# EVENING LEDGER-PHILADELPHIA, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1914.

# Evening Zedger PUBLIC LEDGER COMPANY

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Notices -

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PHILADELPHIA, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1914.

### Let No Man Be Deceived

F ET NO man be deceived by the insidious La argument that a vote against Penroseism is a vote against Republicanism. There stands Brumbaugh, bulwarked in honesty, Around him good Republicans can rally; through him they can give Pennsylvania's verdict in favor of Republican principles; through him they can put the State fairly and surely on record.

A verdict against Penroseism will mean to the nation what it will mean to every Pennsylvanian-a reassertion of fundamental principles, which must first be vindicated before it is possible to determine the ordinary routine of governmental procedure.

It is a fortunate thing that Republicans are able now to vote for their political and moral principles at the same time. It is a fortunate thing that they can elect a real Republican while they are utterly repudiatng a Republican masquerader. It is a splendid thing that Penroselsm can be overthrown without imperiling in the slightest Pennsylvania's message to the nation or disturbing in any manner whatever her historic economic position.

Every Republican votes tomorrow for or against a Republican President in 1917. Every vote for Penrose fattens the Democratic chances of victory in 1916; each vote against him will bring measurably nearer a revision of the tariff.

### Roosevelt Voiced the Nation

TF ANY one imagines that Penrose and the Penrose vocalists would devote every speech in the last days of the campaign to refuting Roosevelt if Roosevelt had done them no harm, he does not understand politics. When the Colonel pleaded with the people to overthrow Penroseism he was speaking for the conscience of the entire nation.

Ant No man knows the United States in all its ostarts more intimately than Roosevelt, and d Rebether men always agree with him or not 96 M they know that he has the power of interpreting the thought of the mass of the people with remarkable precision. Penrose has precipitated a national crisis and Penroseism must be overwhelmed.

tering blade, last token of the romance of war, only insignia of the gallant officer, is doomed. Waving it in battle is nothing more than a signal to the enemy for extermination. War is becoming every day a more routine. matter-of-fact killing machine. We sing neither arms nor the man.

### Penrose on Penroseism

ANY candidacy which relies on corruption, fraud, coercion of officeholders is confessedly weak and unworthy of support .--Senator Ponrose in the 1911 campaign.

### **Concentrate** on Palmer

INTO such a state has triumphant Repub-licanism fallen under the leadership of Penrose that he no longer even assumes the possibility of securing a majority tomorrow. His hopes are all based on a plurality. Not half of the registered Republicans of the State would enter the primary. More than half have been alienated by Penroseism.

It is a foregone conclusion that more votes will be cast against than for Penrose. The division of the opposition offers the sole possibility of a Penrose victory. It is of the utmost importance, therefore, that the anti-Penrose vote should be concentrated on the candidate who has the better chance of suc-CP-88.

That candidate is A. Mitchell Palmer. He will be kulfed by whisky Democrats. No Republican need hesitate to meet such a situation by voting for Mr. Palmer. He is the one Instrument through which Penroseism can be rebuked and overcome.

# Two Good Congressmen

AGAINST Congressman Michael Donohoe, who in a remarkable spirit of nonpartisanshin has served this city well, the Organization has nominated Pater E. Costello, whose efforts in behalf of bad government have on more than one occasion earned for him wellmerited rebuke. He is the same Costello who, in 1910, took \$64,000 of the taxpayers' money, having sold to the city for \$135,000 property which he had bought within the year for \$61,000. Were Mr. Donohoe not distinguished already for his exceptionally valuable service, it would nevertheless be the duty of the voters to give him an overwhelming vote as an evidence of the estimate they place on Mr. Costello's activities.

J. Washington Logue is another Democrat who deserves well of his constituents. He is entitled to re-election. He has earned the indorsement which he ought to get.

## Every Man a King

IN MANY lands men are subjects: in America all men are sovereigns. The insignia, the sceptre, of this kingly right is the ballot. When a citizen of the United States fails to register or fails to vote he abdicates ris throne

No one citizen has the right to do anything that would destroy the government if all the citizens did the same. It is palpable even to the most stupid that if all voters refrained from going to the polls there would be no public officers elected and, therefore, government would break down.

