Rico to the conference on uniformity and he is a member of the American Bar association.

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In the opinion of Justice del Toro the future of Porto Rico is inseparably linked with the destinies of the United States. He is not among the Porto Ricans who believe that the island should be an independent republic. His fond hope is to see Porto Rico one of the sovereign states of the American union. This view, he says, is shared by many serious-minded Porto Ricans.

Justice del Toro is a native Porto Rican. He is one of the youngest jurists under the American flag. He was appointed to the supreme bench six years ago, when he was only 33 years old. He studied law at the University of Havana, Cuba, and was admitted to the bar in 1897 and soon afterwards became assistant prosecuting attorney of Huanmacao court and afterwards of San Juan. In 1901 he was appointed fiscal of the supreme court of the island, a position which he occupied until 1904, when he was appointed judge of the San Juan district court by the governor of Porto Rico. In 1909 he was elevated by President Taft to a vacancy on the supreme bench of Porto Rico. This position is for life.

Interested in Schools.

The justice is active in the educational field. He takes a strong personal interest in the public school system and is vice president of the board of trustees of the University of Porto Rico. He is also widely known as a poet and an author.

When seen at Hotel Utah yesterday Justice del Toro said:

"I have just written to my mother telling her how enchanted I am with your beautiful city. I have been marveling at its wonderful growth. I have told my mother that this city stands as a great monument to the mind of the man who conceived the building of a city in the midst of these beautiful mountains."

The justice spoke of his native island with every evidence of his devotion to it. He spoke entertainingly of its growth and development and of its people. He said:

Describes Government.

As you well know, Porto Rico passed from the sovereignty of Spain to the rule of the American government as a consequence of the war between the United States and Spain in 1898. In the beginning of the American rule this island, which is the farthest east of the Great Antilles group, was under a military government. Afterward congress, in 1900, enacted a law organizing a civil government for the island, which law, with some amendments, is the law now in force and is known as the Foraker act. The governor of the island is appointed by the president of the United States, as are also the heads of the different executive departments.

The Porto Rican legislature is composed of a house of delegates of thirty-five members, elected by the people every two years, and of the executive council or senate, appointed by the president of the United States. The judiciary of the island is composed of the supreme court, of which there are five justices; eight district courts and more than twenty-five municipal courts. The justices of the supreme court are appointed by the president of the United States. The judges and prosecuting attorneys of the district courts are appointed by the governor of the island. The judges of the municipal courts are elected by the people. The people also elect the clerks and marshals of the district and municipal courts. There is also a federal court in the island.

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The procedure in the insular courts is in Spanish, that in the federal court in English. The decisions of the su-

preme court of Porto Rico are published both in English and in Spanish. We now have twenty-two volumes of our supreme court reports, which are doubtless to be found in your state law library.

Two of the justices of the Porto Rican supreme court, Messrs. Wolf and Hutchinson, are natives of this continent and the other three, Messrs. Hernandez, Aldey and myself, are natives of the island. Our relations as justices of the supreme court have always been most pleasant and we are all working together harmoniously in the solution of the difficult judicial problems of our island. Our principal problem consists in harmonizing laws of different origin. We preserve from Spain the civil code, the mortgage law, the law of waters and other statutes. We have adopted from the United States the code of civil procedure, the penal code and the code of criminal procedure. All of the laws of Porto Rico are codified. We have no common law. In this respect, perhaps, we have an advantage over the courts on this continent.

Good School System.

Porto Rico has an area of 1080 square miles and a population of 1,200,000. Two-thirds of the population is white, practically all of Spanish origin, and one-third of the population is composed of negroes. The people of Porto Rico are by nature law-abiding and peace-loving. We have never had a revolution. Before the American occupation many Porto Ricans served in the army of Spain and many others in the army of the Cuban revolution, but Porto Rico itself has never had a war.

The problem in which I am most interested in my island is that of the general education of the people. Under the American sovereignty we have accomplished much in this respect. We are justly proud of our public schools. If, on any occasion, you should go to Porto Rico, you will observe in every part of the island along our good roads little well-built houses, each flying the American flag. These are our rural schools. We also have grammar schools in the towns and various high schools throughout the island. We have a large university, which is supported both by the federal and the insular government. This university, in the near future, will be a great pan-American institution.

Business Is Improving.

The business of the island just prior to the beginning of the great war in Europe was dull, owing to the great reduction in the price of sugar, our principal product, which had suffered a great deal with the passage of the new tariff act. However, the war has furnished us a good market for our sugar at advanced prices and business is very much improved. As the sugar industry is our principal business we had felt immediately the influence of the tariff legislation. We also export a great deal of coffee, tobacco and citrus fruits. Our grapefruit, having a delicious flavor, is much in demand in the New York market.

While I have not the exact data in my possession, I can say that during the last fiscal year the volume of business, export and import, was

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While I have not the exact data in my possession, I can say that during the last fiscal year the volume of business, export and import, was more than \$80,000,000, with the margin in favor of exportation.

Porto Rico is a growing country. Our island is not a place for making millions, but is an ideal place for building a happy home and obtaining enough for a comfortable life.

Political Contentions.

In regard to the general sentiment of the people, with reference to the American rule, I can say that the whole island received the American army seventeen years ago as an army of liberators. Afterward came some disappointment. The two elements, American and Porto Rican, on many occasions have not been able to understand each other. The diversity of language and customs, perhaps, have had some influence. In my opinion, both elements have been responsible for this condition. Many Americans who have gone to Porto Rico have not been able to realize the grandeur of the mission of the United States in the land. Many Porto Ricans wish to instill into the whole people of the island the desire for the elimination of American control. However, I can assure that every day more Porto Ricans and more Americans are coming to an exact realization of their duty in this situation.

Porto Rico, under the protection of the United States, has a great and noble future. I have an abiding faith in the mission of this great nation in Porto Rico. In the island we are accomplishing a real pacific revolution. We are forming there the basis of a true democracy. We are injecting into the social body of a people of Latin origin the spirit of the free institutions of the Anglo-Saxon race. The fruits we are now reaping are proof of greater success in the future.

Learn Two Languages.

The children of our schools know Spanish as well as English. They know the history of the United States. The study of the lives of the great American leaders is a great inspiration in the formation of their characters. Above all other Americans, Abraham Lincoln is the character that impresses most deeply the minds of the Porto Ricans. We have in Porto Rico two great political parties, the Republican and the Unionist. The aspiration of the Republican party is to have all Porto Ricans declared to be American citizens, to form the island not only an organized territory, but an incorporated one, with statehood as the ultimate aim. The aspiration of the Unionist party is to obtain immediately for the island a greater measure of self-government and ultimately the absolute independence of the island. At present the Unionists have nineteen members in the lower house of the Porto Rican legislature and the Republicans sixteen.

The governor of our island is Dr. Arthur Jager of Kentucky, a classmate of President Wilson. He has taken a great interest in the economic and educational problems of the island and he has shown a sincere love for our people, a sentiment that is reciprocated by all Porto Ricans, irrespective of political affiliations.

C O P Y

San Juan, Porto Rico.
February 21, 1916.

To the Honorable
The Committee on Insular Affairs,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

I have read the communication addressed to you under date of February 7, by the San Juan Clearing House Association, and inasmuch as there seems to be some difference as to the facts between their statements and those of the Governor, it seems to me proper to make a brief reply.

In the first place I desire to state that in making the remarks complained of my only motive was to set forth to the Committee conditions in Porto Rico-- to show that Porto Rico was not a rich country, that capital was scarce in the island, that the rates of interest were relatively high and that even such capital as was there, was mostly foreign to the island-- at least as far as the banking business was concerned. At the moment these remarks were made the Governor did not

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even intend them as a criticism of the banks, but simply to explain conditions in Porto Rico. Everybody, I think, well understands that the banks of a country are not solely and entirely responsible for the high rates of interest that may exist there, for the rates of interest are fixed primarily by ^{the} law of supply and demand of loanable capital, and every one will also admit that it is better for a country to have foreign capital than none at all.

The associated bankers, however, seem to have taken these remarks as a criticism of their methods and in their protest, copies of which I understand have been sent to each of you, they attempt to deny and disprove the statements made by the Governor as to three specific points as follows:-

- (1) That nearly all the banks in Porto Rico are foreign banks.
- (2) That there are no usury laws.
- (3) That the rate of interest for short time loans charged those who really need the money and therefore have not the most perfect forms of security to offer is probably some 15 or 20 per cent, and possibly in some instances more than that.

I shall take up for brief discussion these matters in the above order.

First as to the statement that most of the banks in Porto Rico are foreign. The banks of the San Juan Clearing House Association, referring to their report to the Treasurer of Porto Rico as published in the Annual Report of the Governor, state that "there are twelve officially recognized banking institutions in the Island, and of this total number one is an American banking institution with total loans of \$1,425,957 and two are Canadian with total loans of \$2,260,001 while all the balance of the banks in the Island are local banks, owned and controlled by local capital their total loans amounting to \$4,751,605." This sentence seems to state unequivocally, both as to number and as to the amount of business, that the majority of the banks are not foreign and that the Governor's statement to the contrary was erroneous; and yet, when the facts are carefully examined, it can be shown that the Governor's statement was correct, and inasmuch as the bankers must have known these facts their statement seems inexplicable.

Of the nine banks referred to above as local banks one is in liquidation, and at the time of their

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last report was practically without either deposits or loans and almost all of its assets had been turned into cash and placed in other banks. Therefore it was not an actual bank.

In this list there were also four small savings banks situated in small towns and having an aggregate capital, all four of them, of \$120,000. Of course they do not and cannot engage in any commercial business of importance, and therefore for the purpose of this discussion should not be considered.

This leaves only four of the nine counted as local. Of these four, one is practically a branch of one of the foreign banks, which owns thirty-six (36) per cent of its capital stock, and this foreign bank in its own name and through its officers and directors owns a sufficient amount of the capital stock to assure the control of the so-called local bank. Moreover, more than half of the capital stock of this so-called local bank is owned by nonresidents. In no sense then, it seems to me, can this bank be properly called a local bank when it is both owned and controlled by foreigners.

The same condition is practically true of one of the other so-called local banks. A majority of its

stock is owned by nonresidents, and two-thirds of its directors are foreigners who are at present residing in Porto Rico.

Making, therefore, these proper deductions and corrections, we find that there are here in Porto Rico in all only seven active banks engaged in the business of commercial banking. Of this "total number" five are foreign and only two can be considered local "owned and controlled by local capital."

Comparing the foreign and local banks as to their importance and the amount of business, we get the following results:-

	<u>Total Deposits</u>	<u>Loans</u>
FOREIGN BANKS -	\$ 8,589,036	\$ 5,722,618
LOCAL BANKS -	2,303,186	2,404,517

All these banks of course have large capital and surplus of their own which should enable them to loan an amount practically equal to their total deposits, using their capital and surplus as a reserve. It will be noticed that the local banks are doing so, but the sum total of the loans of the foreign banks is only sixty-six (66) per cent of their deposits.

On this point, therefore, it is evident that the real facts bear out the statement made by the

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Governor to your Committee that "nearly all of the banks in Porto Rico are foreign."

(2) As to the second point, namely, whether there are any usury laws in Porto Rico, the Governor overlooked or had forgotten the fact that there is a law against usury on the statute books of the island, providing that no rate of interest shall be fixed by special agreement in excess of twelve (12) per cent.

(3) As to the rates actually charged the more needy borrowers in Porto Rico, the Governor did not state the facts from his own knowledge. He did state that from information he had received he supposed that 15 to 20 per cent was usually charged this class of borrowers. He did not specifically state that the banks charge this high rate; but there are in the island many usurers and private lenders of money, and all these borrowers who have not the best forms of security have to resort to these private parties for accommodation in time of need. I am informed that the rates charged under these circumstances vary from 1-1/2 to 5 per cent a month.

According to their consolidated report for June 30, 1915, the six largest banks in this island, which together do practically all of the commercial

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banking business, reported total deposits of all sorts of \$11,603,246 and total loans of only \$7,898,838, which was 68% of their deposits. They are so conservatively managed that they do not loan in Porto Rico any of their own capital at all and only sixty-eight (68) per cent of their total deposits. It is evident, therefore, that in a country where the banking institutions are as chary of their loans as this would indicate, very many of those who need to borrow would have to resort to the other sources mentioned.

Taking, therefore, the remarks of the Governor before the Committee in a broad and general way, and bearing in mind their main purpose, it is evident that they were and are substantially correct and do set forth actual conditions in Porto Rico.

Respectfully,

(Signed) ARTHUR YAGER

Governor.

P.F.

FACTORY PRODUCTS EXPORT CORPORATION

61 BROADWAY

NEW YORK

CABLE ADDRESS:
"CARDINULUS"

FINANCIAL AGENTS
LONDON
WILLIAM P. BONBRIGHT & Co.
16, GEORGE STREET
MANSION HOUSE, E. C.

September 23rd, 1916.

TELEPHONE
RECTOR 9170

PARIS
BONBRIGHT & Co.
12 RUE HALÉVY
WALKER W. VICK
GENERAL MANAGER

Governor Arthur Yager,
San Juan, Porto Rico.

My dear Governor:-

I had the pleasure of a call this afternoon from your son and was very glad indeed to see him again. I had hoped for the pleasure of seeing you in San Juan shortly but he tells me it is quite probable you will come to the United States within the next two or three weeks.

Our Company has been expanding the scope of its business and it occurred to me we ought to be able to make a very satisfactory connection in both Porto Rico and Santo Domingo and that our purpose would be best served by having me make a personal trip.

I trust everything is well with you and hope when you do come North you will give me the pleasure of having a long talk.

Conditions look anything but encouraging to me and frankly I feel the Campaign is being handled very badly. New Jersey is in a precarious condition as I see it. I have an appointment this afternoon at five thirty with Colonel House and intend to talk with him quite frankly concerning conditions as I see them, although personally, I am in business and cannot

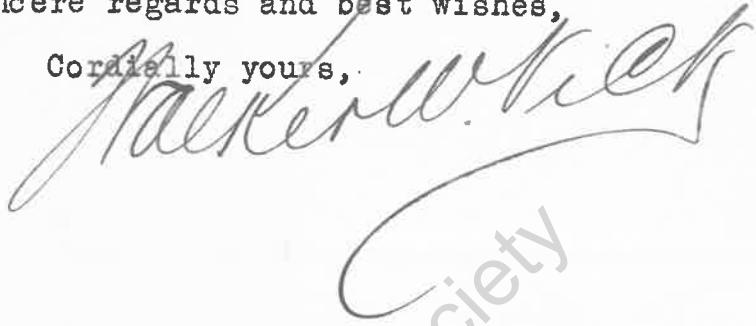
Governor Arthur Yager.

Sept. 23rd, 1916.

afford any further political activities.

With sincere regards and best wishes,

Cordially yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Walter W. Vick". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name of the organization.

The Filson Historical Society

GOVERNMENT HOUSE
PORTO RICO

San Juan, October 25, 1916.

My dear Governor:-

I was very glad to receive your letter of the 16th instant and to know that you have had a pleasant voyage to New York.

You will probably know by this time all the details and circumstances connected with the settlement of the strike of the stevedores and longshoremen. I sent a very extensive report to General McIntyre with the request that he send you a copy of it so that you may be fully informed of all my actions in connection with the strike.

On Sunday morning, after you went away, another strike was declared by the employees of the American Railroad Company, and another one by the motormen and conductors of the Trolley Company. I intervened in both of them and the strike of the American Railroad Company was settled without difficulty, because the company at once submitted a concrete proposition to the strikers, which they readily accepted. The trolley strike, however, became quite serious and difficult of settlement and I had to work hard for several days before I succeeded in effecting a settlement.

The Island is now perfectly quiet, there being only two or three small strikes in private establishments, in which I have not taken any part because they do not in any way affect the public in general. I have left those matters entirely in the hands of the Department of Labor, although I keep my eye on the situation and am ready to intervene if the circumstances should so require.

There is some talk already about a general strike of agricultural laborers to be called at the beginning of the grinding season. I am going to make an effort to get the cane growers together before the grinding season and will try to convince them that it is not only just but convenient to their interests to pay their laborers a reasonable wage, thereby avoiding the strike and the unavoidable damage caused by such an abnormal situation.

The most important news items that I can give you are the serious illness of Mr. Muñoz Rivera and the ^{un}expected return from Spain of Mr. de Diego. Mr. Muñoz is affected with an infection of the liver and has been brought back from Barranquitas to the house of Mr. Giorgetti, where he now is confined to his

bed and with a high fever. Dr. Gutierrez, who was present at a consultation held two or three days ago, stated to me that Mr. Muñoz' condition is rather serious on account of his age and also for the reason that this is the second time that he is thus afflicted.

The leaders of the independence movement cabled Mr. de Diego several days ago requesting him to return to Porto Rico to lead the group of "independen-tistas", who do not seem to be able to get along without the leadership of the Speaker. Two days ago a cablegram was received from him announcing that he will sail from Barcelona for this Island on the 10th of November. It seems that the purpose of these worthy gentlemen is to start a campaign to block, if possible, the passage of the Jones Bill in December.

I have appointed Mr. Daubon for a new term as member of the Board of Pharmacy. The vacancies in the San Juan Harbor Board and the Irrigation Commission will be left uncovered until your return to the Island.

- 4 -

I have instructed Mr. Van Deusen to send you by this mail the official cards to which you refer in your letter.

Please present my respects to Mrs. Yager, Mrs. Lewis and your daughters, and with my best wishes for a pleasant vacation, I remain, as ever,

Very sincerely yours,

Martin Traviess Jr.

