

Keystone

Dr. Zingher and a little patient

but they indicate that the addition which would accrue to the lower salaries by curtailing those above \$5,000 would be even substantially less than in the case of the figures for all enterprises—because the high-salaried employees in manufacturing and the railroads constitute a smaller percentage of the whole number than in the average of all occupations.

What does this mean? It means that the large number of lower-salaried employees support without any appreciable loss of their proper share of the proceeds of their work the payment of the high salaries necessary to obtain the specialized abilities essential to maintaining and expanding their businesses. It means, in other words, that employees who receive less than \$5,000 a year are contributing only about \$22 a year of the premium necessary to keep the services of the men who make all the salaries of the business possible. There are ins and outs to the situation; for instance, \$5,000 is an arbitrary line of distinction; but, even with a good deal of latitude in the interpretation of the

statistics, this seems to be one answer to the question of economic democracy.

Unhonored and Unsung

THE death at the age of forty-two of Dr. Abraham Zingher, a noted bacteriologist who was assistant director of the Bureau of Laboratories of New York, marks but another victim in the list of scientific pioneers whose lives are quietly spent in self-effacing study and are so often sacrificed to the cause they serve.

Dr. Zingher was found dead at his laboratory bench in the Willard Parker Hospital in New York City. It seemed apparent that he had dozed off while waiting for his test tube to heat and had been asphyxiated when the tube of a Bunsen burner accidentally became disconnected. His constant experimentation had so accustomed him to the smell of gas that he probably never awoke from his doze.

Among his scientific achievements he was largely responsible for the perfection of the Schick test for diphtheria and directed the successful inoculation of

thousands of school-children. More recently his researches were directed toward a similar perfection and utilization of the scarlet-fever anti-toxin.

That man has been able to wage such an increasingly successful fight against disease and that the infant mortality rate is being steadily lowered are due to the obscure experiments of such men as Dr. Zingher. Their work is inevitably little known and little honored by the people whom they labor to serve, and it is often only their death which suddenly reminds us of what we owe them.

The Glory That Was Greece

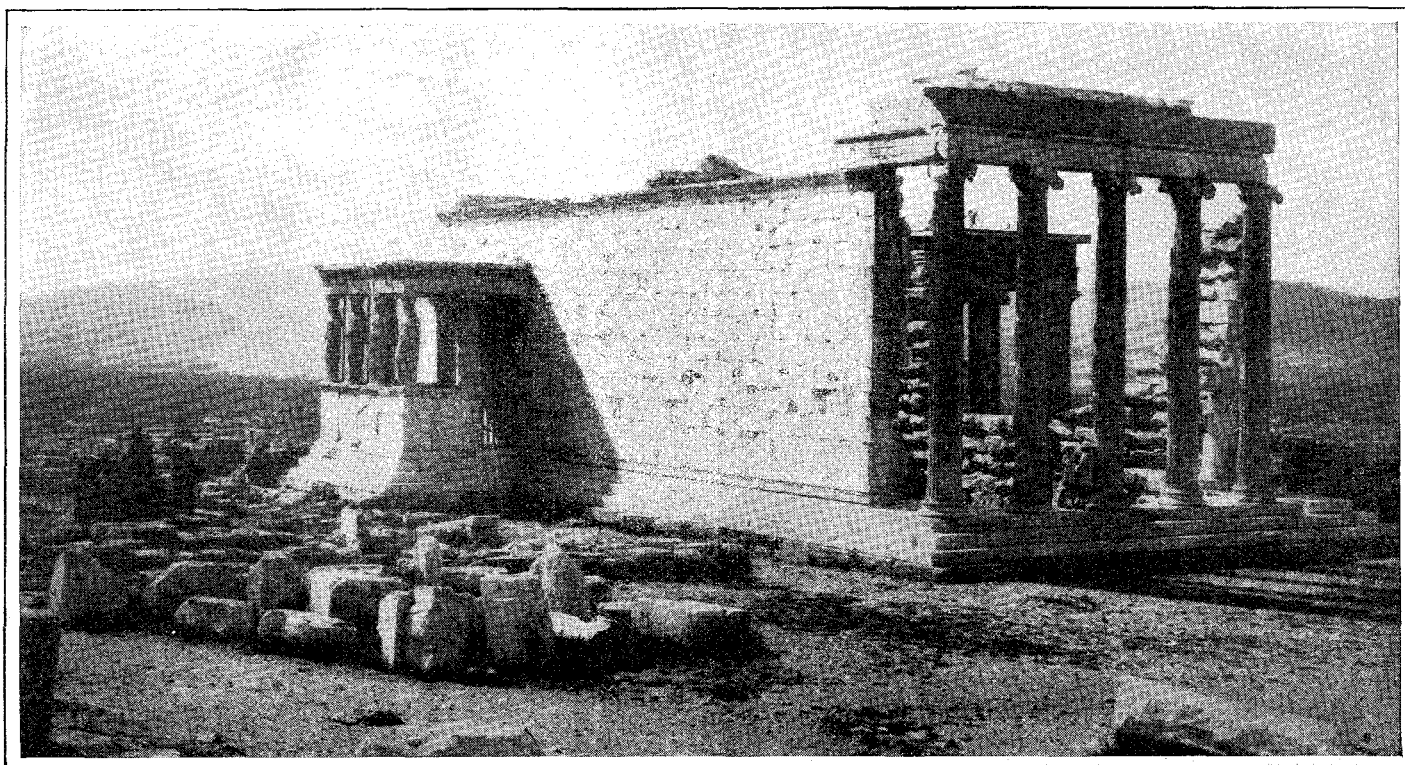
How far should international courtesy require one country to undo its ancient act by which another country still feels itself injured? The British Government has been asked to return to Greece certain art and archaeological treasures which have been in the British Museum for about a century and a quarter.