Absentee citizenship or the neglect of duty at the polls is most prevalent among the comfortable and respectable part of the population. Because of that it is the more reprehensible and unpardonable. There are no extenuating circumstances, no available excuses. The disreputable voters will be whipped or cajoled to the booths by the ward bosses. The only way to offset and outwit and wipe out such a vicious element is for every self-respecting man to make his voting the paramount duty for Tuesday.

# **Business Beyond the Rockies**

EVERY day new export opportunities, new markets for American products, are discovered, while all the time the trade between the United States and Europe is shifting over in our favor. But the present optimism of business men is not confined to the East. The increasing commercial prosperity of the Pacific States is a matter of gratulation to the whole country. Crops in California are abundant, shipments of staples from San Francisco are unusually large, trade with ports on the western coast of South America is booming and Alaska is becoming more and more a potent influence in the commercial and industrial prosperity of the Commonwealths beyond the Rockles. All this leaves out of consideration the impetus given to business in general by the canal and the coming fair.

# THE HANDS OF ESAU

Philadelphia as the Victim of a Brace-game-With the Cards Stacked, Contractors Take What Profit They Please-Interesting Facts That Reveal the Immensity of the Spoils Taken from Taxpayers.

# "The voice is Jacob's voice, but the hands are the hands of Esau." FOREWORD

"A perfect form of government requires so many ingredients so good in their several kinds and so much niceness in mixing them, that for some thousands of years men have despaired of reducing their schemes to perfection."-Dean Swift,

Better government in Philadelphia is being slowly strangled. The Blankenburg adminstration of a few city offices expresses better government just as completely as an anti-Commany Administration does in New York. The cold fingers of "The Organization," Philahelphia's Tammany, theisting dexterously through a pliable majority in Connells and officials under control, are pressing hard on its windpipe. Unless pried off by the people themselves strangulation of better precentient must cusar. In the modest pulsees behind the myriad tico-story red-brick fronts of working Philadelphia dicell the real benchelaries of better government. Their support alone means bett r povernment. The worst that can be said of people who toil is that they are sometimes too fired to study a public subject-SOMETIMES, NOT ALWAYS.

### No. XIII-TWO CONTRACTORS

fellow to win snuffed out. There is nothing

meaner in life. It has a variable facade. We

find it in louded dice, the false appraisal of

rent estate, marked cards, the salted mine,

the crooked roulette wheel, the bribed jockey

who pulls his mount, the phoney diamond, the

fake prospectus, the padding of the income

account in the annual report of a private

corporation-one might go on indefinitely.

Preconcerted action in a scheme to swindle

or cheat with the principals masked, and

hehled logal lutwarks, are the chief essentials

of a brace-game. It involves the playing of

a double role. Betting with a legless man

and holding the stakes well expresses it, for

the possibility of successful pursuit has been

climinated. When a man is denied a

'square deal" he begs for a "fighting chance."

and only when this is refused is he up

against a brace-game. He is pocketed. There

When the political leaders of a community

are also contractors looking for public work,

they are conducting a brace-game against

the taxpayers. They have the public corner-

ed. Even their praise-chanters, sycophants,

knee-crookers and hired Ink-throwers will

itself in the hands of the contractors, who is

Observe: Two contractors selze the local

machinery of both the majority and minority

parties. They name the candidates for of-

fice-Councilmen, Magistrates, Mayor, Dis-

trict Attorney, Judges and members of the

Legislature. In return for their jobs these

haltered officials let the two contractors

pave, clean and repair the streets, lay the

sewers, remove the ashes and garbage, con-

struct the parkways, build the filtration

plants, crect municipal courts and new hos-

pitals, etc. Who will say them nay? No-

body. Who dare inspect their work as it

should be inspected? Nobody. Who will

prosecute them if they disobey the law? No-

This is the model government garment cut

to the pattern of Jim McNichol and the

Vares. The contractors decide what work

shall be done, when it shall be done, how it

shall be done and what their profits shall

be. Pay for it all comes out of the public

till. It is the brace-game in politics. Heads

Beyond all physical daring or prowess our

hearts acclaim the records of boys who be-

gin desperately poor and win fortune, fame,

power and eminence. Good! Let us salute

all the boys who have fought their way up

But we cannot be forced to applaud those

who win fortune, fame, power and eminence

in a brace-game. There is nothing hearten-

or tails the taxpayers lose.