Hon. Arthur Yager,
c/o Bureau of Insular Affairs,
War Department,
Washington, D. C.

P.F.

Bristol, Tennessee,
Nov. 17, 1916.

my dear Governor:

I have had the pleasure to receive your letters from Georgetown and Lenoirville. I replied to your letter from Georgetown, and addressed you at the same place.

I have purchased passage on the Caracas scheduled to sail on November 29. I wish very much that we were to sail on the same boat. The Coamo sails on the 25th.

I regret the illness of Mr. Murray very much. I sincerely hope for his recovery. He is the most influential man politically in Porto Rico, and I regard him as a power and influence for good. Many Americans in Porto Rico do not agree with this view, but I have good reasons on which to base my opinion. I observed him carefully several times when the insurgent politicians, led by Florens Torres

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and others, misled Governor Post up, - and my impression was that Mr. Murray kept faith with Governor Post. I am reliably informed, also, that he has become quite American in his thinking and spirit. I fear that his loss would be almost irreparable for a long time unless many of his followers and associates combine with the Republicans.

I enclose clippings from The Independent, The Oregon Journal, and The Outlook, on the result of the elections. The Independent seems to me to have come very close to a correct analysis of the forces and causes of the re-election of President Wilson. The comment of The Oregon Journal is interesting and represents a wave of thought and sentiment in the West that the managers of the Republican party will note and

need if they are wise.

I have followed the elections with some care and with a great deal of interest. I have had an abiding faith that President Wilson would be re-elected. My "fat" got a little cold - about 10 o'clock on election night, but the returns from the West stimulated me and I got back to ^{about} normal during the 8th. I rejoice in the personal triumph of President Wilson and in what that means for a fair and progressive administration of the country's affairs. As I see it, this country has produced wealth creditably and distributed it miserably, and many, if not most, of our social ills are due to that fact. I hope to see a more even balance maintained between human rights and property rights. President Wilson seems to me to understand the nation's needs very fully.

and to fight for them very bravely
and wisely.

I expect to leave here on the 22nd
instant for Asheville, north Carolina,
where I have three or four days'
business to attend to. My address at
Asheville will be in care of Mr. R.
Whitson. I expect to leave Asheville
for New York about the 26th in-
stant.

My vacation has been very
pleasant and very beneficial, but
I am getting a little restless and
feel a desire to get back to work.

I am sorry that you have
taken a cold. Mrs. Keith has the
same trouble, and it is about to
cause her to abandon for all time
all cold climates, even this the
land of her birth. After thirteen
years' residence in the tropics we
see many things in our native
land with new eyes and feel
same things (especially cold weather)

with new senses. I can see that ignorance may be, in some cases and under some conditions, a good thing.

Please make my regards to Mrs. Yager.

Yours sincerely,

E. W. Keith

Honorable Arthur Yager,
Washington, D.C.

The Filson Historical Society

*dependent opens its eyes
truth and the fact.*

The Independent

cism. The people have not been carried off their feet by eloquence. They have not been misled by exaggerated statements as to the evils of the liquor traffic or of the advantages of abstinence. They know what the saloon does, they know what prohibition does, and they prefer the latter. They are shutting down on alcohol as they are shutting down on revolvers and sword canes, on cocaine and opium, on dynamite and fast automobiles. Such things are too risky to be unrestricted. There is a certain exhilaration in the driving of an automobile at fifty miles an hour. No doubt, too, most of those who would indulge in such fast driving are sufficiently level-headed and experienced not to harm themselves or others. But we know that some are not. The liability that those who run at fifty miles an hour thru city streets will some day come to smash is so great that we have prohibited it.

For more than fifty years now the American people have had the opportunity of watching the working of prohibitory legislation. They are well aware of its defects and deficiencies, but they know—in the only way by which we know anything, seeing it tried—that on the whole it works well, and so they want it. For instance, Kansas adopted a prohibitory constitutional amendment in 1890. Seventeen years later her southern neighbor, Oklahoma, followed her example. Colorado on the west and Nebraska on the north were slow to make up their minds, but the former in 1914 and the latter this month decided to adopt the same policy. Missouri on the east has still to be shown, but is already more than half convinced.

Our system of state autonomy affords a means of introducing and trying out such reforms. It has given to political science what has made the physical sciences so sure-footed, the experimental method. Each state is a laboratory, and, after enough of them have tried some new plan and find it a success, then it may properly be extended to the whole nation. The time is fast approaching when prohibition will be ripe for such extension by congressional action.

THE BIG FACT

THE big fact in the election, after all, was the tremendous intellectual superiority of the Wilson candidacy, standing over against the amazing intellectual failure of the Hughes candidacy.

By this statement we mean more than a personal comparison, altho we believe it to be true that Mr. Wilson's majority is a nation-wide recognition of his political ability. This is an interesting and important fact, but an immensely more significant fact has been the intellectual grasping of a situation by one set of men, and the nearly complete failure of another set of men to grasp it, or even to see it.

For more than twenty years the American people has been developing into a democracy better as well as bigger than any democracy on earth hitherto. Not only has political power been distributed thruout a nation of a hundred millions of individuals approximately on a basis of universal manhood suffrage, but also the millions of electors have been thinking and talking about the problems of social justice and of the political ways and means to attain it with an intensity of mental application which, we venture to say, has never been equaled in any other land or in any other century. American

voters by and large are politically self-conscious. They know what they want and they think intently and talk continually of the way or ways to get it. They believe themselves to be politically competent, and they do not propose to surrender their self-governing prerogative to any self-constituted group of superior persons.

To this situation the Democratic party under the leadership of Mr. Wilson has reacted on the whole intelligently, and the Republican party, rent by factional jealousies, has reacted on the whole stupidly. In every American community there are men intellectually alive and not afraid to talk about all manner of questions in a searching and forward-looking spirit. Some of these men are socialists, some of them are progressives, but all of them, in a large and important way, are democrats. They are alien in mind and feeling to all groups and classes that for whatever reason are disposed to obstruct the democratic development of modern society.

In the Republican party are men of exceptional intellectual power, Mr. Elihu Root, for example, but they have signally failed to command a following among the live intellectuals of lesser caliber distributed thruout the nation. Their following has been among lawyers (for the most part conservatives by instinct and training), profit-making manufacturers, and, above all, among those groups which, in every American village, gather day by day about the stock bulletin and whose intellectual operations rarely extend beyond "quotations."

These are blunt truths bluntly stated, but as surely as the sun rises and sets the Republican party has no future in this country until it wakes up to a recognition of them. If its leaders suppose that they can get back into power by handing out again the campaign "bunk" that has pulled them thru in years past, and that they relied on once more this fall, they have further awakenings coming. The big fact in American political life today is the tremendous interest of the American masses in problems that call for something more than a stock broker's comprehension of the earth and its inhabitants.

T. R.

IF Hughes had won he would have been the candidate to succeed himself in 1920. No chance for any other Republican till 1924.

In 1924 the Preëminent Personality will be sixty-six years of age. Four years hence, however, he will be a strenuous youth of sixty-two.

A word to the wise is unnecessary.

WAITE, MASTER OF EFFICIENCY

CITY government is notoriously inefficient government; for ward politics and efficiency will not mix. Other countries—notably Germany and England—long since found out how to make the administration of their cities efficient by sending politics packing. In this country we have begun to learn the lesson by experiments here and there.

In Dayton, Ohio, they have efficient government. For this there are two reasons: they have the right system and they have the right man. The system is the city manager plan, the man is H. M. Waite. For nearly three years he has sat at the focus of Dayton's municipal affairs and the products of his managing are good government, improved living conditions, economy, efficiency.

In other words and as the framers would say, the Republican Party must be reformed, if not reconstituted. Or not

The Filson Historical Society

gressive leadership, it is the real victory in the election.

For the first time in history, the west has voted for the west.

The police report that small boys looted an east side grocery store's stock of grape juice. They evidently are disciples of preparedness.

NON EST MORTUUS

APENSIVE quiet reigns at Oyster Bay. The colonel hasn't anything to say. So, with melancholy tears in his eyes, he told a reporter who proffered him space to vent his woe. But the colonel's woe is not ventable. It heaves and surges in the cavernous depths of his heroic breast but it will not forth.

The colonel is silent. His tongue rests from its labors. His wings are furled. Like Emerson's sphinx, he broods on a disobedient and ungrateful world. Lines of unutterable grief are graven on his mighty brow. The eruption is over. The bellowing thunder is hushed. The world rocking explosions have died away. The streams of lava, crusted and dormant, lie chill. The whilom flaming crater is frozen over. Gray ashes sleep deathlike upon the scene.

But the colonel is only transiently extinct. In some bright future he will erupt again. Beneath the sunny vineyards on the slopes of Vesuvius smolder the eternal fires and on a day when the husbandman thinks not, they burst forth anew. Under flower bedecked Aetna the giant stirs in his sleep and the earth shakes to his straining muscles. The colonel is not dead. He only sleeps. In due time we shall be cheered and refreshed as of yore by the music of his plaintive bellow.

SET FREE

ONE of the biggest things in the election returns is the west's declaration of its freedom from control by the north-eastern states of America.

The single state of New York has settled too many presidential elections. It has been too much of a factor in governing the United States.

It is not good for 100,000,000 people to be so much ruled by the power of a single state. New York, indeed, is not a good kind of state to be the dominant power in American national policies. If one state is to lead the nation, it were better for that leadership to be exercised by a state more typical of all America.

New York has Tammany. And it has the Barnes-Perkins-Morgan crowd. Tammany's fangs as to national policies were shown this year in the diminished vote in New York city for President Wilson. The kind of politics wanted by the Barnes crowd has been a thousand times manifest in national politics.

Common sense would dictate that New York as a principality of mammon and rotten politics, should not be the guiding power in American political life. The dominating forces in that state and most of the states grouped around it have nothing in common with the agricultural and producing population of the great west. It is no fit source from which to draw the inspiration for governing the nation on lines of broad and equitable division of the fruits of human labor.

Not until last Tuesday was New York deprived of her power to name the president. A hundred million people have been compelled for generations to fix policies on a basis of how New York would go in the election. Inspired mainly by a desire to win, the political parties prostrated themselves before this all-powerful principality. Legislation and administration were too often dictated by how New York would figure in the election returns. How could it be otherwise than that New York would govern the country at large, and govern it almost exclusively in the interest and for the benefit of New York and neighboring states with common pur-

America.

New York has Tammany. And it has the Barnes-Perkins-Morgan crowd. Tammany's fangs as to national policies were shown this year in the diminished vote in New York city for President Wilson. The kind of politics wanted by the Barnes crowd has been a thousand times manifest in national politics.

Common sense would dictate that New York as a principality of mammon and rotten politics, should not be the guiding power in American political life. The dominating forces in that state and most of the states grouped around it have nothing in common with the agricultural and producing population of the great west. It is no fit source from which to draw the inspiration for governing the nation on lines of broad and equitable division of the fruits of human labor.

Not until last Tuesday was New York deprived of her power to name the president. A hundred million people have been compelled for generations to fix policies on a basis of how New York would go in the election. Inspired mainly by a desire to win, the political parties prostrated themselves before this all-powerful principality. Legislation and administration were too often dictated by how New York would figure in the election returns. How could it be otherwise than that New York would govern the country at large, and govern it almost exclusively in the interest and for the benefit of New York and neighboring states with common purposes.

The main thing in New York is what we refer to as Wall street. In that vast financial district is the headquarters of the magnates of money. How completely, through New York's power in elections, they have governed America we know from the fact that most of the fruits of productive work have for generations been flowing from every part of America into the small group of states of which New York is the overlord. There, with their associates in Chicago, are centered the richest group of money magnates in the world. They are so rich they cannot even spend their incomes. They are so powerful that all the rest of America is sending them tribute in golden streams.

A nation ought to be ruled by its whole people, not by a single powerful state, not even by a group of powerful states. It was impossible to throw off this tyranny until last Tuesday. Blind partisanship and the lack of a leader who could see something in America outside of New York in the election returns, prevented.

But the western farmers have declared their freedom. Beginning with agricultural Ohio, the tide of revolution surged throughout the great wide west. Eastern Oregon with its overturning of majorities is typical of the upheaval. Aided by workers and producers who feed, clothe and enrich the New York ring of states, the farmers voted for political freedom Tuesday as they shot for human freedom in 1776.

The upheaval is so remarkable that it will exercise a tremendous influence on American political thought. It will change the course of American political history. It is the star of destiny shining in the political sky.

It is the genius of progressivism working for the emancipation of the west and south from the generation old rulership of 100,000-000 people by a single powerful state.

In the inspiration, stimulus and encouragement it will be to pro-

86711 The Oregon Journal

The mountain labors and brings forth a mouse.

THE MEANING OF THE ELECTION

What does the Presidential election mean?

It is a little over one hundred and thirty years since the organization of this Union by the adoption of the Federal Constitution. Then the United States consisted of thirteen colonies along the Atlantic seaboard. It now consists of forty-eight States, extending from Sandy Hook to the Golden Gate, and from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico. It then contained a population of less than four million. It now contains a population of about a hundred million. With the exception of the Negro race this was a homogeneous and intelligent population. It has now a more heterogeneous population probably than inhabits any other land on the globe. Here are represented nearly every nation, race, religious faith, written language, and historical tradition. Nowhere will one find greater wealth or greater poverty, culture more refined or ignorance more crass; nowhere classes more sharply separated, though happily not as yet by hereditary barriers. Here are employers differing from feudal lords chiefly in name, and workmen differing from feudal servants more in their spirit than in their condition. Here great and growing cities with compact manufacturing populations, and here wide stretches of country occupied by rural populations in widely separated homes.

The recent election emphasizes the fact that the most important problem of America to-day is to make out of this heterogeneous population, with its apparently conflicting interests and its certainly conflicting prejudices and prepossessions, a homogeneous people, united in their hopes and in their purposes, as they are certainly united in their destiny.

The folly of the Republican party in the reconstruction period immediately following the Civil War widened and made enduring the gap between North and South which the Civil War had, strange as it may appear, done so much to close. That widened gap still remains, and the Southern States, still afraid of Negro domination, though the peril of it has long since passed away, vote as a unit regardless of National perils that are near at hand.

In the North the old party lines have been broken down. States that were counted surely Republican, like Kansas, have voted the Na-

tional Democratic ticket, and other States, like California, have curiously divided their vote, electing Republican United States Senators by unmistakable majorities, and so dividing on the National election that at this writing it is still questionable whether they have chosen Republican or Democratic electors.

To the Far Western States, like Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, Montana, and Washington, the terrible tragedy of the Lusitania in the North Atlantic has seemed as remote as to the whole Nation the more recent tragedy of the Arabia in the Mediterranean Sea. And California, which not long ago was feverishly excited over the remote peril of Japanese immigration, has shown itself singularly apathetic respecting the more immediate peril of sub-sea warfare against American commerce.

To the urban populations, especially in the Eastern States, the necessity and duty of protecting Americans on the high seas has seemed instant and urgent. To them safety first and duty first were almost synonymous terms. To the rural populations, especially in the regions west of the Missouri River, the protection of Americans on the sea, and even of American cities on the seaboard, has seemed a matter almost of indifference, and "he has kept us out of war" a final and conclusive reason for supporting and continuing the imperiling policy of the last four years. In the one section getting \$1.75 a bushel for wheat has been an argument for Democracy; in the other section paying \$12 a barrel for flour has been an equally cogent argument against it.

A comparatively small number of high-priced workmen on the railways have demanded higher wages under guise of demanding a shorter labor day, regardless of the almost inevitable effect of that demand on the economic welfare of the great mass of their fellow-citizens. But the legislation enacted in their behalf has proved a boomerang. At least, it is a question whether it has not lost more votes than it has gained for the Democratic party.

The greatest need of America, though perhaps not its most immediate need, is not a protective tariff or a larger navy, or a better organized army or a wiser or a more economic Administration, important as all these are. It is a united people, who realize that America is one Nation, who desire that Americans shall be one people, with one allegiance, and who see that the interests of the Nation are paramount; never to be discarded or forgot-

and the conclusion of the book that

A ball and late session without faith or power to support it.

EThe Outlook

It seems to me to have been the view that a majority of the voters took in the recent elections.

The campaign against President Wilson was built up this largely. President Wilson was elected in 1912. President Wilson was elected in 1912.

ten because of class or sectional interests. And yet this greatest need of our National life is denied by some and ignored by many.

It would be difficult to name any man in America who has shown greater devotion to the principle of the brotherhood of man than Dr. Felix Adler. And yet it is Dr. Felix Adler who has said just on the eve of this election: "Nationalism is but another name for centralism," and that "the tendency toward nationalism . . . is dominant at this time abroad, and we are in danger of being carried along by the same drift in the United States," and that "we should apply as a check the counter-tendency."

Even in the campaign this fundamental issue, Shall the United States be a Nation occupied by a homogeneous people, animated by a common spirit and seeking the common welfare? has been but dimly perceived and sometimes wholly forgotten. This Nation, founded on the declaration that all men have an unalienable right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, inspired by that faith, has grown in numbers, wealth, and power with a growth unparalleled in human history. But with few exceptions the question has not been put to this American people by the campaigners. What is the duty of this great Nation toward its citizens, toward other neutral nations, toward non-combatants, toward the land that gave it birth, and the other land that came to its rescue in the time of its great peril?

