

EVENING LEDGER

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Political Decency an All-party Issue
POLITICAL righteousness rises above partisanship. The public is learning the lesson every day.

Treat Turkey Fairly but Firmly
WHATSOEVER course may be taken by the United States in consequence of Turkey's abrogation of the capitulations it should at least be definite and firm.

Hail to the Braves!
PHILADELPHIA extends the hand of congratulation to the Boston Braves and promises them a cordial welcome to our city.

Watchful Waiting in the Philippines
SINCE the Spanish war too much partisan rancor has been caused by the Philippine question. Political lines have been too tensely drawn.

Reform the Patent Office
NOW that Congress has torn itself regrettably away from the pork barrel, it might turn its attention to some matter in which there is neither political profit nor an opportunity to sandbag the Government.

State Conscience Wields Power
NOTHING can withstand the realizable power of the collective conscience when men make an interlocking society of their consciences.

Trifling With the Telephone
TELEPHONING isn't what it was. It won't even be what it is very long, if the inventors keep on.

Bellegent Footnotes to History
THE writers of each warring nation present a united front against the pens of the enemy, and no quarter is given to persons or peoples who wave a foeman's flag.

But in the same magazine G. K. Chesterton answers the question, "What is a barbarian?" "The psychology of the barbarian," he says, "is this: like the lower animals, he does not understand reciprocity."
Professor Muensterberg makes this graceful thrust: "Every one knows the mild expression of the face of George V. and the gentle, melancholy features of Czar Nicholas, and the comfortable, philistine expression of President Poincare, and the pretty, youthful look of Albert of Belgium."

Leader or Bandit?
IF we are ready for a little faith, the situation in Mexico is not so bad as it appears. If we accept Villa's sincerity, he seems to be striving logically for those things that he has always stood for.

It is a good stand that Villa has taken. Why does he receive so little endorsement in the United States? Primarily, because Americans have lacked faith in his sincerity. They have thought him an ambitious man, bent on self-aggrandizement.

EVERY time King Menelik of Abyssinia was reported dead again, the news recalled the Solomonic manner in which the dusky potentate meted out justice.

There being no volunteers, the accused was set free.
AFTER many weary months two political prisoners in the Siberian jail at Akaitoi had dug a tunnel—to that wonderful freedom, so long denied to both.

Slowly he walked along Fifth street until he came to Independence Hall. Slowly he read the inscriptions of the tablets on the walls.

When your gaze runs about of a male adorned with a wrist watch and pink socks and a purple necktie, think kindly or unkindly of him—it all depends upon whether you swear by Thomas Carlyle or Oliver Wendell Holmes, both of whom have furnished intimate descriptions of the "dandy."

Which brings back to memory that historic joke about the American girl who would not marry a British peer, declaring that the "Yankee dude'll do."
BRADFORD.

Writes the Colonel to Sulzer: "The reason that I was reluctant to see you instead of continuing to communicate with you by writing, was because I wished no ground to arise for failure on your part to recollect just what I had said." Thanks for this longer and more beautiful verbiage!
In other days, apothecaries were called by the name of Holms, because their administration of medicine was so good.

PASSED BY THE CENSOR

WHEN King George was still a midshipman in Her Majesty's navy and his brother, the Prince of Wales, since dead, was known as "Collara and Cuffs," because of his fondness for those appurtenances of everyday attire, the twin were aboard a ship off Southampton. Wales was a sleepy head, hard to wake, and one morning Prince George found it well nigh impossible to rouse his brother in time for the usual inspection.

THIS may be a base libel on an honored profession, but it is told by the man who perpetrated the faux pas. He was a reporter for a Baltimore paper—or had been one for about an hour, this being his first experience in newspaper work—when the city editor sent him out to see Cardinal Gibbons.

WHO invented the cocktail? Some bartender? A bon vivant? Or "as its discovery the result of a drunken frolic?"
The cocktail was invented by Mrs. Elizabeth Flanagan, widow of an Irish soldier who fell in the service of the American army during the Revolution.

There was a man in our town
And he was wondrous smart:
There never was an auto that
The fellow couldn't start.

Two Philadelphia men were talking of the fortune of a third denizen of that city when one said:
"His first lucky strike was in eggs. He bought 10,000 dozen at a low figure, put them in cold storage, and sold them at a profit of more than 200 per cent."

The hunters now get in line,
Their turn will soon be here;
And every cow will wear a sign,
'Don't Shoot Me, I'm No Deer!'"

After several years of hotel life, Percival's parents took up their residence in a city suburb.
"Are you doing, son?" the mother asked him, when Percival came into the house one afternoon.

A certain diplomat, perceiving that the peace of the world (loud laughter) depends upon a nicely adjusted equilibrium of martial bristling on the part of the Powers severally, was much concerned over the propensity of superdrumheads to become obsolete almost before they can be set into the water.

THE word "factotum" denoting a man of all work, dates back several centuries. Ben Jonson in one of his plays, makes Tip ask: "Art thou the Dominus? Is to which the host replied, 'Factotum, here, sir.'"

IN A SPIRIT OF HUMOR

Means to an End
You taking cornet lessons, and 50 years of age?
"Ye, but not for long. I expect to bring the young lady next door to terms within a week. She takes singing lessons."

Never Fails
Life's grim perversity appals,
And makes one frown;
The darn fly paper always falls
Sticky side down.