in the competitive open

have to admit as much, for with government

there to prevent them from filling their carts

s no road out.

at the public gold bins?

body.

EVER heard of the brace-game? It is | ple into the capacious pockets of the two contractors was always chaperoned by expert legal advice. Who has not winced at the country-wide opinion of the unerring keenness of a "Philadelphia lawyer"? Once under way, our contractor overlords bought their power on each succeeding election day with the people's money, paid to them on contracts, and then with their candidates landed in the offices they split the future city's revenue between themselves as if it were a Captain Kidd's treasure. For well they knew William Penn's honest cars were of iron and his great voice was forever silent, lost in the metal depths of the statue atop City Hall.

> In the two mayorality terms prior to the advent of the Blankenburg Administration in 1912, another \$40,000,000 was paid out of the city's treasure chest in extortionate land damages. Here is where the contractor overlords let their friends in high places, and underlings in Councils clean up at the expense of the taxpayers. Enormous awards of damages in favor of owners of swampy land were made along the Vare South Broad Street Boulevard extending into League Island Park; and equally scandalous damages were made for land in the route of the McNichol Northeast Boulevard.

Two instance will suffice in these costly roadways to illustrate how the invisible hands perate.

Among 332 different items in the specifications for the further improvement of League Island Park we find this joker: "For additional excavation (without classification) or filling, including all sheathing, shoring and other appurtenances where ordered, for the sum of 62 cents per cubic ward." Innocent enough to the lay mind. Well, that little clause hid away in such guileless language is said to have netted Edwin H. Vare \$1,000 .-000 clear profit, and the end is not yet. We said in a previous article that he had a clever lawyer

It worked as follows; What layman would have known that a place to dump dirt in South Philadelphia was the crying need of private contractors? Many are willing to pay for the privilege as high as 5 cents a cubic yard or even more. In that single word, "filling," Senator Vare cashed. He claims to have paid 10 cents a yard for dirt to companies dredging the river, and for this same dirt he charged the city 62 cents a cubic vard. Profit-52 cents on each cubic yard. He did not have to put a team out to cart the dirt to the great hole in League Island Park, for the dredging people delivered it themselves.

One cannot help wondering if the whole League Island Park improvement was not a scheme devised for the explicit purpose of handling dirt that came out of the river

upon a profitable brace-game basis,

Good engineering provides that a ros

### coming out and he wanted to know if I would take the contracts. Q. Did Mrs. McNichol ever pay any money

Q. Did you make up the estimates and bids for these filtration contracts? A. No, that work was done mostly by Philip H. Johnson,

Oh! Yes, now we see it all. Philip H. Johnson is the great humanitarian architect. brother-in-law of the late "Izzy" Durham. He had his finger in the filtration, ton, Take a peep at him there. He is certainly versa-

In conclusion: United States Senator Boies Penrose was not a candidate for re-election in 1911. It appears that he was muck-raking

"The so-called contractor leadership of the WORTHY OF SUPPORT." Penrose knows.

**Contributions That Reflect Public Opin**ion on Subjects Important to City, State and Nation.

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger:

as a coal," but when he crawled out of the swamp the next morning it was white

# Glenside, Pa., October 25.

# IMPORTANT QUESTIONS

To the Editor of the Buening Ledger: Sin-Some writers in your letter column discuss the personal qualities of political candi-dates as though such a topic was of vital in-terest. Some discuss political issues that never were nor will be of any importance, while at present many writers take sides for or against the warring nations of Europe, showing their ill-taste and lack of appreciation of this, the greatest country in the world. \* \* \* Discus-sion of such things is in line with other theoretical discussions which will not get a workingman a loaf of bread, nor do any constructive good in the world. ORIGINAL THINKER.