America is as yet only a Nation in the making. It is not a Nation as France is a nation. Its greatest peril is that from the crevasses due partly to geographical conditions, partly to sectional prejudices, partly to class interests, partly to racial temperaments and inherited beliefs. To close up these crevasses, to make the Nation truly one, is the first duty of the patriotic American, wherever he lives, whatever his party affiliations. Whoever shall be declared elected President of the United States, the people of the United States have no more important task before them than to develop this policy of Nationalism inspired by this spirit of fraternalism.

PATIENCE

We all regret that the election is so close. But we can all see in the election a new test of the rule of the people. And each one of us can do something to make the Nation stand the test.

Some newspapers have compared the pres-

ent election with that of the Hayes-Tilden contest. The resemblance is superficial only. Then colossal frauds were perpetrated by both parties. Now there is no reason to suspect the managers of either party. It may be weeks before the American people can know who is to be their next President. But they can know now that every reasonable precaution is being taken to secure an honest count.

We Americans are a nervous, eager, excitable people, in haste to accomplish results, impatient of delay. Have we the self-control to wait for the slow processes of legal investigation? Have we the democratic faith to accept the legally declared decision of the majority?

Every one of us can do something to abate suspicion, encourage patience, promote mutual confidence and good will; every one of us can do something to prove to the world that the rule of American democracy is not the rule of the mob.

THE VILLAGE OF NEW YORK

To be able to pose as antiquarian in New York City, to be able to say, "Why, I remember when . . ." does not require gray hairs. Even boys in college can look at the northern reaches of the metropolis with retrospective eyes which contain fast-fleeting visions of pastures given over to goats and tin-roofed shanties.

Grant's Tomb was only yesterday an outpost of urban development. It is now far within the solid heart of the city. The day before that, the region south of Grant's Tomb to the east and west of Central Park grew, developed, and changed in character with almost kaleidoscopic rapidity. Simultaneously, lower Fifth Avenue, as an avenue of brownstone respectability, vanished to make place for the mart of fashion and the merchandise of the seven seas. The site at Bryant Park of the receiving reservoir which was expected to serve for all time the city's needs is only big enough to-day to supply a foundation for the city's library. The passing of buildings like the Astor House and the old Fifth Avenue Hotel is lamented by New Yorkers with something of the feeling which would spring from the destruction of a Roman bridge in an older civilization. Yet the tide of the city's development sweeps on, turning and twisting within the heart of the older city, leaving here a row of empty

True, and the best instrument or agency with which to accomplish this is a party which believes in a government "of the people, for the people, and by the people," and not a

It seems to me to have been the view that a majority of the voters took in the recent elections. This is the view of the Outlook.

7
RESP.'. LOG.'. " CABALLEROS DE LA VERDAD NO. 37 "

VALLES DE SAN JUAN, P. R.

March 3rd. 1917.

G R E E T I N G S

Hon. Arthur Yager,

Governor of Porto Rico.

S i r :

The Lodge " CABALLEROS DE LA VERDAD NO. 37 " is a masonic blue of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons under charter of the Sov. Grand Lodge of this Territory and in its regular meeting held last night and upon the occasion of its having been informed by the Worshipful Master, of the receipt of a cablegram advising that the President of the United States had signed yesterday afternoon, the Jones-Shaffroth's Bill granting a new organic Act including the citizenship clause whereby, we the Porto Ricans, become Citizens of the Great Northern Republic; all those members who were present arose upon the Master displaying the Great Colors and warmly and lengthly applauded the national banner.

Several members expressed their deep appreciation and sentiment for such an act, which marks a new

86 X 11

Hon. Arthur Yager, Governor of P. R. # 2. 3-317.

era in the annals of our history, leading this Country into a field of responsibility and self consciousness.

It was the unanimous will of the lodge to convey to you, honorable sir, our hearty admiration and a most sincere vote of thanks for your solicitude and efforts towards bestowing upon us, such a high honor so much sought for and desired.

It was also the will of the Lodge to request of your honor to convey our expressions to the Hon. Woodrow Wilson, our President, and to the Congress of the Nation.

This lodge will have the great pleasure to publicly show its feelings, taking a part as a body, in the parade that will soon take place to celebrate such marked event.

May the Great Architec of the Universe, our Lord, grant you a long and pleasant life and help you to accomplish many other acts as the one which through your paternal care this fortunrate Island has received.

Yours most sincerely,

Eugenio Delgado
Worship Master

Nicolás Hernández
Senior Warden

Felipe Lora
Secretary

Bonifacio Jiménez
Junior Warden

TRANSLATION.

Office of the Mayor,
Manatí, Porto Rico,
March 12, 1917.

Hon. Arthur Yager,
Governor of Porto Rico,
San Juan, P. R.

My dear Governor:

I have the honor to forward herewith copy of the resolution passed by the municipal council of this city as an expression of sincerest and deepest gratitude to you for your valued and untiring efforts to secure the enactment of the new organic law.

Please accept it as a true token of our most distinguished consideration.

Very respectfully,

D. Suro,

Mayor of Manatí.

11 x 22

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OF
MANATÍ, P. R.

I, JOSÉ E. MARRERO, Municipal Secretary of Manatí,
DO HEREBY CERTIFY That the following is a true and cor-
rect copy of a resolution unanimously adopted by the
Municipal Council of this city at the regular meeting
held on the 6th day of March, 1917, as entered on the rec-
ord of proceedings:

WHEREAS, the Hon. Arthur Yager, Governor of
Porto Rico, with unwavering faith worked with the
powers in the Capital City to insure the enactment
of the new Organic Law granting the natives of
this country collective AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP, the
fairest privilege to which we could aspire, and
likewise granting the Porto Ricans, in a liberal
and democratic manner, a greater measure of control
over the economic and political affairs emanating
from said Law;

WHEREAS, the name of the benefactor, the Hon.
Arthur Yager, should be perpetuated in the hearts
of all loyal and grateful Porto Ricans, inasmuch
as his influential services for the success of this
country's cause are well known, and it is owing
to them in a great degree that a new constitutional
charter is now in force, which undoubtedly will
mark the beginning of an era of justice and welfare
for the inhabitants of this hospitable soil;

117
86 XII

WHEREAS, we deem it right and proper to show to our just and fair Governor Yager the gratitude which is due him because of his persevering efforts for the definite union of our fate to that of the Great American Nation, an event which sets an imperishable date in the history of Porto Rico;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF MANATÍ, P. R.

Section 1.- That the portrait of the Hon. Arthur Yager be purchased with funds of this municipality, to be hung in the chamber of the municipal council of this city as an affectionate souvenir of the eminent and beneficent governor.

Section 2.- That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Hon. Governor Yager immediately upon approval by the Alcalde.

The foregoing resolution was approved by the Mayor on the 7th day of March, 1917, and this copy thereof has been issued by the undersigned, and signed and sealed by him on the same date.

(Seal)

J. E. MARRERO,
Municipal Secretary.

APPROVED:

D. SURO,
Mayor of Manatí.

Fiestas por la Nueva Ley Orgánica.

San Juan, P. R.,

F

March 27, 1917.

COMITE EJECUTIVO:

R. H. TODD, PRES.
ANTONIO BARCELO
MANUEL F. ROSSY
F. CORDOVA DAVILA
E. DEL TORO CUEBAS
C. COLL CUCHI
F. H. DEXTER
S. C. BOTHWELL
M. GUERRA MONDRAGON
P. GOMEZ LASSERRE
EUGENIO ASTOL
D. MONSERRAT JR.
NIEL PASARELL
F. ANTONSANTI
JORGE ADSUAR
S. IGLESIAS
A. RODRIGUEZ VERA, SEC.

S i r :-

Allow me to thank you in the name of the Committee who had charge of the celebration held yesterday, for the hearty cooperation which you gave to the festivities, and which made the same a success.

Very respectfully,

R. H. Todd
CHAIRMAN.

Honorable Arthur Yager,
Governor of Porto Rico,
San Juan, Porto Rico.

The Wilson Historical Society

11 X 98

GOVERNMENT OF PORTO RICO
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PONCE HIGH SCHOOL
PONCE, P. R.



Ponce, P. R., March 30, 1917.

Hon. Mr. Yager,
Governor of Porto Rico,
San Juan.

Dear Sir:

I take pleasure in sending you a copy of your address given here on March 22nd. It was reported by several members of the commercial course.

We encourage them to use their knowledge whenever the opportunity offers, and in this way gain a practical knowledge.

Yours respectfully,

Hamartii

Principal.

GOVERNMENT OF PORTO RICO
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PONCE HIGH SCHOOL
PONCE, P. R.

GOVERNOR YAGER'S ADDRESS TO THE PEOPLE OF PONCE

Mr. Alcalde and Fellow-citizens of Ponce:

In the first place, I wish to congratulate you upon this great fiesta with which you celebrate this occasion. I congratulate you because of your intelligent appreciation of the fact for which this day stands in the history of Porto Rico. I congratulate you upon this great outpouring of the people of Ponce and upon this great display of the American Flag which now, for the first time, waves over you as citizens of our great country.

I desire now to say a few words and explain the steps which have lead up to the passage of the new Organic Act of Porto Rico.

I came to Porto Rico as the Governor of this island at an unhappy and difficult time. On the 20th of November, 1913, I assumed the duties and took the oath of office as Governor of this island.

It was a time of great difficulty, of economic depression, and of political discontent. The Treasury of Porto Rico at that time was facing bankruptcy on account of miscalculations and disappointments about the receipts. The Government was trying to run a seven million dollars budget all upon a four and a half million dollars income. And even the Insular Treasury would do that stunt.

After I had arrived and studied the island for a few weeks, I determined that there were three things that the Government of Porto Rico must try to do.

1st. The finances of the Insular Government must be set in order and the treasury saved from impending insolvency.

2nd. The industries of the island must in some way be infused with new life and the economic depression that had spread like a pall all over the island must be relieved.

3rd. Something must be done to relieve every just cause of the political discontent and dissatisfaction which prevailed among the larger part of our people.

(2)

The first task must be done in Porto Rico and nowhere else. For the second and the third we must look to the great United States of America.

Now this morning I wish, with all modesty, to claim that all three of those mighty tasks have been accomplished. The finances of Porto Rico have been put in order; I need not now retrace the steps and sacrifices that have been taken and made to bring this about; but it has been done, and thoroughly well done. Public expenditures have been reduced, the income of the Island's Government has been increased, and now the Insular Treasury is in better condition than ever before.

And, I want to say here and now, that in the working out of this, the Legislature and the people of Porto Rico have cooperated with their Government to the fullest possible extent. They have proved their capacity for government, they have shown their willingness to make sacrifices for the public good and it was that proof that lead in large measure to the granting of the full measure of self-government which we now enjoy.

It is with the greatest pleasure that I, here and now, and that I have always and everywhere, borne testimony to the proofs that the people of Porto Rico have been giving of their own intelligence and capacity for government. And now, just a word as to the second task and its completion.

The economic depressions in Porto Rico were caused, in large measure, by the distressing difficulties that had overtaken the island's greatest industry: sugar. That trouble was caused in part by the "Simmons Underwood Tariff" passed by the United States Congress, which removed part of the duty upon sugar and threatened to take off the rest.

In January, 1914, one month after I had landed in Porto Rico, I went to Washington and had my first interview with the President of the United States upon this subject of free sugar. Also, upon that first visit I put into form the first draft of the Jones Bill which now constitutes the new foundation of our Government.

From that date to this, I have kept constantly at work at both problems: the removal of the free sugar clause from the "Simmons Underwood Tariff" and the enactment by Congress of the new "Organic Act" for Porto Rico. Both have been accomplished: the first, about a year ago and the second, on March 2, 1917.

Of course, the European War has helped greatly in bringing about the first, but with the removal of the free sugar clause from the "Tariff" the prosperity of the sugar industry in Porto Rico has been, for the present, assured, and the Island restored to its economic prosperity.

And now the third thing: the new Organic Act for this Island.

Let me say to you people of Ponce, that you have not begun yet to appreciate the immense importance of this great Act for yourselves and your children. For the first time in the History of America a Latin-American people have been admitted to free and full citizenship in the greatest republic of North America.

But not only is this a matter of citizenship; I want to emphasize this morning to you people here in this great city, that the Jones Bill gives to the Porto-Ricans a large power of self-government. (The whispering among the ladies of the audience ranges now so high, that the Governor is compelled to ask for silence. As this was obtained with some difficulty, the Governor inserted the following:)

(You know, ladies and gentlemen, that when an audience consists largely of ladies, it is not always easy to secure silence. But, I am perfectly sure that the ladies of Ponce know when the time comes to speak and when the time comes to be silent.)

I wish to repeat that this new constitution for Porto Rico gives to the people of this island an enlarged sphere of self-government. And remember that this is not only an opportunity but it is a responsibility. Every right imposes its corresponding duty, and it is now the duty of the people of Porto Rico to prove to all the world that they are equal to the opportunity and the responsibility that have come to them.

Some of the officers that must carry on this new government are to be elected by the people, and some of them are to be appointed by the Governor. That is true in all governments.

Now, you the people and I the Governor, must work together and keep together. I promise you here and now that, for my part, I shall do everything I possibly can in making appointments to secure good men, strong men, honest men, and men satisfactory to the people of Porto Rico. When it comes to appoint an official for public service, I have no friends and no enemies. All I seek, all I endeavor to secure is competent men, patriotic men, unselfish men who know how and who are willing to serve the people of this island, regardless of politics and friendship.

And now, when you are going to elect men, what are you going to do? Let me warn you: if you elect men to office who are simply demagogues, who are palterers, who are selfish office-seekers, unpatriotic and careless of the public good, then this scheme of self-government will fail and I can do nothing to help it.

But there are many good men in Porto Rico. Many of them are now serving the Government. There are many others who could serve the Government; will you elect them? Now, you gentlemen, know that it isn't always easy to get the best men elected in any country. And therefore, I beseech you, voters of Ponce, as you love your island and your country, to do your very best to put the best men you have in office, in the Senate and in the House. Especially I ask that you elect a good Senate for the Island of Porto Rico.

The Senate must confirm all the appointments made by the Governor. Now then, I beseech you to do your best to elect for the first Senators of Porto Rico the best men you can lay your hands on and secure.

There remains much to be done for this island. There is much work for the Legislature of Porto Rico to formulate those measures which will make for the good and the protection of the people. We must improve the economic condition of the laborer and the masses of the people of this island. We must develop and spread abroad our school system until there will be a seat in the school for every child of school age in this beautiful island.

We must develop and improve agriculture of Porto Rico, so that the Island shall not be dependent upon the outside world for practically all of its food. We must try to increase the industries of Porto Rico, so that all of our enormous population of 350 people to the square mile will not be dependent for their livelihood upon agriculture.

In all of this work, which is the great problem of the future, the Government is helpless and powerless without the co-operation of the Legislature of Porto Rico. But if you will elect and send to San Juan a good, strong, earnest, and patriotic Legislature; a Legislature that can formulate measures and pass laws to improve the conditions of this island, we shall go farther than ever before in our history.

But I have no misgivings about the results. I have more faith in the people of Porto Rico than a great many native Portoricans. For I have the experience that they have never disappointed me yet, and I don't believe they are going to disappoint me in the future.

Now just one word about one another disputed question. One about the permanent status of Porto Rico. Is it to be ultimately a state in the great American Union or is it to be something else? You know I have never taken any great interest in this question. What does it matter? We can not decide that question now. That question will be decided by those school children that walk in the streets in front of us.

What interests me is to get the people of this island ready to decide that question either way they want.

And now I want to make this prediction here this morning. If the people of Porto Rico accept heartily American citizenship and local self-government and make good, then they themselves can determine the question according to their own wishes and desires; whether they will become a state or whether they will accept some kind of autonomy under the American flag.

But if you do not make good, if you fall down and prove yourselves unworthy of self-government, then you can do neither.

And now I wish to thank you for this opportunity of addressing you. I wish to thank the Alcalde for his kind invitation. I wish to thank you, good people of Ponce, for your patient hearing and to wish for you a more splendid and prosperous future than any you have dreamed of in the past.

Ponce, P. R., March 22, 1917.
Reported by:

Juan Lentini)	
Ángel Calderón)	Students of the Junior Class,
Pedro Vázquez)	Commercial Department,
Fernando Martínez)	Ponce High School.
Fernando Robles)	

C 4 May 1917 J

GOVERNMENT HOUSE
PORTO RICO

GOVERNOR YARER APPOINTS FOOD COMMISSION AND ASKS
FOR THE COOPERATION AND SUPPORT OF ALL
THE PEOPLE OF THE WHOLE ISLAND

To the people of Porto Rico;

I have to-day in accordance with Joint Resolution N°10, passed at the last session of the Legislative Assembly, appointed the following gentlemen as members of the Food Commission with the powers and for the purposes set forth in said joint resolution:

Hon. Antonio B. Barceló,

Hon. Luis Sánchez Morales,

Mr. John A. Turner,

Mr. Albert Lee, and

Mr. Nathaniel A. Walcott.

The work of this commission is to try to defend the people of Porto Rico against the possible perils and sufferings arising from high prices of ^{fuel and} foodstuffs caused by the great war. This is a great and difficult task, and to accomplish anything whatever toward its achievement, the commission must have the cooperation and support of the people. I ask for them not only this cooperation, but also patience and forbearance on the part of every citizen of this island.

The commission can not do impossible things and

too much must not be expected of them; they are not allowed by law to give away food as an act of charity to any one whatever, and to lower prices immediately to any great extent seems utterly impossible.