The specified objects are a caryatid and a portico column which originally stood in Athens's Erechtheum. They were acquired by Lord Elgin together with the famous Elgin marbles of the Parthenon.

The appeal comes from Alexandros Philadelphus, "former director of the Acropolis and ephor of the antiquities of Attica." Mr. Philadelphus, while he deplores the fact that the immortal Parthenon was deprived of its superb sculptures, recognizes that those art treasures must remain where they are, but urges that the caryatid and column were not in the same category. It is admitted that an act of Parliament would be required to authorize the return.

It will be remembered that Lord Elgin was England's Ambassador to Turkey in 1801, and that he then secured from the Porte a firman, or decree, giving him permission to make drawings and cuts of ancient sculptures, and also forbidding any interference with him in "taking away any pieces of stone with inscriptions or figures." That this last grant was liberally interpreted every one who has seen the superb collection in the British Museum knows. Lord Elgin paid about \$350,000 for the entire collection and sold it to the British Government for about half that.

It was of this transaction that Byron in "Childe Harold" wrote "The walls defaced, the moldering shrines, removed by British hands." The present request is not sweeping, but it is felt by many art lovers that it might open the door to further demands. Neither the Greek



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The Erechtheum on the Acropolis at Athens. It was from this building that Lord Elgin took the caryatid now in the British Museum

people nor any Greek Government ever authorized the transfer of these art treasures. Greece was then enslaved under Turkey. The act was that of Turkish officials, who despised Greece and as Mohammedans disapproved of plastic art representing men, women, or gods.

A Quiet Irish Election

WHEN we remember what was going on in Ireland only five years ago in the way of civil war, the mere fact that the recent election for members of the Irish Parliament was peaceful and quiet is in itself significant.

Even the heated arguments as to what the result of the election will be are matters of words and not blows. One beneficial effect of the system of proportionate representation in political elections is that the returns are so complicated by arithmetical processes that the country has time to quiet down before the precise meaning of the election is clear.

A little more than a week after the general elections of the Irish Free State it appeared that out of the total number of seats in the Dail—namely, 152—the result was known in 117 cases. There were eight parties involved, but only three are important enough to consider. The supporters of the Government policies and of President Cosgrave won 36 of the 117 contests reported; the Fianna Fail, which is the party of De Valera, had 34 seats; the Labor Party, which has been increasing in strength in Ireland, had 20 seats.

This situation (which will not be

greatly altered by the final returns) shows that the Government has suffered a loss. Although the Government appears now to be in a minority, the supporters of the Constitution form a majority. While it is not probable, therefore, that President Cosgrave will attempt to carry on separately, it is probable that a combination of the smaller parties, together with Cosgrave's followers, will form a coalition, through which a moderate Government may be carried on. All this situation is quite constitutional and nothing more or less than what has repeatedly happened in the British Parliament. The extremists in Ireland will renew the fight to abrogate that condition of the Free State Constitution which requires a member of the Dail to swear allegiance to King George. As a matter of fact, under the present Government Ireland to all intents and purposes is as free as Canada or Australia. The "die-hards" who will never be satisfied with anything short of absolute independence for Ireland have little likelihood in the present prosperous and comparatively comfortable condition in Ireland either of achieving that end or of removing the perfectly formal condition of adherence to the throne.

France Sets Out to Redeem the Franc

PREMIER POINCARÉ has proposed to issue a new loan of ten billion francs, which would permit the retirement of an equal amount of bank notes. Briefly, the scheme as reported means

practically the conversion of ten billion francs of paper currency into Government bonds. Obviously, the result would be to raise the standing of the French franc, since with less paper currency outstanding the credit of the Government would be improved. It remains to be seen whether the determined Premier can carry through his plan. He has been equal to other national emergencies in France, and he may be able to lead the way out of the currency depression.

The step, if it is taken, is a move on the way back toward resuming the gold standard for payment of the obligations represented by the inflated currency. The Government took one step when it set the value of the franc at four cents and offered to buy foreign currency and bills at that rate. The result was that French private banks placed large foreign currency credits to the account of the Government without, however, actually being paid in francs. The printing of more francs was thus avoided, but the Government naturally became subject to possible calls for payment from the banks. The proposal for a new loan apparently is part of a Government program designed to get rid of this risk by securing new capital from popular subscription. If it is put into effect, it will afford a significant test of the financial reserve strength of the French nation.

Traffic Lessons for Pedestrians

PARIS has a new Chief of Police, M. Jean Chiappe, who believes that he can educate the pedestrians up to saving