Paulaboro, N. J., October 29

# NEWS ACCORDING TO IMPORTANCE

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: Sir-The Woman Suffrage party of Philadel-phia extends to you sincere thanks for the excellent publicity you gave the organization work of last week. We appreciate that at this time the papers are crowded for space and news has to be out down, therefore the amount of space given to our c se was all the more gratifyin

SCRAPPLE

I hope no one will be quite foolish enough not even if it he George Bernard Shaw, whe

is certainly not a fool, because he is a mad-

man, to think that there is no connection be-tween buttons and the war. Indeed, there is

serious and awful connection between but-

tons and the war. If it weren't for my repu-tation-with which I have nothing to do-as a

maker of paradoxes. I should say that with-out buttons there could have been no war. The pence-loving citizen of Somaliland wears

no buttons, and he makes no wars. The shades of Napoleon and Caesar make no wars, and they wear no buttons, in spite of all the tailors of Cheapelde. The milia-mannered citizen of Tottenham Court road

mannered citizen of Tottenham Court road wears a button on his contralls when he dresses in that greatest of irreligious sins, full evening dress, and there is no buttonhole for that button. By a sublime irony of nature he also wears a buttonhole which has no but-ton. When a hore attempts to speak to him be takes him by the buttonhole which has no

ton, when a bore attempts to speak to had be takes him by the buttonhole which has no button, and that proves that buttonholes have nothing to do with the war. Whereas when an enemy wishes to strike him he at-tacks the button which has no buttonhole, and that shows that buttons have everything to do with war. Now-fand so on to the bot-

to do with war. Now-(and so on to the bot-

Birds of Passage

Lipton

Lauder

War News of Society

Cable dispatch says that they are fighting at Nleuport. Must be the charge of the 400.

Speechless With Pain?

Ballade of Baseball

(After Muster Francois Villon)

Where's Comiskey, the baseball Roman, And where is Altrock; who shall know? Graves of heroes are known by no man-Bender and Coombs and Plank must gol

Miner Brown, the ancient foeman? Where is Chesbro, ho whose paces Kept in rank the batting bowman?

Tannehill, Young, the ancient clan. Gone and faded-their öld-time places

Hidden now the one-time faces

The Leesburg, Indiana, Journal asserts

Bruce Ismay

tom of the page).

Indeed, there in

一篇

under this agreement? A. No. Our Own G. K. Chesterton on the War I was counting the buttons on my great-coat yesterday when I thought about the war.

the engineer I employed.

tile. He filters our water and he builds all our hospitals.

Probably the biggest private contract J. P. McNichol has handled was the building f the Market street subway. Probably the biggest private contract Edwin H. Vare has handled was the construction of the underground system for a telephone company. Does it seem likely that either contract would have been forthcoming had the two contractors been less the powers than they are in politics?

about that time, for he said:

local Republican Organization has for several years been the subject of criticism and reproach throughout the State, Any CANDI-DACY WHICH RELIES ON CORRUPTION. FRAUD, COERCION OF OFFICEHOLD-ERS IS CONFESSEDLY WEAK AND UN-

VIEWS OF READERS ON TIMELY TOPICS

that a family there was made seriously ill by "pantomime poisoning." Tell me now, in what hidden place is

Sir-Colonel Peter Horry in his "Life of Francis Marlon" relates an incident in which the raven-black locks of a British officer besame snow-white in something less than 24 hours. While the British occupied Georgetown, S. C., Colonel Horry, who was scouting around the town with a small body of men, came in contact with a party of 30 British dragoons. The British were soon put to flight, and in the pursuit all save only an officer were cut down. This one escaped by darting into the awamps. Some years after the war Colonel Horry, while on a business trip to New York, was made acquainted with a gentleman whos hair was white, although he was not an old man. During their interview it developed that this gentleman was the officer who had escaped the American charge; and he told Horry that when he entered the fight his hair was "black

E. GUTHRIE.

Fickle as Fortune! Sure but slow. Back to the minors or Federal yeoman Bender and Coombs and Plank must go!