To achieve any practical results whatever the commission will have to proceed, in my judgment, along two main lines of work, as follows:-

(1) They must, if possible, stop all speculation in the articles of food and all combinations that may be formed for that purpose. Not that speculation is always wrong and dishonorable, but in this crisis the food of the people is a sacred thing and the cost must not be increased by speculative profits which have to be added to the price and taken out of the slender resources of the poor. This part of the task ought not to be difficult. Every merchant and dealer in food ought to cooperate voluntarily and cheerfully toward securing this result. The commission has power to use compulsion, but I do not believe this will be necessary.

(2) The commission must somehow persuade the people of Porto Rico to increase the production of food right here in the island. This is the only real remedy, and without this everything will be of little

avail. There is a shortage of food the world over and the whole world is on short rations. This is caused by lessened production on the one hand and the waste and destruction of the great war on the other hand. This waste and destruction is still going on and will continue to go on until peace comes. Almost every boat sunk by a submarine carries down with it a cargo of foodstuffs and still further reduces the stock now left in the world's larder. There is no complete remedy for this condition until the coming of peace or long after peace shall come, and there is little alleviation possible until the harvest and then only if the harvest be increased largely throughout America. The conclusion is perfectly clear to everybody. Porto Rico must produce more of her own food and must begin right now. It cannot be bought in the world's markets this year at any reasonable price. Next year, if the war continues, it may be worse. Porto Rico must begin immediately in dead earnest the task of increasing her economic independence. Local production of foodstuffs for her people must be largely increased this year.

This is no new suggestion. Many thoughtful people and the newspapers generally have called attention to this matter in the most urgent manner.

Some weeks ago the Governor made an earnest appeal to the Sugar Growers' Association to plant minor fruits far more largely than heretofore. Many of the growers responded and considerable plantings have been made, which the Governor wishes publicly to acknowledge, but the general and prolonged drought nullified much of the good work done at that time. Now, however, the rains have come and people should take a fresh start and plant more largely and generally than ever before. Let us plant every sort of vegetable and food product that we know will grow in this island. Porto Rico can produce a large percentage of the total food supply of her people. We have the land and the labor in abundance, the Food Commission will aid in supplying seeds, and our island is our market. Every country in the world is putting forth the greatest efforts along this line.

President Wilson has well said that those who serve in the fields in producing food serve their country no less than those who fight in the armies.

I trust that every landowner and every laborer, every official of the government, every school and

philanthropic organization, every Alcalde and municipal official -all the people of the whole island will earnestly cooperate with the Food Commission in a supreme effort to make Porto Rico largely self-sustaining in this great crisis.

ARTHUR YAGER.

San Juan, Porto Rico.
May 4, 1917.

The Filson Historical Society

May 9, 1917.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of the 3rd instant, informing me that at a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the University of Porto Rico, held on May 2nd, this institution conferred upon me the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws, to be announced at the next commencement exercises June 13, 1917, has been duly received.

I desire to express to you, and through you to the Board of Trustees, my cordial appreciation of the honor that you institution has thus conferred upon me and to thank you most heartily for it.

While the University over which you preside is as yet young in years and just beginning what I hope will be a long record of educational achievement, I shall always remember with pleasure that my name is connected in this honorable way with its early history.

With my very best wishes for your Honorable Body and the institution whose destinies you control, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Hon. Paul G. Miller, Presdt.,
Board of Trustees, University of Porto Rico,
San Juan, Porto Rico.

Governor.

11728

5,000,000 PEOPLE IN 40 Miles

PAY ROLLS \$1,500,000 DAILY
EXHIBIT IN THE HEART OF PITTSBURGH
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Ambassador from Japan
R. S. NAON,
Ambassador from Argentine
CARLOS M. DE CESPEDES,
Minister from Cuba
IGNACIO CALDERON,
Minister from Bolivia
BELISARIO PORRAS,
Minister from Panama
C. BRUN,
Minister from Denmark
R. H. ELIZALDE,
Minister from Ecuador
V. K. WELLINGTON KOO,
Minister from China
ROBERT LANSING,
Secretary of State
WM. C. REDFIELD,
Secretary of Commerce
FRANKLIN K. LANE,
Secretary of the Interior
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Secretary of Labor
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Governor of Wisconsin
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Governor of Connecticut
PETER NORBECK,
Governor of South Dakota
M. ALEXANDER,
Governor of Idaho
R. LIVINGSTON BEEKMAN,
Governor of Rhode Island

June 8, 1917.

Hon. Arthur Yager,
Governor of Porto Rico,
San Juan, Porto Rico.

Dear Governor:

We take pleasure in
acknowledging the receipt of your
favor of the 31 ultimo granting us
permission to elect you an Honorary
Vice President.

Truly yours,

August 4, 1917.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of the 18th ultimo, informing me of the action of the Association over which you preside, in electing me an honorary member thereof, has been duly received.

I desire to express my sincere appreciation of this honor, and to express to you and thru you to the Association my thanks not only for the distinction which your kind action carries with it but also for the reason given for doing it.

I have read with interest the statement of the object of your Association and cordially assure you of my cooperation for its accomplishment.

Our next task of course is to prove to all mankind the capacity of the Porto Rican people for the honor of citizenship and for that degree of self-government granted to them by the Jones-Shafroth Act; and toward the accomplishment of this Act I am bending every energy which I possess.

Please convey to the Porto Rican Association of the United States of America the assurance of my highest respect.

Sincerely yours,

Governor.

Mr. Pedro Capó Rodriguez, President,
Porto Rican Association of the United States of America,
General Headquarters, WASHINGTON, D. C.

11718

HONORARY PRESIDENT
THE HONORABLE RESIDENT
COMMISSIONER OF PORTO RICO
PRESIDENT
PEDRO CAPO-RODRIGUEZ



VICE PRESIDENT
MANUEL GARCIA DE QUEVEDO
TREASURER
TOMAS CAJIGAS
SECRETARY
ROSA MARIA SOLER

PORTO RICAN ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
WASHINGTON, D. C.

July 18, 1917.

OBJECT

THE OBJECT OF THE ASSOCIATION IS TO FOSTER AND STIMULATE IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AND SPECIALLY IN THE CAPITAL CITY THEREOF, AS THE SEAT OF THE GOVERNMENT, A WARM INTEREST FOR PORTO RICO, WHICH MAY GIVE RISE TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF CLOSER BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP AND CULTURE BETWEEN PORTO RICANS AND AMERICANS AND THEREBY TEND TO SOLVE BENEFICIALLY AND DEFINITELY THE LEGAL AND POLITICAL STATUS OF THE ISLAND.

Hon. Arthur Yager,
Executive Offices,
San Juan, Porto Rico.

Dear sir:

I have the honor to inform you that at a recent meeting of the Porto Rican Association of the United States, you were unanimously elected honorary member thereof as "a man who has rendered important and distinguished service to the cause which this Association is founded to promote." In acknowledging this service, by bestowing upon you the highest distinction which it can extend to any person, under its By-Laws, the Association wishes to thank you specially for your untiring efforts in bringing about the passage of the so called Jones-Shafroth Act, which marks a happy new era in the relations between the United States and Porto Rico.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Pedro Capó Rodríguez
President.

119 98

San Juan, Porto Rico,

October 28, 1917.

Hon. Arthur Yager,

Governor of Porto Rico.

Dear Governor and dear friend;=

We, the two Georges, want to congratulate you on the occasion of your fifty-ninth birthday on being the youngest old man we have ever known. And we want, incidentally, to congratulate ourselves upon the privilege of numbering two of the sure-enough friends of a man who, apart from the innumerable other things we like him for, can (sometimes) beat at least one of us at tennis====and both of us at about all the other games in life worth while.

Governor, we got together last night and tried mutually to convince ourselves that you really were fifty-nine. Surely there has been some mistake in the count. You certainly have got hid away somewhere that spring that that Spaniard went looking for.

Shanton suggested, when we were discussing a little "recuerdo" for you, a modest time-piece====something that would remind you of the hour of half-past four====the hour at which you frequently====more frequently than he will admit====lick him at tennis. So we selected the accompanying humble little token of our high regard for you====which we realize we should have expressed in some suitable way long before this====and now present it to you with these few limping and inadequate words of appreciation====(done on Shanton's limping and inadequate miniature "Corona" typewriter)====and extend to you our fervent best wishes for many, many happy returns of this joyful day, hoping that you may live for scores of long years to come, which, if we are to judge from your present state of preservation, you will.

Your just methods, as Governor, and your kindness and patience in dealing with perplexing and annoying problems have been a constant inspiration to both of us, and we trust we may have the honor and pleasure of a long-continued jaunt with you through this Vale of Tears;

With sincerest best wishes;=

McR. Shanton & George Lewis

11 x 98

U. S. S. VIXEN,
A Port in the West Indies,
November 1, 1917.

From: Commander W.R.White, U.S.Navy.

To: Secretary of the Navy.

(Via Chief of Operations and General Board.)

Subject: American naval bases in the West Indies.

Enclosures: C. & G.S.Chart #917 suitably marked.

Reference: (a) Report on Virgin Islands signed by Rear-Admiral J.H. Oliver, U.S.Navy, dated August 1, 1917.
(b) Report on Sanitary Status of Virgin Islands with Recommendations, dated August 20, 1917.

1. The Monroe Doctrine, the defense of the Panama Canal and the several national policies, of the United States, require, among other things, for their maintenance a strong sea-power with sufficient naval bases.

2. In consequence of these policies, as well as for the security of the defense of the continental limits of the United States, most students agree that true strategy demands that the outposts and the battle lines be advanced from our shores as far as possible to the fronts. To maintain such conditions naval bases of varying strengths and sizes are essential and they are necessarily on far-flung lines.

3. The present paper will be devoted to a consideration of naval bases in the West Indies.

4. On the venture that, even today after three years of world war, the time-worn axiom that the principles of strategy are immutable and unchangeable, the following is set forth as pertinent:-

5. Lord Rodney, during his very active, brilliant and successful career, expressed himself, about 140 years ago, to the effect that that nation which controlled Porto Rico and Narragansett Bay thereby dominated the North American coast. It was to this same Rodney, after one of his great exploits, that Myddleton, the then Secretary to the British Admiralty, once wrote "we wish more Admirals would take the great line."

6. Since that time neither the developments of science of economics, of war implements and of tactics, nor the events

(1 Nov 17)

of history have caused the general situation to alter in the slightest.

7. The Porto Rico, spoken of, should be defined in the language of the present, as a general strategic area which includes Eastern Porto Rico, Culebra, the Virgin Islands and Vieques Island, together with the body of water which these islands bound.

8. Similarly, Narragansett Bay should be understood to include the areas of Long Island Sound, Block Island Sound, Vineyard Sound and Massachussetts Bay.

9. This Front, as laid down by Lord Rodney, is as far to the eastward as a strong line could be maintained then or even now, a century and a half later. While held, because of being on the line of communications of any probable enemy power, it will also give added security to the Panama Canal, a fact which implies tribute to that unconseious prevision which so often accompanies greatness and genius.

10. American strategists have for years, almost without number, been constantly reaching from Dry Tortugas to the eastward along the northern West Indies. Destiny, fate and the recent purchase of the Danish West Indies, have placed the United States at almost the easternmost limit and right at the northeast corner of the Carribbean Sea, the most important position of this entire area. This long-sought strategic goal now being ours is the cause of this study.

11. The Military and Naval Forces that would use a 1st class base are:-

(1) The defending garrisons as well as the workmen employed in the buildings and repair shops, and these might easily total together from 50,000 to 100,000 men.

(2) Super-dreadnaughts and battle-cruisers.

(3) Cruisers of lighter types.

(4) Scout-cruisers.

(5) Destroyers and submarine-chasers.

(6) Submarines.

(7) Ships of the train, such as repair-ships, supply-ships, hospital-ships, fuel-ships, ammunition-ships, transports, etc.; the total of these various kinds of vessels is bound to be quite large.

(8) Aircraft of all descriptions: the developments of late years seem to indicate that soon aircraft will be able, in one flight, to reach from the northeast corner of the Carribbean Sea as far as Colon, Key West or Narragansett Bay.

12. The requisites for a 1st class naval base are:-

- (1) Security against landings in force and from bombardments from the sea.
- (2) Deep water of large extent.
- (3) Protection against seas - smooth water: good anchorages.
- (4) Near the probable objectives.
- (5) Two or more entrances or exits: deployments safe.
- (6) Good lines of operations and of communications.
- (7) A plentiful supply of friendly and intelligent labor of more or less skill.
- (8) Fresh water.
- (9) Fresh foods.
- (10) Ship-chandlery stores, metals and fuels.
- (11) Electric power from water falls, if possible.
- (12) Reliable cable and radio communications.
- (13) A sufficiently large plot of land for shops, buildings, barracks and immense aircraft hangars, as well as for drill grounds for the defending garrison.
- (14) Hard bottom for torpedo practices.
- (15) Good and excellent sanitary and hygienic conditons.

13. Nowhere amongst the islands of the Carribean Sea, and seldom, if ever, elsewhere, has nature provided all the desiderata of a 1st class naval base: if one is to be established here, man will have to supply the deficiencies of the location selected. All are lacking in the metals, fuels and ship's stores that a Navy requires.

14. Whatever site is chosen the building of long and expensive breakwaters will be compulsory. Other nations have built them at such places as Colombo, Malto, Genoa, Naples, Marseilles, Brest, Havre, in Germany and at the various ports in Great Britain and Ireland.

15. The only location that has all the other desiderata is the western part of Vieques Sound, where, with but little dredging, there are two possible sites, viz:-

(a) The area bounded by the eastern coast of Porto Rico, from Cape San Juan south as far as Pineros Island, and a breakwater, shown in blue on the attached sheet, built from the latter in a northerly direction over Largo Shoals and to Little Palominos Islands.

(b) The area bounded between by Pineros Island, Point Puerca, Cabras Island, the shoal southeast of Point Cascajo, Arenas Bank and then east along Vieques Island as far as Caballo Point from where a breakwater, shown in red on the attached sheet, should be built in a north-westerly direction towards Descubribor Rock; or this breakwater, shown in black pencil on the attached sheet, might be built to run to South Chinchorro Shoal.

16. Further and detailed investigations are essential to discover which is the preferable.

17. The native labor in Porto Rico is largely white, of the Spanish stock and is quite intelligent: from these natives excellent mechanics and men skilled in all the trades can be quickly developed.

18. St. Thomas is but half an hour away by fast aircraft and Anegada is distant only one hour.

19. The iron ore of Cuba is only 600 miles away, while only 1100 miles away is Charleston, S.C. with its immense supplies of good coal suitable for the Navy and for manufacturing. This iron ore, coal and the oil fuel of Texas and Mexico, as well as all supplies and labor, can be supplied over well protected interior lines of communication.

20. The defenses of both of these locations could easily be made impregnable by mounting guns of the largest calibre-16-inch and 18-inch - on Culebra, Vieques Island and the mainland of Porto Rico: and possibly on St. Thomas and St. Croix. Of course, submarines, mines, nets and aircraft are bound to assume their proper places in any well ordered scheme of defense of such an important area.

21. Ensenada Honda, Great Harbor at Culebra, the combined harbors of St. Thomas and Gregerie Channel, as well as the waters between the islands of St. Thomas and St. John will provide suitable resting places for the vessels of the various types that will be used whether they navigate in, over or under the sea.

22. The Porto Ricans pride themselves on living in the second most densely populated place on the earth; and where, in addition, nature has done so much, it seems folly and a crime against economy and efficiency to locate a 1st class base elsewhere unless the human, the material and the natural resources are greater and in addition that the strategic position is very much superior.

23. The United States has recently paid \$25,000,000 to Denmark for the Danish West Indies and has since renamed them the Virgin Islands of the United States. After seven months of observation and study the American officials here have concluded that these islands are not self-supporting, and have not been for many years: whether, in the future, this condition will change is quite problematical. Attention is drawn to the following reports, recently made to the Navy Department:-

(a) By Rear-Admiral J.H. Oliver dated August 1, 1917.

(b) Upon the Sanitary Status of the Virgin Islands,

(1 Nov 17)

with recommendations, and dated August 20, 1917.

24. Their first cost, combined with the capitalized annual maintenance charges, is less than the expenses of one day's participation in the present war by the United States. Their mere denial to an unfriendly power entirely justifies their purchase.

25. The very small harbor of St. Thomas has been very much over-advertised and it is doubtful if even 12 dreadnaughts could be moored in the combined water area of the harbor and Gregerie Channel. Rainfall of about 45 inches annually provides its only fresh water; all skilled labor, about 95% of the unskilled labor and all materials and supplies would have to be imported if a base is established here.

26. Various enthusiasts have written rosily, and at much length, of the great strategic value of St. Thomas and of the stretch of water between St. Thomas and St. John. If a 1st class naval base were to be established at this latter place the cost would be tremendous, for in addition to breakwaters, wharves, dry-docks, etc., hills would have to be cut down and city would have to be laid out and established; all labor and all materials would have to be imported; as at St. Thomas the only water supply is the rain with an average annual fall of about 45 inches. The surrounding land is very hilly and it is doubtful whether the necessary acreage that a modern 1st class naval base would need is available. The water area here is of sufficient depth and is quite large and fairly well protected from the surrounding oceans.

27. Samana Bay has value as a secondary base, and even has strong and powerful friends who advocate the location of a 1st class naval base there, but it has the following defects:-

(a) The prevailing strong easterly winds, and northeast trades, blowing down over the long uninterrupted stretch of an almost young ocean, which is shallow, often cause the seas to become quite rough - sometimes they are 3 or 4 feet high - and this renders ordinary boating uncomfortable and hazardous.

(b) Muddy bottom making the loss of torpedoes more probable during exercises.

(c) Only one entrance or exit, and this is a most serious and vital defect; in addition this combined entrance and exit can easily be blocked.