Happy College Days
"Did you ever do anything wicked at college?" asked the first sweet junior.
"We once pulled up a bed of Jimson weeds, dear," replied the freshmanette.

Modern Poetry
This is a zig zag poem,
Which first runs up, then down.
(Old Milton didn't know 'em; it makes the printers frown.)

Applied Appellatives
"Mother," asked Tommy, "is it correct to say 'you water a horse' when he is thirsty?"
"Ye, my dear," said his mother.

How Firm a Foundation
Two Philadelphia men were talking of the fortune of a third denizen of that city when one said:
"His first lucky strike was in eggs. He bought 10,000 dozen at a low figure, put them in cold storage, and sold them at a profit of more than 200 per cent."

Exposed an Epicure
The epicure provokes a smile;
He bubbles on and will not hush;
He talks champagne and redbirds while
The doctor feeds him oatmeal mush.

Violated Neutrality
"Why, Johnny, what's the matter with you?"
"We had a free fight, mother."

THE Open Season for Idiots
The hunters now get in line,
Their turn will soon be here;
And every cow will wear a sign,
'Don't Shoot Me, I'm No Deer!'"

DONE IN PHILADELPHIA

WHEN a small news item announced a few days ago the death of the driver of the first police patrol wagon used in this city I have no doubt that many who read the report were rather astonished to learn that this adjunct to the Police Department had been introduced so long ago as 30 years.

MAYOR WILLIAM B. SMITH, who did not dislike the title bestowed upon him of "The Dandy Mayor," was responsible for many reforms in the Police Department. When he came into office in 1884—this was before the days of the present city charter—the Mayor did not have the authority which the Bullitt bill has given him.

ONE of the first things that Smith did when he went into office was to reorganize the police dress. He had entirely new uniforms designed, and a part of this new equipment was the helmet, only retired for the more military cap a few years back.

Now all this was changed. He had attended lectures, and where he had failed to understand he found some useful hints in his little book that stood him in good stead at a critical time.

BUT even with all these improvements, the fact remained when a patrolman was taking a prisoner to a police station or an injured person to a hospital, his beat was unprotected for an hour or even as much as three hours.

THE introduction of this system was as good as a hundred extra men on the force. By the end of Mayor Smith's term there were eight patrol wagons in the city. There was still need of many more, but he had made a decided step toward efficiency.

At first, when the wagons were a novelty, the drivers believed they were expected to respond as rapidly as a fire engine. As this was found to wear out the horses unnecessarily, after the many runs in the course of the day, a moderate rate of speed was ordered.

THE Kaiser: Bad or Incompetent?
The German continue to protest that they did not want war; that the Kaiser was for peace.

THE IDEALIST
"Prayer," said a simple Japanese convert, "is like the two buckets of a well. When one bucket is sent down empty the other bucket comes up full."

VIEWS OF READERS

Contributions That Reflect Public Opinion on Subjects Important to City, State and Nation.
To the Editor of the Evening Ledger:
Sir—In view of the fact that the vote in Philadelphia makes eleven States that have gone prohibition through the non-partisan influence of women on the votes of men alone, how can the suffragists circulate such ridiculous appeals as they sent out recently?

HE WANTS SUNDAY AMUSEMENTS
To the Editor of the Evening Ledger:
Sir—Knowing nothing whatever about the matter of Sunday amusements, I really do not see the question of Sunday amusements. I really do not see the question of Sunday amusements. I really do not see the question of Sunday amusements.

WHERE IS THE FRENCH NAVY?
To the Editor of the Evening Ledger:
Sir—The many readers who have been puzzled to account for lack of a battle of sea between the French navy and the English navy, I have been looking for a solution in your columns.

A SHOP GIRL PLEADS GUILTY
To the Editor of the Evening Ledger:
Sir—As a saleslady, I have been much interested in the letters appearing in your columns regarding the treatment of customers. I was pleased, of course, that a shopper should admit her occasional feelings; but I feel we girls owe it to our mothers to be so much to admit that every now and then we are far from courteous or patient.

A COMMISSION FOR PHILADELPHIA
To the Editor of the Evening Ledger:
Sir—There is one very plain lesson from the "unstable hulls" grab, Philadelphia needs a commission form of government. She needs to be able to put her finger squarely on the man or men who are planning to steal the chance of electing a few good men like the present Mayor, instead of a drove of nondescript professional politicians.

NATIONAL POINT OF VIEW
No greater opportunity has been offered American genius by the exigencies of the European war than this point of view a boost for the game.—New York Tribune.

Even in baseball it is good to get out of a rut. New York's failure to win the National League pennant for the fourth time in succession is from that point of view a boost for the game.—New York Tribune.

The praises of militarism, still sounded in certain quarters, are strangely ill the laudations of negro slavery which were heard in this country on the eve of the Civil War which was to abolish it forever. In both cases, that is to say, the moral force of the argument is the same: the long suffering good will of the United States toward the Mexican people.—Boston Herald.

The administration of the Treasury is a highly educational occupation, and Secretary McAdoo is giving signs of readiness and capacity to learn. The banks which he assisted with Treasury funds have so far abused his trust in them that he has disciplined them privately and threatens to do so publicly. His gift of money to the public for a public purpose—the moving of the crops—and they have diverted them into private purposes, the heaping up of excessive reserves.—New York Times.