### Society Stuff

gium this week. T. Roosevelt was in our midst recently, but

Friends gave a reception in honor of Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, of England and Jall, a few days ago. The ushers were dressed in yellow and white

anoff is shooting in Galicia this Nick Ron fall. He says the shooting is fair to mid-

north for some time. Vic says the climate at

home sults him. Mohammed V, of Constantinople, is cruis-ing in the Black Sea for a few days.

Taken by many a swifter man. Who shall question the leader's plan? Who shall ask where the salaries grow? Let him remember while he can, Bender and Coombs and Plank must go! Once we watched their pristine graces-

Once we watched their pristine graces-Bender, the Redman, mowing down Giant and Brave in pennant races, And Coombs with his oddly puzzled frown. Plank, on whose head we placed a crowni Eddle, our Eddle-we used to glow! Father of Baseball! Is this renown? Bender and Coombs and Plank must gol

ENVOI

Fan, don't ask if Fame's a woman-

Wille Hohenzollern is being entertained by French friends at their country home in Bel-

has left. Au revoir, T. B. Penrose is not receiving this year.

Many Englishmen are spending the winter across the Channel.

dling. Vic Emmanuel has decided not to travel

# Vote for the Loan

VOTE for the loan. It carries a provision for sufficient funds to begin preliminary work on the new subway-elevated system. It is work which if not undertaken at once will seriously delay the completion of the whole project. The good items in the loan so far overbalance the bad ones that everybody should vote for it.

3700 BC

WH

### Pennsylvania on Trial

TT iS settled that Penrose is guilty or he would have taken the only effective way of rebutting the charges. An innocent man would spend his last cent and devote every atom of strength to clearing his personal and public honor of such befouling accusations as have been made against Penrose. His evasiveness, his complacency, his faint and vague general denial can only be interpreted as a confession of guilt.

Tomorrow, therefore, Pennsylvania and not Penrose will be on trial. Every one who voces for Penrose will tacitly admit that he approves what Penrose has done, and accepts the mud-turtle political morality for which Penrose stands. If the face of the returns should show that Penrose has a plurality of the votes cast this great Commonwealth will be convicted at the bar of the nation of having lapsed from American ideals and repudiated the code of public morality that is essential to the permanence of a republic.

## The Vares Bridled

TN 1911, when Mr. Penrose was betraying . Gang secrets to the enemies of the Vares and turning daylight on the nefarious practices of himself and other politicians who controlled City Hall, according to unrefuted accusations, he was generous in his excoriation of the Vare influence in Philadelphia It is quite probable that the Vares will not exact vengeance for this at the ballot box tomorrow, for it is openly asserted that the rum interests have overruled the brother houses in their own balliwick; or is it true "Rill" Vare has been promised the tint mayoralty as a reward for not jumping over \$240 EPRANOS?

# Splitting

FIRES only thing I don't like about this "smashing" Ferrose idea is the trouble of splitting my ticket. I hate to split any shing," said the old-liner.

"Well," came the answer, "if George Washington had felt like that there wouldn't have been any U. E. A.

# Styles in War

F BIERE are styles even in warfure. And they rills to smaller matters than the pressut popularity of submarines and disparagement of forts, floating or otherwise. Germany is setting a number of very inseconding new fushions or abundaning some ald ones. "Esterliches" mustaches are "go. " out," decideday, Too many officers have was approhizeded by the crossy and capand he show under the internation that the writing many line momentate of Philadam, are and here available " printer." The glit- as it did has night.