(d) The only labor available is of the negro type which is not readily capable of developing the many men skilled in the mechanical and the other trades, so necessary at a principal base.

(e) A much larger garrison and a larger number of outlying troops would be needed for its protection.

(f) Malaria and probably many other diseases exist in the uncleared jungles surrounding Samana Bay. It will certainly require 15 to 20 years, and a vast expenditure of money, to bring the sanitary and the hygienic conditions there up to the present standards of the eastern part of Porto Rico, which have been attained since the American occupation.

(g) Being to the westward of the northeast corner of the Carribean Sea and 280 miles west of Vieques Sound it is therefore handicapped to that extent, which is very serious. This is a permanent and a very dangerous impediment to efficiency in the handling of all kinds of shipping and aircraft and to economy of effort and of money and should cause hesitation and mature reflection before a final decision is made.

28. Cape St. Nicolas Mole, in the not far-distant past, seemed to have been very desirable, but at the present time its chief value is negative:- that is, denying its possession to an unfriendly power.

29. Quantanamo is valuable for the purpose it has served in the past: it is debatable whether its strategic possibilities warrant the expenditures of large sums of money for new constructions and subsequent upkeep.

30. Key West has served its main purpose and from the present outlook never can hope to be more than a 3d or 4th class naval base.

31. Dry Tortugas with its vast expenditure of money in the '60s and '70s has passed into a deserved oblivion, but its history is replete with admonitions against adopting a poorly located base.

32. The location of the navy yard in the Philippines oscillated for many years between Cavite and Olongapo. During the periods of indecision Corrigedor and its vicinity was heavily fortified, at a vast expense, by another Department of the government. It is believed that both the Navy War College and the Army War College now admit that this money has practically been wasted because Corrigedor is bound to fall very quickly after being besieged by a strong power. Mature thought, and the developments of later years, have proved, when it is too late, that the money wasted on Corrigedor and its environs should have gone towards making Hawaii and Guam impregnable.

Santurce, P. R.,

Carretera No.117.

December 7th, 1917.

The Hon. Arthur Yager,
Governor of Porto Rico,
San Juan, P. R.

S i r :

I have the honor to inform Your Excellency that my presence in Santo Domingo will probably be needed ,in the near future, to settle business for my sister, Mrs. Nieves de Parra.

I, therefore, beg to solicit Your Excellency's good offices in order that any difficulty that might otherwise arise to hinder my visit to that country may be avoided.

Permit me to express my gratitude to Your Excellency in anticipation of your courteous attention, and with the expression of my most distinguished consideration.

I beg to remain, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Juan Carlos

American Colonial Bank of Porto Rico

Paid up Capital \$ 400.000 Surplus \$ 400.000

Cable Address "Americol" Porto Rico

Herman L. Cochran, Cashier.
J. M. Torres, Asst. Cashier.
Chas. E. Lawton, Asst. Cashier.
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M. H. Balzac, Asst. Cashier.

William Schall, Jr. President.
NEW YORK CITY.
Frank M. Welty, Vice President.
SAN JUAN PORTO RICO.
E. Pavenstedt, Vice President.
NEW YORK CITY.

DEPOSITARY
FOR THE
GOVERNMENT OF
PORTO RICO

DEPOSITARY
FOR THE
UNITED STATES

San Juan December 12, 1917.

Hon. Arthur Yager,
SAN JUAN, P.R.

Dear Sir:-

We beg to advise that we have today taken the liberty of debiting to your account the sum of \$200-00, being 40% instalment for December 15th on your \$500-00 subscription to the Second Liberty Loan.

Yours very truly,


Assistant Cashier.

The Filson Historical Society

00011

San Juan Post
P. O. BOX 808 33 SALVADOR BRAU 22

EDITORIAL

THE GOVERNOR ON LOCAL POLITICS

Having taken back what he had said about the Unionist party during the campaign, and having announced the future policy of the National government in its dealings with Santo Domingo, the Governor proceeded to tell the New York Evening Post about our local troubles in general and his own in particular. We read:

"The deadlock between the Governor and the Legislature which existed when the insular governing body took a recess a few weeks ago until February 4, instead of adjourning its session, came about over the matter of patronage, and was the direct result of the Governor's 'stubborn Americanism,' as it was described by the politicians. 'Knowing it to be true, I had once publicly stated that the United States would never give up Porto Rico,' said the Governor. 'But the party in power, the Unionists, took up the cry for independence, therefore, that left me absolutely opposed to them on a fundamental matter.'"

The Governor's "stubborn Americanism" is good. The Unionist party "took up the cry of independence", said the Governor, and "therefore that left me absolutely opposed to them on a fundamental matter." And the Governor had just found it out!

This sort of stuff is refreshing, in view of the fact that the Governor insisted always that his Unionist friends were "good Americans at heart," and were not actually and earnestly urging the cause of independence. He knew a thing or two, himself, and could not be told anything by anybody. No, indeed.

Again, being opposed to the Unionists "on a fundamental matter," and he might have added, "vital matter" he showed this "opposition" by giving them a scandalous advantage in the matter of the San Juan senatorial district, disregarding the just and equitable plan prepared and submitted to him by Mr. Keith at his own request, thus going out of his way to strengthen those to whom he was "absolutely opposed" on a fundamental matter." Then he gave all but one of the important positions under government to those who had "raised the cry for independence" and thus had taken sides with the anti-Americans, for he said in this interview that "Americanism had become a political issue in the island" and his gifts and assistance of whatever nature were bestowed upon those who are always have been opposed to the effort to make of Porto Rico a self-governing Territory under the Constitution of the United States.

When did the Governor learn that "Americanism had become a political issue in the islands, and when did he first become "absolutely opposed to them (the Unionists) on a fundamental matter?" Did he not know the situation until after the Senate refused to confirm Mr. Domenech? The situation had not changed since his arrival in Porto Rico four years prior to his assumption of this attitude. It is the babbling of a disappointed political child; a disappointed child, who should take his "rag doll" and go home, and not play with such children any more.

Then the Governor tells the Post about what he terms "deadlock", although he was the only "dead one", and Domenech was locked out. He said:

"The deadlock came about when I declined to oust Manuel V. Domenech, Secretary of the Interior, a Republican and first class official, from his post to make way for a Unionist. The party demanded four principal executive offices, including that of the secretaryship of the interior department. I conceded three of the offices, but refused to give up Mr. Domenech. The Senate could not see it as I did, and turned down my nomination of Mr. Domenech, and I refused to make another appointment. "There was another fight over a judgeship at Ponce. I declined to retain Judge..."

when Mr. Barceló asked the Republican senators if they would vote to confirm Mr. Esteves, they showed him the letter sent to the Governor before the subject was mentioned, just to assure him that the Republicans had chosen their position entirely independent of all or any considerations, save such as to them alone seemed good and sufficient. It was then that Mr. Barceló notified the Governor that Mr. Esteves could not be confirmed, as it had developed that certain Unionist Senators would not support Mr. Esteves, for reasons we need not here discuss.

The "coalition" between the parties was a renewal of the old policy of appointing Unionist districts, and Republicans in Republican districts, and further, that in either case, the officials elected should be men of such character that their appointments would not be personally offensive to the minority.

In the meantime, the Governor asked both parties to submit a list of names from which he might select a nominee for Commissioner of the Interior. The Republicans presented four names.

The Unionist leader, Mr. Barceló again hoped for the confirmation of Mr. Esteves, and whether or not his party presented the names of other availables we do not know; and as to the names sent in by the Republicans, why, the Governor still has them, and no doubt he will always keep them. It does not matter.

As a result of these triflings, the Governor and both parties drifted apart, the two parties were barely friendly, and at the end, the executive branch of the government was without a friend in the legislature. The Governor was "mad" and the legislature was disgusted.

Now, as we have said, the majority in the Senate had an entire misconception of its powers. It assumed powers never granted or exercised under our system of government. That was one cause of the trouble. The other cause was that the Governor entertained extreme notions as to his prerogatives, and was absolutely without knowledge or experience in the delicate work he had undertaken, and hence must fail.

Again, there never was a man who thought he knew as much about men and measures, and who actually knew as little, as Governor Yager. Never was there a more opinionated man. And the situation was further complicated by the fact that the few men upon whom he could safely rely, and upon whom he might rely, as friends, were lost in the fog of his self-esteem.

It is an old and well established fact that a man who needs assistance to the reunion Los Co. Asistieron a la reunion Los Co. cuando que se crea mas convenien- Se dejó sobre la mesa hasta el momento, para entonces tomar el

"The Reliable Jeweler"

ing *Post* about our local troubles in general and his own in particular. We read.

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Then the Governor tells the *Post* about what he terms a "deadlock", although he was the only "dead one", and Domenech was locked out. He said:

"The deadlock came about when I declined to oust Manuel V. Donemeh, Secretary of the Interior, a Republican and a first class official, from his post to make way for a Unionist. The party demanded four principal executive offices, including that of the secretaryship of the interior department. I conceded three of the offices, but refused to give up Mr. Domenech. The Senate could not see it as I did, and turned down my nomination of Mr. Domenech, and I refused to make another appointment.

"There was another fight over a judgeship at Ponce. I wished to retain Judge Sepulveda, a Republican, but they objected, and I had a hard time to get him confirmed, but finally won. *The Republicans eventually got together with the Unionists on the matter of patronage and formed a coalition, both of them jumping on the Governor.*"

But the Governor did give up Mr. Domenech, and was ready to send in the name of Mr. Esteves, when he was told that the latter could not be confirmed.

The Republicans and Unionists did not form a "coalition and jump on the Governor." The Governor was as elusive as a flea. He was not in one place long enough to be jumped on even by another flea. The Republicans, in writing, notified the Governor that they would not vote to confirm Mr. Esteves. Senator Iglesias was known to entertain the same view.

The Republicans had notified the Governor that they would not support the nomination of Mr. Esteves before they came to any understanding with the Unionists at all. Thus,

The Unionist leader, Mr. Barcelo again hoped for the confirmation of Mr. Esteves, and whether or not his party presented the names of other availables we do not know; and as to the names sent in by the Republicdms, why, the Governor still has them, and no doubt he will always keep them. It does not matter.

As a result of these triflings, the Governor and both parties drifted apart, the two parties were barely friendly, and at the end, the executive branch of the government was without a friend in the legislature. The Governor was "mad" and the legislature was disgusted.

Now, as we have said, the majority in the Senate had an entire misconception of its powers. It assumed powers never granted or exercised under our system of government. That was one cause of the trouble. The other cause was that the Governor entertained extreme notions as to his prerogatives, and was absolutely without knowledge or experience in the delicate work he had undertaken, and hence must fail.

Again, there never was a man who thought he knew as much about men and measures, and who actually knew as little, as Governor Yager. Never was there a more opinionated man. And the situation was further complicated by the fact that the few men upon whom he could safely rely, and upon whom he might rely, as friends, were lost in the fog of his self-esteem.

It is an old and well established fact that a man who needs

"The Reliable Jeweler"

Se dejó sobre la mesa hasta el hierro, para entonces tomar el acuerdo que se crea más conveniente. Asistieron a la reunión los Conisionados Lee, Sánchez Morales,

Medical Society

86711

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EDITORIAL

THE GOVERNOR'S INTERVIEW

The New York Evening Post of the 28th of December presents an interview with Governor Yager that contains many remarkable statements. His "children" in Porto Rico will be astonished at some of his utterances. One paragraph, so wholly inconsistent with his well known utterances in Porto Rico, follows:

"This Government will never allow the American flag to be hauled down in Porto Rico, despite the issue of independence raised by a faction of the Unionist party. Pretences by the *politicos*, or professional politicians, that the islanders can only be happy if independent and under a sort of American protectorate, are not indicative of the real spirit of Porto Rico, for the mass of the people are loyal, and mean to be real Americans. The issue of independence has been raised by the professional political agitators only because they found themselves without any important party issue when the Jones act, granting citizenship, went into effect last March."

Has the Governor changed his mind? Has he become convinced that his statements during the campaign to the effect that the Unionists were not for independence, were erroneous? Does he yet believe that they are just as good Americans as he is, and "all right at heart"? etc., etc.

Since he has reversed himself on this question, we must conclude that he was easily deceived, of that his talk during the campaign was not sincere. He wanted an excuse for supporting a bureaucratic system of government until by some *hocus pocus*, the people of the United States should become reconciled to a colonial system that cannot be realized as long as the decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States shall stand as now recorded.

In this interview, in the paragraph quoted, the Governor hoots the idea of independence under a protectorate. And yet, it would be equivalent to calling him a very stupid man to say that he did not know this at election time, and that he did not know that the advocates of this scheme, with the single exception of Mr. Domenech, and two or three judicial appointments, have always been the recipients of such honors and emoluments as he has had to bestow or recommend.

THE TIMES is confirmed in the view expressed some time since to the effect that the Governor was fully advised of the fact that he was lending the support of his office to those who were hostile to the purposes of the United States government; that he was doing this to defeat the efforts of those who were and are seeking to fully incorporate Porto Rico into the United States as a part thereof, the Governor believing that those who favor possessionism would thus be enabled to defeat their opponents in detail; in this case, defeating last those who were receiving gubernational support until the present controversy arose.

The truth seems to be that the Governor imagines that he is yet dealing with boys and girls, and children, as he always has in his life's experience. It is a serious mistake. He is dealing with men who are far and away his superiors in their knowledge of politics, of men, and of public affairs. And now comes a yet more remarkable statement:

"There are many reasons why the United States should

But always the President has been at pains to announce to the Dominicans and to our neighboring republics of the South, that the United States government would not under any circumstances forcibly possess itself of one foot of a neighbor's territory. The importance of this declaration is well known, and was but a repetition of the statement made by Secretary Elihu Root in his address at Rio Janeiro some years ago. Ambassadors have been recalled for less indiscretion than was shown by the Governor in talking about matters not within the scope of their duties or authority. A private lecture would not amount to anything. A rebuke in the way of a recall is

completo del año 1918 antes del 5 de Enero próximo. Szuze y Raedler, Buenos Aires. Lezzy, Alberto, Buenos Aires. President can place himself right be- Buenos Aires.

Orical Society

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"There are many reasons why the United States should not quit Porto Rico, and there are none why it should. This Government will stay in Porto Rico and keep Porto Rico. We now have the Virgin Islands, over which our flag floats near by, and where it will remain, and we have control of Santo Domingo. We shall probably never get out of Santo Domingo, either. We shall continue to exercise our political and military protectorate there, and maintain order and promote prosperity in the Caribbean. The United States now controls all the Atlantic approaches to the Caribbean, and, while we have no imperialistic tendencies, we shall preserve and protect ourselves and the West Indies as a part of our practice of the Monroe Doctrine."

If this declaration of the Dominican policy of the National government does not result in the recall of the Governor we shall be greatly surprised. As the statement in the interview is in direct conflict with the repeated declarations of the President, it seems to us that the retention of the Governor would be tantamount to an endorsement of the utterance made.

It is not necessary to review the causes leading up to the present situation in Santo Domingo. The efforts by the President to aid the Dominicans in the election of a president and the establishment of a responsible civil government are easily within the memory of all of those who read. More than once was the effort made. Finally, the repeated violations of the treaty between the United States and the Dominican Republic, violations that placed the former in a very embarrassing position, resulted in the necessity of intervention on the part of our government.

POLITICA MENUDA

En el berenjal político en que nos hemos metido lo único claro y definido es el Partido Republicano. Los otros elementos que juegan en la política del país andan trastornados, y carentes de una definición que fije su contribución para resolver las cuestiones político-administrativas del territorio. No se necesita un gran esfuerzo mental en esta situación particularísima que es así y que se acerca el momento en que aparezca esa definición, comprendiendo en ella la que atañe a los elementos nuevos que se apellidan socialistas, con un programa obrero, la que se refiere a los partidarios de la confusa Unión de Puerto Rico y, sobre todo, a la orientación y conducta del gobierno de Puerto Rico.

Para que este problema de diferenciación pueda resolverse fácilmente hay que contar como base del mismo, que cese, de facto, el Negociado de Asuntos Insulares de la Secretaría de la Guerra de entender exclusivamente en todos los asuntos del gobierno de Puerto Rico.

La ley constitucional puede ser cumplida, en tanto se vuelva a lo que disponía sobre el particular la pasada ley orgánica, adscribiendo los negocios de este territorio insular a la Secretaría de Estado o a la Secretaría del Interior. No ha podido darse, todavía, una razón satisfactoria, para que no deba ser así o para justificar que nuestros asuntos caigan derechamente dentro de las atribuciones que la organización del gobierno general comete al ministro de la Guerra.

Bien visto este asunto, hemos de confesar que las responsabilidades del gobierno en Puerto Rico no son directas, sino secundarias, en cuanto que la labor diaria nos está diciendo que el cable habla más de lo que fuera preciso, y que no se mueve aquí la hoja del árbol sin la voluntad del jefe del Negociado de Asuntos insulares de la Secretaría de la Guerra.

El fracaso del docto catedrático Arthur Yager, es directamente el fracaso de Frank McIntyre.

Y hay rumores de que el caballero gobernador no vuelve. Son rumores que no vienen, a nosotros,

al menos, reforzados por la procedencia de buen origen. Pero es lo cierto que el rumor existe, que rueda y se añade que hay algún movimiento para obtener recomendaciones en favor del actual gobernante interino, y de un joven compatriota nuestro que ha servido con éxito en igual capacidad.

