
DOINGS *of a* DEMOCRACY

By HAROLD HELFER

- ✓ Superior Court Judge Joseph E. Warner of New Bedford, Massachusetts, notes a sharp decline in requests for deferment from jury service from men since women began serving on Massachusetts juries.
- ✓ When Springfield, Missouri, urged its citizens not to wash their cars because of a water shortage, one automobile, gleaming clean, came down the street carrying this sign: "River Washed."
- ✓ When a citizen whose two dogs he was trying to catch gave him a lot of trouble, Roy Kurawa, Chicago dog catcher, put the man in the dog wagon instead of the dogs and drove off with him.
- ✓ Upon announcing that it was using fluorides in the city's water supply, the officials of Elyria, Ohio, were flooded with gripes about the water's taste. The town had to tell the people that, due to an unforeseen delay, the chemical hadn't even been applied to the water yet.
- ✓ A Milwaukee judge fined Eddie Mathews, a star home-run hitting player of the Milwaukee baseball team, \$50 for reckless driving — then asked for his autograph.
- ✓ The civic clubs of Royersford, Pennsylvania, hope to keep youngsters from racing all over the countryside in automobiles following junior-senior high school proms by putting up money to provide: (1) a professional floor show after the prom, from midnight to 1:15 A.M.; (2) an informal dance at the country club from 1:30 A.M. to 3 A.M.; and (3) a breakfast at the American Legion home at 3 A.M.
- ✓ Governor Goodwin J. Knight of California has come around to the belief that political campaign buttons are a waste of lapels. During a political rally for himself, Governor Knight deliberately wore a button of his opponent in the gubernatorial race — "Graves for Governor." No one noticed this "heretic" button at the rally, not even his own staff.



Philip Dru:

FASCIST PROTOTYPE

By J. B. Matthews

AT A CRUCIAL period in American history, Edward Mandell House usurped vast and non-constitutional powers and functions in the operations of the United States Government. He was literally the self-appointed custodian and arbiter of America's destiny.

This man House was never elected to anything by anybody. He never submitted himself as a candidate to the electorate; and he steadfastly scorned all offers of appointment to constitutional office. And yet, during a somewhat mysterious political career of more than thirty years, he made puppets of judges, governors, ambassadors, and at least one President. His was the greatest puppet show on earth, staged for the entertainment of himself alone.

Much of the colossal power which this usurper wielded, in both domestic and foreign affairs, was antici-

pated in a book which he wrote at the age of fifty-four.

Part One: The Book

In the latter part of 1911, Colonel E. M. House, gazing into his ideological crystal ball, beheld a weird creature whom he called Philip Dru.

What Colonel House saw, he set down in a book, utilizing with very considerable superficiality the literary form of the novel. The book saw the light of day during the Presidential campaign of 1912. Its title was *Philip Dru: Administrator*.

Anyone who owns a copy of this book should set it apart on his shelves with his collector's items. It was sold originally for \$1.20. Its market value today is at least thirty times that much; and even at that price it is practically impossible to obtain a copy.

Seldom in history has an appar-