# Keep the Cotton Industry at Home

A VICTIM of its own economic crime, this country is now asked to save the cotton planters from the predicament in which they find themselves. For a hundred years too much of the American cotton crop has gone abroad to build up the manufacturing industries of other nations, and now we pay the penalty for the long delay in utilizing the opportunity here at home. But fortunately our cotton factories are rapidly increasing in number, especially in the South. The faster the better. Producing three-fourths of the world's cotton crop, the country now consumes one-third of its own yield; and onethird of the spindles in the United States are in Southern factories. As the industrial development of the South goes on, following upon its advanced agricultural development, the recurrence of such a dilemma as the present one becomes less and less likely.

"Buy a bond."

It might truthfully be said that Swarthmore was all Tuckered out Saturday.

The Belgians will have no constitutional objections to the Rockefeller Foundation.

"Taft to go to Harvard." In time for a decision on the Yale game?

If the war does nothing else-which seems highly probable-at any rate it is teaching us a lot of forgotten geography.

There is some truth in the statement that Penrose is going back. Certainly the Republican party has been going back ever since he became influential in its councils.

These are rictous days for the hitherto sober-lived clock in Independence Hall, After two or three vacations-the first in thirtyodd years-it celebrated Penrose's birthday yesterday by striking thirteen.

"Chicago packing houses have three shifts of men at work on account of the rush of European orders." Prosperity? Dear me. no-another excuse for raising the price of ment

Rainfall in the small hours of the night has other advantages than the inspiration of melancholy poets. If, as Director Harte sara, we must have molature, let it accommodate theelf to huysanity's working hours,

the second

arcors of men who said the perity of the Commonwealth that shelters them. In the long run they lose more than the mulcied taxpayers, for men with a chilled sense of right often seek late in life to snuggle in the warmth of public approbation by spectacular acts and gifts, well press agented.

If James P. McNichol or Edwin H. Vare, the rival clan-heads, who for years have exploited Philadelphia, had been bona-fide contractors there would have come a time long before this when they would have broken away from the political brace-game. They would have retired from the State Senate and "The Organization," the local political machine they jointly operate. They are always talking about their skill in private business. There are plenty of railroads to be built in South America and Alaska, and construction work of every concelvable sort all over our own country. They have not lacked capital. Yet they will not go, but they continue to circle like vultures around City Hall, never out of sight of its lofty tower.

Why relate these things now? The past is past; let it be. Are there not honest men in City Hall doing their utmost to bring order out of the chaos of years of misrule? Must we forever be hearing of Jim McNichol and the Vares?

True, it is rather an old story. But, Brother Taxpayer, these contractor soverords are not content with bossing their own Mayors; they want to boss ours. They have set out deliberately with malice aforethought to tear down the achievements of the Blankenburg Administration; they have ordered the blocking of public welfare in Councils and they have hectored faithful public servants by launching velled attacks at them through controlled placeholders and subsidized organs. Their very activity foreshadows their purpose of backing their carts again under the public hopper. Their intent is plain. They cannot do business in the competitive open. They have to return to the brace-game. They are after our next grist of taxes. Now the question arises: Do we taxpayers want the carts again?

No! We do not want the carts again. They have carried off too much already. More than \$27,060,000 in city contracts went to James P. McNichol and his allied companies in ten years. More than \$18,000,000 in municipal contracts went to Edwin H. Vare and his agents in the same period. Altogether \$40,000,000 is the haul of a decade for the carts, and their not profits were at least 15 per cent., or \$10,000,000. Cannot they live on this? Richard Croker retired on less and lives like a king in Ireland.

Looking backward from a distance in time measure one gets an ideal perspective of these men, their cunning, their during and their pathetic endeavor to wear the halo of achievement. From 1909 to 1912 they struck paims for an equal division of the municipal funda. McNichol took the work north of Market strest and was paid \$7,323,865.18, and Vare took the work south of Market street and drew down \$7.081,882.82. It was a close division of the spoils, and is complimentary o the skill of the combine in getting up ways for letting contracts that would figure out upon such an even hazia.

should always follow a ridge; then the amount of fill and excavation equalizes and the cost of the improvement is cheapened. Some such idea must have been in the mind of an under-engineer laying out the original route of the Northeast boulevard. But the route was changed; it was deflected so as to enter a ravine from 50 feet to 100 feet deep, and follow it for a distance of over 2000 feet.