Si esto fuera así; si fuera cierto que el hombre que logró activar y ultimar el cambio de la constitución de Puerto Rico no vuelve al país por haber fracasado en la implantación de su propia obra; si se confirmara que en época tan temprana de la vida del nuevo régimen hubiera de cambiarse el signo del poder ejecutivo para colocar un hombre nuevo, habríamos de declarar en alta voz, sin reservas de ninguna clase, que ese hombre

Cumplimientos

En el día de ayer los oficiales de reserva felicitaron a su comandante el Coronel Owal P. Townshend con motivo del Año Nuevo. El Coronel Townshend presentó los oficiales portorriqueños al teniente coronel Davis, de Infantería de Marina de los Estados Unidos, y gobernador militar de la provincia de San Pedro de Macorís, Santo Domingo, el cual permanecerá diez días en esta Isla.

Más tarde los oficiales cumplieron al gobernador interino Mr. Kern.

Esta tarde celebrará sesión el Consejo Ejecutivo, para tratar sobre la ordenanza autorizando al Concejo Municipal de San Juan, a invertir setenta mil dólares en obras para el campamento militar.

Fiesta transferida

La fiesta que según anunciamos, debió celebrarse ayer en el Colegio de Niñas de Santurce, en la convalecencia de Río Piedras, ha sido transferida para mañana jueves, a la una de la tarde.

Saludo y obsequio

Ayer los empleados del municipio cumplieron al Alcalde Sr. Todd por ser día de año nuevo.

El Sr. Todd les obsequió con su característica esplendidez.

nuevo, no puede, ni debe ser elegido en Puerto Rico, pues ninguno de los políticos que pudiéramos aceptar como útiles en el poder ejecutivo están libres de prejuicios, compromisos y ataduras dañosas para los intereses generales del país, en estos momentos de crisis de varias clases, y para la paz moral que es atmósfera necesaria para el desarrollo del sistema de gobierno recién inaugurado.

Si ha fracasado el gobernador por carencia de visión política; y ha fracasado, consiguientemente el otro gobernador Mc Intyre, se impone la necesidad de enviar un hombre que no tenga relaciones en Puerto Rico, que sea un demócrata genuino, si así cuadra a la política nacionalista de Washington, y que, de algún modo, conozca la génesis de la Ley Jones, el proceso de su disensión, y sanción última, así como la historia esencial de la gobernación de Puerto Rico desde la instauración del gobierno civil hasta los momentos en que se estableció este sistema de gobierno territorial en el cual estamos dando los primeros pasos, ni haber logrado que se nacionalice la política del país.

Nuestra voz, la voz de los partidos debiera ser oída en Washington en el momento de designar un sucesor a Mr. Yager, si ese es el caso.

Las ambiciones, las inexperiencias, deben relegarse a tiempos de menos compromisos para intereses de alto cuidado y trascendencia.

El próximo día diez del mes en curso se verá ante el Tribunal Supremo de Justicia, el caso, en apelación, en que ha de decidirse si Puerto Rico es o no un Territorio Organizado e incorporado a los Estados Unidos.

El Attorney General, Mr. Howard L. Kern, en funciones de gobernador interino al presente, como apelante del fallo será representado por el Hon. Córdova Dávila, Comisionado Residente de Puerto Rico en Washington.

El director de la parte inglesa de EL TIEMPO, el Juez Willis Sweet, sale hoy del país y acudirá a la sesión en que se ha de delatar tan interesante cuestión para la suerte de nuestra tierra, que es tierra americana.

¡ESTOS PAISANOS MIOS!



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Pero, si eso del nombramiento no es más que un rumor. Esperemos a ver si se confirma. Y suspendan, en tanto, las felicitaciones.

Sólo queda UN DIA para renovar la suscripción a "EL TIEMPO." Después le costará SIETE dólares.

EL TIEMPO

EL DIARIO MAS PROGRESISTA DE LAS ANTILLAS.

VOL XXIII. No 3430.

SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO, EE. UU DE A., SABADO 5 DE ENERO, 1918

Importantes manifestaciones del Presidente del Senado

El Sr. Barceló tuvo la bondad de hacerlas a un representante de EL TIEMPO

Ayer tarde un reporter de EL TIEMPO estuvo en la oficina del presidente del Senado Sr. Barceló y le hizo varias preguntas que él contestó expresándose más o menos en los siguientes términos:

El día 4 del mes de febrero próximo reanuda su sesión la Legislatura y se aprobarán algunos proyectos importantes, que están en trámites. En cuanto a los proyectos que vetó el gobernador, dijo que serán reconsiderados y enmendados aquellos que deban serlo, y mandados de nuevo para la firma del gobernador. Si fuesen vetados nuevamente, se someterán a la aprobación del número de representantes y senadores que requiere la ley, para ser sometidos a la aprobación del presidente en Washington.

—¿Qué noticias tiene usted de los Estados Unidos?

—Sr. Barceló: Recibo cartas con frecuencia del Comisionado Residente Sr. Córdova Dávila y me tiene al corriente de sus trabajos y de todos aquellos asuntos que le interesan al país.

—Se ha dicho que usted tiene una carta del Comisionado Residente en que él trata de los asuntos relacionados con la ruptura ocurrida entre la Legislatura y el Gobernador. ¿Quiere usted enseñármela?

El Sr. Barceló trató de evadir la contestación, pero al fin manifestó

que recibió una carta del Sr. Córdova Dávila por el correo último, acompañada de la copia de una carta que el Presidente Wilson le dirigió en contestación a otra en que el Comisionado informaba al presidente, de la ruptura de relaciones de la rama legislativa con la ejecutiva.

En la mencionada carta el Presidente Wilson expresa su creencia de que un sincero propósito, por ambas partes en disputa, puede dar como resultado una franca cordialidad, y se lamenta de que "tal situación se haya presentado en un período tan serio en la historia de los Estados Unidos."

La carta del Comisionado Residente, según dijo el Sr. Barceló, contiene generalidades y en ella informa que recibió en su oficina la visita del gobernador Yager, con quien departió largo rato sobre las cuestiones de Puerto Rico y que sostuvo en todas sus partes las actuaciones de la Legislatura.

El gobernador llevaba el propósito de gestionar lo necesario para que se aprobara una enmienda para la Ley Jones, pero desistió de su intento cuando pulsó la opinión de los señores Senadores Representantes, que no se muestran ahora dispuestos a dedicar el tiempo a asuntos de esta isla, teniendo, como tienen, graves cuestiones internacionales por resolver.

El gobernador siguió viaje para Kentucky y seguramente visitará al presidente antes de volver.

Cuando vuelva a la isla, si vuelve—dijo el Sr. Barceló—vendrá rectificando su conducta y entrando en franca armonía con los representantes de la opinión pública de este país.

En términos generales, el Sr. Barceló se mostró optimista y expresó su creencia de que al terminarse la sesión de la Legislatura todo marchará satisfactoriamente.

—Reporter: ¿Tiene usted noticias de que el gobernador Yager haya presentado la renuncia?

—El Sr. Barceló: Noticia oficial no tengo ninguna; sólo he recogido rumores. Pero no tendría nada de particular, y si se confirmaran esos rumores creo llegado el momento de que todo los portorriqueños nos movamos para conseguir que sea nombrado como gobernador un nativo, sea quien fuere, con tal de que sea un paisano nuestro.

El Sr. Barceló terminó preguntándole a nuestro repórter a qué va Mr. Sweet a los Estados Unidos, pregunta que le fué imposible contestar por desconocer los motivos del viaje.

El repórter se despidió dándole las gracias al Sr. Barceló por su cortesía.

It would be a happy New Year for us if Mr. Barcelo had not thrown away his pardon, and if we had some reason to hope that Dr. Barbosa might be forgiven without an apology. But we doubt if the Unionist leader will be able to recall the Governor's indulgence and we also fear that Barbosa will not apologize. In the case of Barcelo, we may say that "the mill will never grind again with the water that is passed;" and in the case of Barbosa, the mill race is dry and there is no water at all with which to turn the apologetic wheel. The whole thing throws a shadow over what would otherwise be a happy New Year for us.

We note that the Unionist Central Committee has held another meeting and the inside guard has allowed a story to creep out to the effect that the members of the committee were more or less distressed over the situation. While we are not in sympathy with the independence propaganda of our Unionist friends, yet we feel kindly towards them personally, and again we renew the suggestion that they issue rain checks to the boys who yet remain outside the breastworks. It will be impossible, we think, to make the pay-rolls of the Sanidad and the Labor Bureau long enough to accommodate the waiting hosts. But by issuing rain checks, and if necessary rain coats, those holding the checks might obtain some credit if they should be in need of it. With this object in view, the checks should be numbered and with those who hold the first numbers, they would be almost as good as a name on a pay roll. A compromise with the Governor would make the first numbers as good as cash.

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NEW YORK CITY.
Frank M. Welty, Vice President.
SAN JUAN PORTO RICO.

DEPOSITARY
FOR THE
UNITED STATES

San Juan

Jan. 7, 1918.

Arthur Yager
City

\$202-00 debited to your account.

The Second Liberty Loan bonds bear interest at the rate of 4% annually, beginning Nov. 15th, 1917. As the interest of said bonds belongs to any bond holders, it is necessary that an adjustment of interest be made by those who purchased bonds under the installment plan on the balance pending to be paid from Nov. 15th to Jan. 15th, 1918.

The interest due by you on your \$500-00 subscription after taking into consideration payments made on Oct. 27th and Nov. 15th, 1917, amounts to \$202-00 and would thank you to favor us with your remittance to cover, together with your last installment (Last installment and interest must be in our hands on or before Jan. 13th, 1918) advice of which is enclosed herewith. When making your remittance, kindly send us both advices, which we will mark "PAID" and return to you.

Yours very truly,

F. M. WELTY,
Vice-President.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE
PORTO RICO

January 9, 1918.

My dear Governor Yager;

First I desire to express to you my sincere appreciation of your kindness in presenting to me, thru Miss Hibbard, that very handsome photograph of yourself. I consider it an excellent picture of you, and it was indeed very gratifying to receive it during the Christmas holidays.

There has been nothing of importance going on that would justify my diverting your attention from "big" things in the States to a letter from me; and as I understand Pedro and Mr. Kerr have written you with reference to the happenings of the day and current events generally, I have refrained from writing.

You have probably seen all the articles in the daily newspapers with reference to the Governor; also that Mr. Trabieso is here; that several Germans have been brought before the Federal Court; that the War Zone has been surveyed along the water front, taking in the Postoffice building, Royal Bank of Canada building, etc.

Mr. Hathaway has returned from Santo Domingo, and I feel almost certain that he will be made Postmaster General of the Dominican Republic, at any rate it is quite certain that he will be placed at the head of the service over there.

The Local Boards are all doing good work, and the District Board is now in shape and beginning to certify men to the Adjutant General; the quotas from three or four towns having been certified. The preliminaries in connection with the establishment of the cantonment have been undertaken and the Adjutant General's Office will be ready to send the drafted men, I believe, as soon as they can be received by the training camp. Preparations are now under way for the organization of a second Officers' Training Camp.

Personally I am well and right on the job. I go to Major Wilson's office every day and we have everything now running in fine shape. All back work entirely cleaned up; new regulations nearly translated, and we will be ready to work on the questionnaires and classifications as soon as we have finished with the

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(9 Jan 18)

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first draft. I have received from The Adjutant General's office my commission as Captain in the Infantry Section of the Officers' Reserve Corps - a distinction and honor which I feel very proud of indeed.

The boat will leave within a short time so I must close this brief letter.

I hope that you and Mrs. Yager and Mrs. Lewis are all enjoying the best of health and that you found all of the children well and happy in their work. Miss Diana I understand is out in Detroit visiting her Vassar classmate Miss Osborne. Holmes must be quite a big fellow now; and I have been wondering if you found Dr. Rodes wearing the uniform of the Medical Reserve Corps. It must have been a delightful reunion if you were able to get all together for the holidays, as I hope you did. I trust the cold weather has done you all a world of good and that you will all return safe and well after a thoroughly pleasant and satisfactory vacation.

Very sincerely yours,


Arthur Yager.

Honorable Arthur Yager,
Governor of Porto Rico,
Bureau of Insular Affairs,
War Department, Washington, D.C.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE
PORTO RICO

San Juan, December 19, 1917.

Hon. Arthur Yager,
Governor of Porto Rico,
c/o Bureau of Insular Affairs,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Governor Yager:

Since writing you last week there has been very little of unusual matters to report upon. Mr. Roberts informed me last night that the Tobacco Company and its workers would sign an agreement to-day settling the tobacco strike. He states that the labor organizations have threatened a strike of agricultural laborers for the sugar districts beginning sometime after the holidays, probably about the middle of January; that they submitted to the Sugar Growers' Association certain demands which had not been considered by the Sugar Growers' Association until the last meeting. However, no information has come to the office of the Governor in regard to this matter, and probably Mr. Roberts will sail for the States to-day. He states that he has requested the labor people here to refrain from any strike but to ask the mediation of the Federal Government, and that he will endeavor to secure the cooperation of Mr. Gompers and Secretary Wilson to carry out this program.

The papers during the last week have had very little to say in regard to the situation of the Governor and the leaders of the parties, but there has been no acknowledgment of the true situation. However, Mr. Barceló and Mr. Huyke came to see me yesterday, and Mr. Barceló while denying that he was fully responsible for all of the articles that appeared in the "Democracia" and also arguing

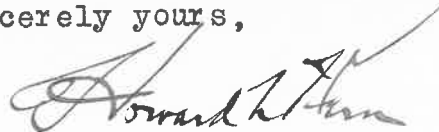
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that the statement in the "Democracia" was not a misrepresentation of the facts but that it could be interpreted as a fair statement, admitted that a further explanation giving the full facts of the situation would be advisable. He argued that the words that Mr. Barcelo had appeared "by indication of" the Governor did not mean the same as on the petition of the Governor. However, he says that the main responsibility for this situation is due to the lack of harmony in the Unionist Party, and that he is directly accusing Mr. de Diego and certain elements of the Unionist Party of being responsible for the whole situation; that he will do this in the Unionist assembly which will convene soon, and that at the same time he will take advantage of this situation to make a public statement that will serve to correct some of the mistakes of the past.

Hoping that you are enjoying your vacation,

Sincerely yours,



The Filson Historical Society

For Pers. File

P.F.

UNITED STATES SENATE
Committee on
Pacific Islands and Porto Rico,
Washington, D.C.

Enero 21, 1918.

Hon. Arthur Yager,
Gobernador de Puerto Rico,
San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Mi querido Gobernador:-

Tengo el gusto de acusarle recibo de su carta de enero 18 escrita desde el Hotel Astor, New York,

El objeto y fin de la Sección 31 de la ley orgánica para proveer de un gobierno civil a Puerto Rico y para otros fines, aprobada marzo 3, 1917, fueron el de permitir a la legislatura terminar sus asuntos sin estar obligada a levantar la sesión al vencimiento de los 90 días dispuestos en la antedicha sección. Esta disposición fué tomada de la Constitución del Estado de Missouri donde había estado en vigor por más de 40 años. Antes de adoptarse esta medida había sido la norma de algunos legisladores quienes se oponían a ciertos proyectos de ley demorar una gran parte del trabajo de la legislatura hasta hacer imposible la terminación del trabajo de la sesión dentro del límite de los 90 días prescritos y la disposición fué adoptada con el fin de dar a la legislatura tiempo suficiente para pasar aquellos proyectos.

11898

(21 Jan 18)

que la mayoría de sus miembros deseaban decretar. La limitación de un dollar diario como compensación a los miembros de la legislatura después del vencimiento de los 90 días fué hecha con el fin de impedir que la dieta de \$7.00 diarios fuera un aliciente para hacerlos continuar en sesión cuando no fuera absolutamente necesario. Con esta enmienda constitucional en ninguna ocasión dejó la legislatura de Missouri de terminar sus asuntos y levantar la sesión sine die.

En Colorado el Estado paga un sueldo de \$1,000 a cada miembro por el término legislativo de dos años sin tener en cuenta el tiempo que la legislatura permanezca en sesión. El pago adelantado, sin embargo, se hace a razón de \$7.00 diarios mientras la legislatura está en sesión y cualquier sobrante que quede se paga al legislador al vencimiento de su término. De acuerdo con esta disposición constitucional las legislaturas siempre han tenido una sesión continua hasta pasar las leyes que deseaban decretar y entonces levantaban la sesión sine die. Varias sesiones extraordinarias han sido convocadas en cumplimiento de disposiciones parecidas a las que existen en la ley orgánica de Puerto Rico.

A mi juicio sería un gran error de la legislatura de Puerto Rico utilizar un poder, aunque lo tuviera, que es contrario al verdadero espíritu de la ley orgánica, porque esto podría inducir al Congreso a modificar la ley orgánica

(21 Jan 18)

en ese particular.

Con respecto al nombramiento de funcionarios siempre ha creído que los nombramientos de un presidente o gobernador deben ser confirmados por el Senado a menos que surja alguna cuestión acerca de la capacidad, honradez o moralidad del funcionario designado. El Presidente y Gobernador son principalmente responsables de los nombramientos y sus administraciones son aprobadas o criticadas por motivo de dichos nombramientos, mientras que el Senado nunca se hace responsable al electorado por haber confirmado un funcionario designado a menos que dicho funcionario designado sea reconocido como un hombre incapaz, inmoral o malo. Yo asumí esa actitud cuando era Gobernador del Estado de Colorado y tenía que hacer los nombramientos de funcionarios para aquel gobierno, y me he adherido a ese procedimiento confirmando los nombramientos enviados por el Presidente de los Estados Unidos desde que he estado en el Senado. Yo nunca he rehusado votar en favor de confirmación por el hecho de que el funcionario propuesto fuere del partido contrario al mío o porque me fuera personalmente desagradable. Creo que ésta ha sido la costumbre del Senado de los Estados Unidos por muchos años.

