

# The Salemite

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### OUR PRESENT AND OUR PAST.

A modern Jean Valjean has been discovered in New Jersey. Mayor Folsom, a man who won the respect and admiration of his townsmen, committed suicide because of black mailers' repeated threats to expose the secret of former years spent as a convict.

The Times comments as follows:

"The criminal part of Folsom's record was a small fraction of it and, the remainder of it having been that of a good citizen and business man, it was hardly necessary to rake up the remote past." This is a policy which might well be applied not only to mayors and their cities, but to students and their colleges.

It is true that the past helps to form the future, that it pleads for greater and higher things to be accomplished and to be idealized. We owe much to that past, yet all too often prejudices brought into being by things which others have long since forgotten, live on and do their part in marring the future. Gossip, that most despicable of college sins, probes into things that are gone and brings them to view, attributing to them motives dead long ago.

It seems to be human nature to fail to understand that the little girl of yesterday has grown into the woman of today, or that the mean-spirited citizen of past years can have become the honorable, upright one of the present year.

The past does not coerce the future; it does not hold indomitable sway. It contributes hope, inspiration, courage, or, perhaps, failure; but the present thoughts, the present deeds are those that determine the type of men and women who are of the greatest use today.

President Butler in an address at the opening assembly of Columbia University, made the following statement: "We still have far to go before we can measure and understand the universe of man and nature, and see what lies concealed behind the curtain that will rise upon the next century. To prepare ourselves to witness and understand that spectacle and to

make vital contributions to it is our task as students."

The challenge here evident is one which cannot fail to make its appeal to students. The future holds countless problems and opportunities which can be met and solved only by those who are prepared. One or two uneducated men and women may, through unusual ability, gain much greater success than many college graduates, yet it is the educated class as a whole which must push deeds to completion, and hold cherished and essential ideals before the gaze of every man. It is not only the problem but the duty of each college student so to prepare himself that he may not stand amazed and frightened by the spectacle which the future gradually or suddenly reveals, but that he may recognize the possibilities in order that he may carry his vision to others and may give to the world his definite contribution.

President Butler adds, "Students to prepare themselves should seek to multiply their needs and their interests". It is not sufficient that each individual understand and be interested in one particular line or work, or, in the college vernacular, that he spend all his energy on his major subject, his minor, or on his electives. It is inexcusable that, because his work lies in the English Department, he be oblivious of discoveries in the world of Science and Mathematics; nor, on the other hand, is the scientist pardonable for his ignorance of ancient and modern thought and progression in literature.

It is the duty and it should be the pleasure of every man and woman to obtain as much information as possible on as many subjects as possible in order to be of the greatest help to the world at large.

### WORLD NEWS.

offered his resignation, which has not yet been accepted.

Guzon is believed to have been originally responsible for the feeling, in his attitude toward General Wood through that part of the press which he controls. Resentment against Americans is displayed practically everywhere that he has any influence, and this means in almost every section of Philippine activity.

The petition of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce for reduction of import duties on foreign products is another sign of bad feeling against America. Manufacturers of the United States are accused of keeping business from the Islands by raising the prices of foreign products. Dislike of everything American is at present very evident, and an actual physical outbreak is seriously feared.

"A Jewish nation vanished hope"

Says Israel Zangwill, Jew.

He tells the Congress that this plan Just simply will not do.

Israel Zangwill, who spoke to the American Jewish Congress, destroyed the last hopes of many of them when he said that Zion as a nation is now an impossibility. In his address, entitled "Watchman, What of the

Night?", he discussed the League of Nations (which he called the League of Damnations), the Klu Klux Klan, policy of England in Palestine and the duty of American Jewry.

"Political Zionism is dead", he declared, though maintaining that at one time it was possible. "When the Arab was a defeated enemy", even though the number of Jewish inhabitants and property holders in Palestine was amazingly small, he thinks it would not have been too difficult to establish a nation. But now the time is past, the opportunity is lost, and, in defeat, Mr. Zangwill takes a remarkably sensible view of the matter, giving up his hopes without undue lamentation.



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