"Did you know that the land upon either side of the ravine and in the ravine was owned by J. P. McNichol?" was asked of a witness in a recent inquiry that was suddenly called off.

"I only know that the plans showed he was the owner." was the reply,

Enough! It is clear to anybody that when it came to filling the ravine Mr. McNichol was the only person who could bid on that contract, and at the same time enhance the value of his own property. The city simply paid him to improve his own land by bringing it to grade with the Parkway. If the dirt had been brought from afar the hauling would have cost more than the contract. Senator McNichol held four aces; it was a brace game, and the taxpayers had to lose.

The Northeast boulevard-three times the width of Market street and seven and onehalf miles long to Rhawn street, costing \$4,000,000-has the added advantage of being a magnificent speedway out of Logan Square Before it reaches the ultimate terminus at Torresdale it will have to cost another \$4,000,000-if the "boys" can get back into office next fall.

It is easy to see why there is a shortage in the municipal treasury. Eighty million of dollars shot into favored hands in ten years naturally makes an ugly hole in the city's funds now needed for the conduct of better government,

In contrast to our way of building highways let us consider the wonderful Kings Way improvement in London, England-a broad thoroughfare cut through one of the most thickly settled parts of the greatest city in the world from Southampton Row to the Strand. It has cost \$25,000,000, but the stupendous improvement has been so honestly administered and financed that the resale of the land adjoining, and rents therefrom, will return its entire cost to the taxpayers. London gets a great parkway; cost, nothing. This is honesty in road building plus intelligence.

When James P. McNichol entered Belect Councils in 1898 the name of his contracting firm was J. P. McNichol & Brother. As a Councilman, McNichol led in shaping the city's policy for a great filtration plant. At that time his contracting firm took the name of D. J. McNichol, his brother, who testified in a memorable action as follows:

Q. What knowledge did you have of the agreement with John M. Mack and Israel W. Durham? A. I was told that Mrs. J. P. McNichol, myself, Mr. Mack and Mr. Durham were to form a firm. The filtration work was coming on and we had to have an agreement. Q. Who represented Mrs. McNichol? A. J. P. McNichol

Q. Did J. P. McNichol negotiots the agree posst with Durham and Mack? A. I don't know. All he said to me was that Mack and The transference of the taxes of the peo- | Durnam mid that there was & hat of work

FLORENCE L. PIERSOI Chairman Woman Suffrage party of Philadelphia.

Philadelphia, October 30.

### DEMANDS RAPID TRANSIT To the Editor of the Evening Ledger:

Sir-You are going to give us rapid transit in the northern part of the city. I could tell that when I read the very thorough article on the street car situation which you published yesterday. We're all getting tired of the pushng and crowding.

Why can't we all get together and push and crowd those Union Traction stockholders a little-and the Councilmen, too, who are blocking the good work. The men in Councils know that we need better car service and won't help matters. If they don't know that we need rapid transit, then they don't size up to their jobs. You have started something and the people are going to keep it going. Philadelphia, October, 31. LOUIS H. BETTS.

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: Sir-Your newspaper certainly stirred things up in this neighborhood with the article on the Frankford trolleys. If your reporter rode to Market street in 49 minutes he must have taken a fast car, or else it didn't make many stops. It often takes us an hour to reach Sixth and Market streets from here. A DAILY RIDER.

# Philadelphia, October 29,

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger.

SIT-I must extend my thanks to the EVENING LEDORE for the stand it has taken for better transit conditions in Frankford. It seems that this part of the city has been entirely forgotter I used to stand with the strap-hangers all the way to Market street, but for the sake of comfort and speed I now use the train to the Read-ing Terminal. Many other workers whom I know had to do the same thing. But this is too expensive, so when you arouse the people and make them realize that we need quick serv-ice to the centre of the town you will earn the gratitude of many Frankford toilers. G. E. SPENCER.

Philadelphia, October 29.