Cuando el Presidente Cleveland, un Demócrata, ocupó la Presidencia, había un Senado Republicano y ellos no

(21 Jan 18)

-4-

solamente le confirmaron sus nombramientos de miembros del Gabinete sino que también prácticamente todos sus otros nombramientos del partido Demócrata.

Creo que la verdadera prueba debería ser la de confirmar los funcionarios propuestos a menos que el funcionario propuesto fuera claramente reconocido incapáz para el puesto, inmoral o malo. A mi juicio debe haber siempre un esfuerzo de parte del Gobernador por un lado y de la legislatura por el otro, de llegar a un acuerdo para reconocer las prerrogativas usuales de cada uno, porque esto encamina a una mejor administración e inspira confianza en todo el pueblo del deseo de cooperar en vez de desintegrar el trabajo del Gobierno.

Con mis mejores deseos, quedo

Suyo sinceramente,

(Firmado) John F. Shafroth.



Hotel Flanders

133-135-137 WEST 47TH STREET

134-136 WEST 48TH STREET

HORACE R. SHARES
Proprietor

New York May 31-18

Hon. Arthur Yager,
Governor of P. R.
San Juan, P. R.

Dear Governor:

I am attaching
hereto copy of the letter
I have written to the President,
according to our conversa-
tion -

I am afraid the English
is not up to the standard,
but I have not had any
body at hand to make
corrections. That is what
you get for having
pressions!

1177

I thought for a moment
to send a copy to
Gen. Ellic Intyre, but I did
not do it lest it might
not fit your plans.

Very sincerely yours

J. Sanchez order

May 30, 1918.

Honorable Woodrow Wilson,
President of the United States,
White House,
Washington, D. C.

Mr. President:

In the interest of my native country, Porto Rico, I dare to address myself to you on a matter which is being the subject of great concern throughout the Island for all who care for its future. I refer to the charges made against Mr. Arthur Yager, Governor of Porto Rico, by Mr. Santiago Iglesias, a radical Socialist, at the head of the local organization of the American Federation of Labor.

I am a business man who has taken part in the public affairs of Porto Rico, for the last twenty-five years. I was a member of the Executive Council for thirteen years, and its President for seven years, elected annually by the unanimous vote of its members, Americans, and Porto Ricans of both parties. I do not hold now any political office, my public activities being confined to the discharge of several commissions connected with the war needs.

The accusations of Iglesias against Governor Yager are in the most part of so gross an nature that cannot be seriously taken by anybody who knows Mr. Yager. That a man like him, American and honest to the core, can be aiding the enemy, or making misleading statements, is simply a slander and shows the general character of the charges, the rest of which may very well be judged by these, so clearly false and unjust.

In the matter of right of assemblage for organized labor I do not think that the gift of speech has been more used and abused anywhere than in Porto Rico, by man so-called labor leaders. Iglesias himself has been the worst offender, his terrible insults on the public platform to anybody of his dislike, including Governor Yager, having been a matter of general knowledge and comment.

Poisoning of the minds of our labor men has been going on for many years and constitutes a disgrace and a lurking danger for Porto Rico, and especially for the true interests of our workingmen, in the liberal and equitable adjustment of labor rights which is bound to become the most pressing social problem, after the war is over.

(30-May-18)

- 2 -

All Porto Ricans have enjoyed full freedom of speech under the American flag and the labor men have availed themselves aplenty of that right, Governor Yager having always been not only respectful thereof, but a firm defender of this and other rights of the people. He is by nature and education a democratic man, in sympathy with our people and loyal to American ideals, who aims to be a guider, not a dictator, on the Governor's seat.

It is true that in a few instances public expressions of anarchical and incendiary ideas have been repressed, and their exponents prosecuted, but this simply shows that we have not yet arrived in Porto Rico at the Bolsheviki conception of liberty, to which men like Iglesias are trying to lead our masses.

I was not in Porto Rico at the time of the Second Liberty Loan, but I was there during the campaigns in connection with the first and third issues. Instructions came to the Insular authorities late during the campaign for subscriptions to the First Liberty Loan, and there was very little time left to properly organize the work. I know by reliable references that the Governor took an active part in the Second Liberty Loan campaign, using all the influence of his office, and his personal prestige to the end of securing the largest possible amount of bond sales. He certainly did it to the utmost as to the Third issue, and I can testify to that because my position as President of an important bank enabled me to know how the work was being done. I was one of several business men who made a personal canvassing from house to house, securing subscriptions, at the request of the Governor.

How it has been possible for a man of the type of Iglesias to obtain a hearing within the high labor circles of the States, is at first sight an amazing performance, but easily explainable by the disposition of the American Labor to help our masses, which would have given that opportunity to any man of daring (of which Iglesias has plenty) and of fairly addressing faculties who had assumed the role of champion of our poor "gibaros". Really, we have before us a great task to accomplish for the uplifting of our workingmen, especially the country laborers, and that Mr. Iglesias should have attained the part of their representative and leader is a great misfortune.

(30 May 18)

- 3 -

That has been made easy for him because on account of the many blessings that we owe to the American rule, our people are inclined to accept as good anything or anybody that bears, or seems to bear, the stamp of the American approval or enforcement. Once Mr. Iglesias could present himself before the Porto Ricans as the spokesman of the American Federation of Labor, the disdainful indifference with which he was regarded by our laborers began to melt into a kindly curious admiration, and his following increased in the same measure as his apparent or real prestige with that national organization and his leader, Mr. Gompers, a great and patriotic man, who can best be described by saying that he is the reverse of Mr. Iglesias, but whose generous sympathy for our distant and special labor problems has carried him to a wrong appreciation of the man who has been made all that he is in our country, by Mr. Gompers himself.

And when Mr. Iglesias found himself a labor leader and a Senator he could increase his influence with the American Federation of Labor still more. So he is playing two ends against the middle, and is apt to become the wrecking rock of our social betterment, if the trick is not detected in time by Continental and Porto Rican Americans in enough authority and popular favor to burst the bubble.

It is unthinkable that Mr. Iglesias' utterances can have the effect he desires in regard to the Governor. If Mr. Iglesias could by any possible circumstance pose as having returned to Porto Rico with the removal of the Governor in his pocket, that will be a calamity for our country, as it will cause a disturbed condition of the public mind, pregnant with all kinds of danger for the Island's welfare.

Our people are peacefully inclined; our laborers are the best material for social improvement, and Porto Ricans do not as a rule oppose reforms and progress. On the contrary, they have shown themselves to be ready to respond to the call of the times; they love justice and like to stand and fight for the cause of the oppressed and the poor.

The possibilities for solving our labor problem in a modern, just and orderly manner are very promising, but a Lenine might ruin them.

(30 May 18)

- 4 -

There are nowadays two great tasks for the civilized world to accomplish; the more imminent is to destroy the Teuton menace to democracy, the other is to save democracy from anarchy.

You are, Mr. President, the man of the hour, capable of coping with so tremendous undertakings, leading the great nation of which Porto Rico is a part. Help us to save ourselves from men and things which are a danger to liberty in our small island, which is fighting by your side in the struggle for the ideals that have made you great.

Very respectfully,

The Filson Historical Society

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
OF PORTO RICO

OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

May 1918.

Honorable Arthur Yager,
Governor of Porto Rico,
San Juan, P. R.

My dear Governor:-

The charges recently filed by Mr. Samuel Gompers against you in connection with the labor situation in Porto Rico, have just come to my notice, and I desire to avail myself of this opportunity to offer you my utmost solidarity in the matter.

In all my relations as Vice-President of the House and Speaker pro tempore of the same, I have found that you have always taken great interest in the welfare of our working classes, and that you have at all times been ready to lend your aid in all measures tending to improve their condition.

With expressions of my sincere regard, I am, Sir,

Yours respectfully,


SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE.

CHARLES HARTZELL
Chairman.

EMILIO DEL TORO
Vice-Chairman.



J. W. BLANGO
Secretary.

JOSE E. BENEDICTO
Treasurer.

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

PORTO RICO CHAPTER

P. O. BOX 996

CHAPTER HEADQUARTERS
ROOM 312
FEDERAL BUILDING

SAN JUAN, P. R., June 1, 1918.

Hon. Arthur Yager,
Governor of Porto Rico.

My dear Governor Yager:

I want to congratulate you most highly on the success of your efforts in the sale of the White House wool, and to say that the matter in my opinion was largely a personal triumph for yourself.

In connection with the absolute necessity that we must all help to make the Second War Fund Drive a success will you permit me to make you this suggestion?

That in writing your letter of thanks to your friends in the Island who have sent to you written bids which were opened last night at the auction, that you ask each of these bidders to donate to the Second War Fund Drive at least a portion of the amount of the bids which they made for the wool. I do not have any doubt but that in this way you will be able to help us very materially as I am sure that a personal solicitation of this kind on your part would result in getting us quite a lot of money.

I am sure that your personal help in this work is imperatively required, and I am expecting that I shall have your fullest cooperation in the matter.

Very truly,

Chairman.

CH/JV

11 X 28

F. P.

SOCIETY OF TAMMANY
NEW YORK
June 5, 1918.

Hon. Arthur Yager,
Governor of Porto Rico,
San Juan, Porto Rico.

Dear Sir:

On the 4th of July next the Tammany Society will hold in Tammany Hall, at 10 o'clock A. M., its celebration of the one hundred and forty-third anniversary of American independence. The occasion is designed to be of exceptional significance and extended effect.

We would greatly value an expression of your views appropriate to this anniversary of our country's independence.

Yours very respectfully,

John R. Voorhis,
Grand Sachem

Charles F. Murphy	Thomas Darlington
Louis F. Haffen	Frank J. Goodwin
Alfred E. Smith	Henry W. Unger

Thomas F. Smith

11 x 78

CHARLES HARTZELL
Chairman.

EMILIO DEL TORO
Vice-Chairman.



J. W. BLANCO
Secretary.

JOSE E. BENEDICTO
Treasurer.

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS
PORTO RICO CHAPTER
P. O. BOX 996



CHAPTER HEADQUARTERS
ROOM 312
FEDERAL BUILDING

SAN JUAN, P. R., June 15, 1918.

Governor Arthut Yager,
San Juan, Porto Rico.

My dear Governor Yager:

I have your favor of June 10th. in which you expressed your high appreciation of the action taken by the Executive Committee of the Porto Rico Chapter of the Red Cross Society in the adoption of the resolution relative to certain charges made against yourself, as Governor of Porto Rico, in relation to the work of the Red Cross.

I shall take occasion to present your splendid letter to the Executive Committee of the Red Cross Society, and I need not assure you, that personally, I have never had the slightest doubt or question of your entire devotion to the work of the American Red Cross in Porto Rico, and your constant efforts to assist in every possible way in connection with this work, has been evident to me in connection with every matter which to my knowledge has come to your attention, and which could advance the interest of the Society.

Yours very truly,

Charles Hartzell

Chairman.

CH/JV

11798

June 18, 1918.

My dear Mr. Giorgetti:

I am enclosing herein my check for \$125.00 as an additional contribution to the Second War-Fund of the American Red Cross.

I would appreciate it if you could distribute this money as follows:

For myself,.....\$50.00

For Mrs. Yager,..... 50.00

For Miss Diana Yager,.... 25.00

I have had this in mind for a week or more but have been awaiting some opportunity to hand the check to some Committee who might possibly come to me upon this mission.

I desire to congratulate the Committee upon the successful completion of a creditable contribution on the part of the people of Porto Rico to this most important work. I am sure that this has required much time and labor from yourself and from your Committee, which will be, I am sure, much appreciated.

Very sincerely yours,

Governor.

Hon. Eduardo Giorgetti,
Chairman, 2nd War-Fund Committee,
American Red Cross,
San Juan, Porto Rico.

11x98

VANCE C. McCORMICK,
CHAIRMAN



W. D. JAMIESON, ASSISTANT TREASURER
W. R. HOLLISTER, ASSISTANT SECRETARY
DIRECTORS PERMANENT ORGANIZATION

WILBUR W. MARSH,
TREASURER



DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE
429-441 WOODWARD BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.

No. 14988

October 29, 1918

Received from

Arthur yager

San Juan, Porto Rico

FIFTY DOLLARS

For the maintainance and continuation of the work of the Democratic National Committee; to elect a Democratic Senate and Congress and local Democratic candidates; to continue in office a Democratic President and to aid in all possible ways to make the world safe for democracy.

Countersigned:

C. M. Parker

Cashier.

Wilbur W. Marsh
Treasurer.

W. D. Jamieson
Assistant Treasurer.

116x11

Democratic National Committee

PERMANENT HEADQUARTERS
429-441 WOODWARD BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.

W. D. JAMIESON, ASSISTANT TREASURER
W. R. HOLLISTER, ASSISTANT SECRETARY
DIRECTORS PERMANENT ORGANIZATION

November 21, 1918.

Dear Mr. Yager:

I enclose your receipt for the contribution which you sent us, and along with this receipt goes a big lot of appreciation for two things: the help itself, and the spirit back of the help. It is wonderful, the unselfishly loyal spirit toward our splendid party and the great things for which it stands, on the part of such good friends as yourself.

I wish you could just take a look through our mail once in a while. Probably nowhere else in the world could one get a better insight into the way the folks feel than in the Treasurer's office, for when folks are giving up their money for a cause they also are apt to feel free to tell what they think about things.

This mail shows such a general willingness on the part of the Democrats to make sacrifices, that the future is absolutely assured if we do what we ought to in keeping the right fight up. This same spirit is general--in every part of the country. And we are proud that you are one of 'em.

Well, we didn't come out in the election as we had hoped. The Republicans won the House, but the Senate is not finally settled yet. We spent over \$650,000 of which \$192,000 is borrowed money that we have to pay very shortly, we put up a good fight, but we lacked some votes.

There were a lot of causes: In most places the German vote was against us; in Kansas, Nebraska, Ohio, Indiana, and a number of other states the fixing of the price of wheat and the failure to fix the price of cotton was used effectively against us; in a lot of places the usually active Democratic workers had their enthusiasm chilled because they were improperly kept out of places of activity in the war service organizations; great amounts of money were used against us; had our soldier boys been home and voting I know a number of Democratic Senators and Congressmen who would have been elected; the influenza kept us from presenting our case properly in many instances--and there were a lot of other causes in local instances.

Now, the question is, what are we going to do about it?

Will you do two things for us, immediately: One--Write me what you think about the election, and the lessons we should get from it; Two--Write what you think we should do right now to prepare for the next election, which is probably the most important in our country's history. Your counsel and suggestions will help.

The Headquarters will continue right along, more active than ever, and the Committee wants you to regard them as YOUR Headquarters.

Very sincerely yours,

Mr. Arthur Yager,

Juan, Porto Rico.

W. D. Jamieson

Banquete dado por el Gobernador de Puerto Rico en honor del Almirante Frances y la Oficialidad de los Cruceros "Gloire" y "Desaix" "Gloire" y "Desaix"
 El General Chrisman Dec. 17, 1918.

- | | | | |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|---|-----------|
| | Capt. Villeneuve,
del Gloire. | Ten. Com. Jauch,
del Desaix. | |
| | Mr. Giusti | Alcalde Todd | |
| (Disc) 6° | Capt. Cotoni,
del Desaix. | Sr. Ferrer | |
| (Disc) 1° | EL GOBERNADOR Yager | Sr. Giorgatti
Senador. (V.P.) | |
| (Disc) 2° | EL ALMIRANTE Groul | Sr. Barceló,
Pres. del Senado | (Disc) 5° |
| (Disc) 4° | Mr. de Courthial,
Cónsul Francés. | Sr. Hernández,
Pres. del Trib. Sup. | |
| | Lt. Com. Baker,
Marina de los E.U. | Sr. Hays,
Speaker, Cam. de Rep. | (Disc) 3° |
| | Ten. Com. Labenturier
del Gloire | Teniente Póher,
Ayudante del Almirante. | |
| | | Capt. Van Deusen,
Ayudante del Gobernador. | |
| | | Comandante Le Gall,
del Gloire. | |

La mesa, esquisitamente adornada con flores y pequeñas banderas de Francia y Estados Unidos.

El General Townshend

11298



Office of the Solicitor General,
Washington, D.C.



January 7, 1919.

Hon. Arthur Yager,
Governor of Porto Rico,
San Juan, Porto Rico.

My dear Governor:

I have your most cordial letter of
December 16, 1918, in which you refer to the Garcia case.

The Department of Justice appreciates the im-
portance to the Island of Porto Rico of not enlarging the
special class of Spanish citizens. It was with this in
view that we concurred in Mr. Dexter's motion to advance
the case. The Supreme Court of the United States, however,
denied the motion to advance, so the case is not likely to
come on for argument for some time.

Preparation of the brief for the Government is
now in charge of Assistant Attorney General Brown.

I am leaving the Department within a few days
and shall hope to write you a personal letter soon.

Yours very truly,

Robert S. Goel.

January 22, 1919.

My dear Holmes;

Mother got your last picture -the large one taken in uniform. She is very much pleased with it and in fact has kept it by her bed so she could look at it all the time for the last three or four days while she has been sick. She has had an attack of dengue fever and is at present confined to her bed and very weak. Dr. King, however, thinks she will be up again in a few days.

The rest of us are all fairly well, and I am planning now to get off for a trip to the continent with mother about the middle of February. If we can get away, we will of course get out to Kentucky and see you and Elizabeth.

I hope to get a letter from you by the next boat coming to-morrow. I want you to keep us posted as to everything in connection with your work and conditions generally. Write me fully about your financial situation; your expenditures up to the present, and an estimate of your requirements for the rest of the year. Did the Government pay you any salary while you were in the S. P. C? Where are you boarding now and at what cost? Let me have all the details so I may know how to provide all the necessary means.

We took great interest in your last letter. I am also awfully sorry for Dr. Adams if his son is giving him all that trouble. I can understand how serious such a source of trouble may become to a father and mother. At last accounts Rodes and Elizabeth were both well and both working hard. I know you are also. My hope is, however, that you will be able to get back into your work with the aid of the college professors in such shape that you can still accomplish a good part of the freshman course by June. I am awfully anxious to see you.

Affectionately your father,

February 8, 1919.

My dear Holmes;

I have received from the War Department a certificate of your war-risk insurance with the earnest suggestion that you keep it up.

I want you to continue the monthly payments on this for the present and I will make arrangements to have you continue it in some form permanently.

I am working now under whip and spur trying to get away to Washington next week. I shall certainly take time during the early part of March to run out to Kentucky for a few days and then I can see you and talk over everything connected with your course and your work and prospects with the college.

Mother has been right sick with dengue and has decided that she can not make the trip with me at this time, so of course I will be alone and have only a short time with you and also a little time with Elizabeth. Write her and tell her about it.

We are as well as usual with the exception of mother. When I see you I will go over all the financial matters and arrange for all necessary expense. Meanwhile do the best you can in every way and accept a bushel of love from us all.

Affectionately your father,

P.S.- I have not been able to find the history credits that you asked for in one of your letters. I am sure I have them some where, but I haven't been able to put my hands upon the paper. I will make a thorough search through amongst all my papers and look them up and try to bring them along.

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GOVERNMENT HOUSE
PORTO RICO.

February 19, 1919.

Hon. Arthur Yager,
Governor of Porto Rico,
c/o Bureau of Insular Affairs,
War Department, Washington, D. C.

My dear Governor Yager:

There is very little new to report to you since you left here last Friday, but I wish to keep you advised of all that has occurred, altho I do not believe that it is of much importance.

Yesterday afternoon Representative Lastra Charriez and lawyer Soto Gras came to my office and presented a demand that I as Attorney General bring action of quo warranto against myself as Acting Governor.

They also presented a similar petition to fiscal Campillo demanding that he bring an action against me as Acting Governor.

I am enclosing a translation of the so-called demand.

Mr. Campillo will of course refuse to take any action, and I will simply inform them that there is no cause of action and will refuse to take any action.

I doubt very much whether they will proceed with the quo warranto after such refusal. In fact Lastra Charriez told me yesterday that he had not determined whether he would proceed further with this matter. He stated of course that there was nothing personal in the matter and that it was merely a legal question which he thought ought to be decided by the courts, and I counseled him in a friendly manner that I thought he would be doing harm to the interests of Porto Rico if he should proceed with the matter. However, he has evidently given the information to all the newspapers, some of which have published in full the so-called demand but with very little comment.

If there are any special developments in the case I will advise you by cable.

With best wishes for a pleasant and successful stay in Washington, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Howard L. Fern

TRANSLATION

Arecibo, June 24, 1919.

S i r :-

Complying with the enclosed Resolu-
tion, I have the honor to forward to you here-
with a duly certified copy thereof, with my
endorsement of the spirit of justice that has
prompted its adoption, excepting of course,
what refers to myself.

Very respectfully,

(sgd) Manuel Bedesma.

Alcalde of Arecibo.

Hon. Governor Arthur Yager
San Juan, P. R., - - - - -

The Filson Historical Society

86 x 11

Translation

The undersigned, Municipal Secretary of the City of
Arecibo, P. R.

CERTIFIES: That on the Minutes Book No. 14 of this Municipal Council, there appear the following minutes on subject No. 1 treated at the regular session of the Council held on June 19, 1919, which minutes, copied literally, read as follows:

Mr. Palmer presented the following resolution, which was duly seconded:

WHEREAS, Hon Arthur Yager, Governor of Porto Rico, Hon. Manuel Ledesma, Mayor of the City, Hon. Francisco Susoni and Hon. Felix Santoni, Sanators for this District, Hon. Charles Hartzell, Chairman of the Porto Rico Chapter of the American Red Cross, and Hon. Miguel Guerra Mondragón, Representative of the House, have demonstrated their diligence and solidarity in the face of the terrible fire which destroyed part of our city;

WHEREAS, through their cooperation this Municipal Government has been able duly to attend to the poor sufferers from the disaster of June 16, 1919; and

WHEREAS, we deem it our duty to set forth in authentic form our recognition of such a noble and brilliant action, if not for the personal satisfaction of those who so much deserve it, as a means of social stimulus;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Municipal Council of Arecibo:

Section 1.- That a vote of thanks is hereby granted to Hon. Arthur Yager, Governor of Porto Rico, Hon. Manuel Ledesma, Alcalde of this city, Hon. Francisco M. Susoni and Hon. Felix Santoni, Senators for this district, Hon. Charles Hartzell, Chairman Porto Rico Chapter, American Red Cross and Hon. Miguel Guerra Mondragón, Representative to the House, for their diligent cooperation in behalf of this community, so sadly stricken by the tremendous disaster which took place on June 16, 1919, in which hundreds of poor families of this city were left ~~wit-~~
~~out~~ homeless and without any means of support.

Section 2.- That this resolution shall be made public through the press and communicated immediately to each one of the gentlemen above mentioned.

Submitted to the consideration of the Council, this

86x11

resolution was approved by the unanimous consent of its members."

A true and correct copy of the original ^{resolution} ~~received~~
June 20, 1919,

(Sgd.) José Adorno,
Secretary of the Council.

Approved, June 20, 1919.

(Sgd.) Manuel Ledesma,
Alcalde.

EJS.AS

The Filson Historical Society

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Mr. Palmer presented the following resolution, which was duly seconded:

WHEREAS, Hon Arthur Yager, Governor of Porto Rico, Hon. Manuel Ledesma, Mayor of the City, Hon. Francisco Susoni and Hon. Felix Santoni, Senators for this District, Hon. Charles Hartzell, Chairman of the Porto Rico Chapter of the American Red Cross, and Hon. Miguel Guerra Mondragón, Representative of the House, have demonstrated their diligence and solidarity in the face of the terrible fire which destroyed part of our city;

WHEREAS, through their cooperation this Municipal Government has been able duly to attend to the poor sufferers from the disaster of June 16, 1919; and

WHEREAS, we deem it our duty to set forth in authentic form our recognition of such a noble and brilliant action, if not for the personal satisfaction of those who so much deserve it, as a means of social stimulus;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Municipal Council of Arecibo:

Section 1.- That a vote of thanks is hereby granted to Hon. Arthur Yager, Governor of Porto Rico, Hon. Manuel Ledesma, Alcalde of this city, Hon. Francisco M. Susoni and Hon. Felix Santoni, Senators for this district, Hon. Charles Hartzell, Chairman Porto Rico Chapter, American Red Cross and Hon. Miguel Guerra Mondragón, Representative to the House, for their diligent cooperation in behalf of this community, so sadly stricken by the tremendous disaster which took place on June 16, 1919, in which hundreds of poor families of this city were left ~~with~~ homeless and without any means of support.

Section 2.- That this resolution shall be made public through the press and communicated immediately to each one of the gentlemen above mentioned.

Submitted to the consideration of the Council, this

11 X 11

resolution was approved by the unanimous consent of its members."

A true and correct copy of the original ^{resolution} received
June 20, 1919,

(sgd.) José Adorno,
Secretary of the Council.

Approved, June 20, 1919.

(Sgd.) Manuel Ledesma,
Alcalde.

EJS.AS

The Filson Historical Society

Translate.

GOBIERNO MUNICIPAL DE ARECIBO
OFICINA DEL ALCALDE.

Junio 24
de 1,919.



Señor :--

En cumplimiento de lo dispuesto en la Resolución adjunta, tengo el honor de enviarle copia debidamente certificada de la misma, asociándome desde luego, en la parte agena a mi personalidad, al espíritu de justicia que informa tal actuación.

Muy respetuosamente

Manuel Ledesma
Alcalde de Arecibo

Hon. Gobernador Arthur Yager
San Juan. P. R.-----

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GOBIERNO MUNICIPAL
DE
ARECIBO, P. R.
SECRETARIA

El Secretario Municipal de la Ciudad de Arecibo, P. R., que suscribe:

CONCURRENTES

PRESIDENTE

Pedro Mora Acosta

CONCEJALES

Santiago B. Palmer

Angel C. Jimenez

Carlos Dominguez

Jose Ma. Alvarez

Amelio Cortes

Jose Garcia Abreu

Praxedes Mena

SECRETARIO

Jose Adorno

CERTIFICA:- Que en el Libro de Actas No. -14- de este Concejo Municipal, y en sesión --ordinaria-- celebrada el --19-- de --Junio-- de -1,919-, con asistencia de los señores concejales al margen expresados, se encuentra, entre otros acuerdos, el particular No. -1- que copiado literalmente dice:

El señor Palmer presentó la siguiente resolución que fué debidamente secundada:-

POR CUANTO, el Hon: Arthur Yager, Gobernador de Puerto Rico, el Hon: Manuel Ledesma, Alcalde de la Ciudad, Honorables Francisco M. Susoni y Felix Santoni, Senadores por este Distrito, Hon: Charles Hartzell, Presidente del Capitulo del la Cruz Roja Americana, de Puerto Rico y Hon Miguel Guerra Mondragon, Representante en la Camara de Delegados, han demostrado una diligencia y solidaridad dignas de loa, ante el horroroso incendio que asoló parte de nuestra ciudad.

POR CUANTO, este Gobierno Municipal ha recibido de cerca el beneficio de esa actuacion que le ha puesto en condiciones de atender debidamente a los pobres damnificados por el desastre de Junio 16 de 1,919;

Y POR CUANTO, creemos de nuestro deber consignar en forma auténtica esos nobles y brillantes comportamientos, cuando no sea para halago de quienes tanto merecen, para estimulo social,

POR TANTO, RESUELVESE POR EL CONCEJO MUNICIPAL DE ARECIBO, PUERTO RICO

Seccion 1a- Que por la presente se consigna un VOTO DE GRACIAS para el Hon: Arthur Yager, Gobernador de Puerto Rico, para el Hon: Manuel Ledesma, Alcalde de la Ciudad, para los Honorables Francisco M. Susoni y Felix Santoni, Senadores por este Distrito, para el Hon: Charles Hartzell, Presidente del Capitulo de la Cruz Roja Americana de Puerto Rico y para el Hon: Miguel Guerra Mondragon, Representante en la Camara de Delagdos, por sus diligentes actuaciones en favor de esta Comunidad, abatida dolorosamente con motivo del inmenso desastre ocurrido en Junio 16 de 1,919 en que quedaron sin albergue, sin pan ni abrigo centenares de familias pobres de este vecindario

Seccion 2a- Que esta Resolucion tiene carácter ejecutivo y que se le comunique inmediatamente a cada uno de los caballeros enumerados, debiendo hacerse publico por medio de la prensa

Sometida a la consideracion del Concejo, quedó aprobada por el consentimiento unanime."

Es copia fiel del original a que me remito
Arecibo, Junio 20 de 1,919

Jose Adorno
Secretario del Concejo

Aprobada el 20 de Junio 1,919

Manuel Ledesma
Alcalde

11 X 28

July 24, 1919.

Gentlemen:

I greatly regret that the pressure of unexpected public business makes it impossible for me to be present with you to-day at the opening of the Industrial Exposition to be celebrated in Ponce. I assure you however, that I have the greatest possible interest in the success of your praiseworthy enterprise.

The greatest and most urgent need of Porto Rico is the development of her economic life, and to this end it is of the greatest importance that the industries of the Island be stimulated to the greatest possible extent. The experience of mankind in all countries shows that industrial expositions similar to the one that you are now inaugurating at Ponce, are of immense benefit. The bringing together of industrial exhibits, in friendly competition for prizes to be offered, stimulates every producer to improve the grade and quality of his products, and as a result opens to him better markets and higher prices.

We need in Porto Rico a greater variety

86x11

(24 Jul 19)

-2-

of industries and a wider range of commodities to be offered on the markets of the world. This is especially true in agriculture, which is the great basic industry of our Island. Better methods of cultivation, greater diversification of agricultural products, improved varieties of fruits and vegetables, a higher grade of livestock, all of these things will lead to lasting benefits for all the people of Porto Rico, and there is no one thing that will be more helpful in achieving all of these important results than a well managed industrial exposition such as you have decided to establish in your beautiful city.

I hope that this exposition will be supported by all enterprising and patriotic citizens not only of the Ponce district, but also in every district of the whole Island. I also hope that this exposition which you inaugurate to-day will simply mark the beginning, and that every year there will be held in your beautiful city a similar exposition, that will grow in interest and enthusiasm as the years go by.

I cordially congratulate you for having thought of so admirable an enterprise and upon its auspicious inauguration. Although I have not been able to be present at the beginning, I hope to

(24 Jul 19)

-3-

*find an opportunity to visit it before it shall
have come to a close.*

With the greatest good wishes, I am

Very respectfully,

Governor.

The Alcalde and Municipal Council,

Ponce, Porto Rico.

The Filson Historical Society

San Juan, P. R., July 1, 1919.

National Surety Company,
115 Broadway,
New York City.

Gentlemen:

Referring to your communication of the 19th ultimo, addressed to the American Embassy, San Juan, Porto Rico, requesting information regarding "In Re:-F.No.1049231-A. J. Perrone", which was referred to this office, I have the honor to advise you that after a search through the files of this office as well as several of the other branches of the administration, no employee of the name mentioned above has been located.

It might be added for your information that no American Embassy ever existed in Porto Rico, even previous to the Spanish-American War, when the United States was represented here by a Consul. Since 1899 Porto Rico has been under the control of the United States of America.

In view of the long service Mr. A. J. Perrone claims to have given, viz. 1912 to 1918, it is suggested that a more detailed report be submitted showing the actual offices in which he was employed and the length of time in each. With this information we can no doubt furnish the information desired.

Respectfully yours,

Governor.

WM. B. JOYCE,
PRESIDENT

THE WORLD'S LARGEST SURETY COMPANY
WE BOND MORE PEOPLE THAN ANY OTHER COMPANY IN THE WORLD



National Surety Company

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS OVER \$8,000,000.00

115 Broadway, New York.

June 19th, 1919

In Re: -F#1049231-A. J. Perrone

American Embassy,
San Juan, Porto Rico

Gentlemen:-

The above named applicant claims to have been Clerk under your administration from 1912 to 1918, and we would thank you to verify his services for us together with any additional information which you may care to give regarding his honesty and integrity will be greatly appreciated and held strictly confidential.

Your co-operation in this matter will be greatly appreciated and enable us to close our files.

Very truly yours,

David Schenck,
Chief Examiner

By:-

A. Conlon

AC/as

ADDRESS REPLY TO
FIDELITY DEPARTMENT
U. SLINGLUFF, SUPERINTENDENT
MARTIN W. LEWIS, ASST. SUPERINTENDENTS
J. E. BUTLER

The Filson Historical Society

1128

Partido Republicano Portorriqueño

Comité Territorial

San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Manuel F. Rosay,
Presidente.

Julio 10, 1919.

Hon. José C. Barbosa.

Senador.

Mi distinguido amigo: Como usted es el Senador de nuestro Partido que representa en el Senado a San Juan, tengo el gusto de manifestarle que el Comité Local de San Juan me ha recomendado estos nombres para la vacante de Juez Municipal de esta ciudad, cuya recomendación al Gobernador nos corresponde:

Rafael Díaz Cintrón,
Felipe Colón,
J. Valdejully,
William Santos,
Artemio P. Rodríguez,
Gonzalo Ardín Roman,
Rupert E. Denton.

Todos son Abogados, el primero es Juez de Coamo, el segundo Secretario de la Corte de Distrito de Ponce, el tercero es Juez de Aguadilla, el cuarto es Juez de Yauco, el quinto es Abogado de esta ciudad con mas de diez años de ejercicio, el sexto y el séptimo son Abogados, pero no se si ejercen aquí.

Será bueno que usted vea al Gobernador, a quién le llevo estos nombres, para que hable con el acerca de este asunto que es de gran importancia para nuestro Partido y para la ciudad de San Juan.

Muy atentamente,

Manuel F. Rosay

AMERICAN COLONIAL BANK OF PORTO RICO

Por la presente nos permitimos informarle que el cuarto plazo sobre su suscripción al Empréstito de la Libertad, ó sea **40%** del valor de los bonos suscritos y que aún está pendiente de hacerse efectivo, vence en **Enero 15** del presente año, pero, como en esa fecha es que las remesas deben hallarse en la Tesorería de Washington, es de imprescindible necesidad que el segundo plazo de su suscripción sea satisfecho, a más tardar, e l día **12** de Enero.

Al hacer su remesa devuelva este aviso que marcaremos **PAGADO** y volveremos a enviarle, entendiéndose, que no extenderemos recibo alguno á menos que, con la remesa, se nos devuelva esta tarjeta.

F. M. WELTY, Vice-Presidente.

SON \$ 200.00.....

The Filson Historical Society

AMERICAN COLLEGE BARRACKS

Faded, illegible text, possibly a header or address block.

Gov. Arthur Yager.

San Juan.

NOV 2 1900

The Filson Historical Society