### CURIOSITY SHOP

"Pramulan mixture" was a name formerly applied to any intoxicating drink. Circe gave Ulysses Pramnian wine, impregnated with drugs, to prevent his escape from her island. The Odyssey says:

\* \* \* And for my drink prepared The Pramnian mixture in a golden cu impregnated (on my destruction bent) With noxious herbs the draught."

"Gringo," the Mexican name for an American, is said by some to have originated dur-ing the war of 1845, when the Americans in-vaded Mexico. The favorite American song was "Green Grow the Rushes, O," and the Mexicans ever after referred to the singers as Gringoes.

"Scraping an acquaintance" dates back to the time of Emperor Hadrian. One day he went to the baths and found an old soldier scraping himself with a potaherd, in lieu of a fiesh brush. So he gave him some money to buy a brush. When the emperor went to the baths the next day he found them crowded with soldiers, all scraping with pota-bards.

"Gentlemen." said the emperor, "scrape away, for you cannot scrape up an acquaintance with me that way.

"Though lost to sight, to memory dear," was written by Ruthven Jenkyns and first appeared in Greenwich Magazine for Ma-rinez, in 1834. The first verse reads: "Sweetheart, good-bye! That futtering sail "Sweatheart, good-bye! That verse reads: "Sweatheart, good-bye! That futtering Is apread to waft me far from thee; And soon before the favoring gals My ship shall bound upon the sea. Perphance, all dwlate and follow. These eyes shall miss these many a year; But unforgotten eyery charm. Though lost to sight, to memory dear."

Very Good, Eddie; You Am

This bright little verse to Scrapple I'm send-

Just on the chance that it won't get canned, Patience and thought I've been recklessly spending; (Note how smoothly each line is scanned).

There isn't much stuff to this sort of versicie I'm not intelligent, cultured or glib. For fame and fortune I don't care a cursicle

But tell me, now, ain't I your first contrib -Eddie.

# How to Cook a Skirt

(From the Handbook of Universal Knowledge The editor does not hold himself responsible for opinions expressed in this way.)

Take a large, square piece of Turkish toweling and cut into large squares. If the squares are not large enough, taka another piece and repeat the operation. Leave over night in a clean place, if you can find one, and in the morning season slightly with pep-per and a handful of butter. Then this a fountain pen and roll gently over the mixture, making sure that the gravy is of a reddish green color. In the afternoon of the next Tuesday but one, speak gently to it and let it simmer. Add four apples cut on the bias, drape with the ripe fruit of the aspara-gus tree and offer the whole to the servan if the servan refuses to an it displayed. If the servant refuses to eat it, discharge he and repeat the operation indefinitely.

### Mother Booze

(Nursery Rhymes for Second Childhood) Old Father Muffet, He sat in a buffet.

Drinking his Saturday pay. He saw a green spider With an arc-light inside her, And Muffet he fainted away.

> Whisky and gin, Whisky and gin, When a man tipples His troubles begin.

Sing a song of heer-checks And bottles full of rye. Four-and-twenty banqueters Stewed to the eye. When the door was opened The fellows wouldn't budge, Wasn't that a pretty case To set before a Judge?

### The Babbling Fool WHAT SHE SAYS

WHAT SHE MEANS They make me feel a fool, that's what! I can't stand clever girls; they give me a headachs. Trying to los soulful, How I had soulful people. Not pretty-but such a beautiful ex-pression. You know mere prettiness is so

No, I don't like The man told m

these new dance They're so vulgar. dances. was too awkward to fango, Showing off. Plays

I'm so glad your daughter isn't the the like a machine. kind of a girl that has to be coaxed to

I like to see a good, Stupid, eid - fash-ioned thing. Does he think I'm a child? clean play like this after all that stuff. It's a fine little Pretty good for 5 a month, but that ble and homelike. And I wouldn't speak to you either if you ireated m like that You were quite right, dear. I would not speak to her again, ever! You're an clover! Smarty! Hut that's no so cuss for you to dra like 19.

Of course, a wem-an is as young as she desia.

tiresome

play.