

Evening Ledger

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PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1914.

Commuters Will Fight

THE rate hearing yesterday developed little more than the reasonableness of the commuters' attitude and the corresponding unreasonableness of the railroads. Commissioner Pennypacker was happy in his suggestion that the roads voluntarily postpone putting the proposed rates into effect pending a decision by the Public Service Commission.

The Erie Railway has put the other roads in a very embarrassing position. Certainly the Erie is not the most prosperous public carrier in the East, yet its president avers that there is no reason for changing the commutation rates.

The charge of conspiracy, if not legally well founded, has in it the aspects of accuracy. It would be difficult to convince any commuter that the responsible officers of the roads did not combine and agree among themselves to institute simultaneously a definitely studied and harmonious system of increases.

The fight, of course, has just begun. It involves the prosperity not only of many suburbs and of the city itself, but finally even of the railroads. Regulation of public utilities is too susceptible to public opinion and responsive to well-defined popular demands for the breaking of any implied contract of this kind to be carried out with impunity.

Welcome to the Army and Navy

WELCOME, Cadets! Welcome, Midshipmen! Philadelphia is glad that the difficulties have disappeared which threatened to deprive her of what has become both the most spectacular athletic event of the year and a unique social occasion.

Philadelphia is glad because the game this afternoon continues a goodly list of entertainers that carry the mind back in pleasant reminiscence to days when football was a very different affair. Philadelphia is glad because the game this afternoon brings her a glimpse of the Washington notables in whose hands her interests and the nation's rest.

Trade Rights of Americans

THE continents of North and South America have a natural relationship of interests that not even the cataclysm of the European war can be permitted to menace. Certain of the Latin-American Republics have and the United States to join with them in demanding the rights of neutrality for the trade routes used by them and us.

In making this proposal to the United States Government the suggesting nations—Argentina, Chili, Peru and Uruguay—lay down also a reciprocal proposition to the effect that the war vessels of belligerent Powers will not be permitted to coal in any of the ports of Central and Southern America.

It is reported that Mme. Calaux has left France for an unknown destination, presumably South America; but a more reasonable surmise would be that she is headed for the New York vaudeville stage.

Guardians of America's Honor

GENERAL FUNSTON and a large part of the American troops from Vera Cruz have reached Galveston; the marines are expected in Philadelphia next week. The men have come through a very difficult situation with great credit to themselves and to their country. It deserves public recognition. A leave of absence is not enough.

Philadelphia should give them a reception that would speak the nation's gratitude.

A Great Stadium for Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA is the athletic capital of the nation. It cannot retain this distinction unless it meets the necessities of modern sport. The time has passed when 10,000 or 20,000 constitutes a crowd. The Yale bowl, greatest of modern stadia, was taxed to its capacity only last week. Every last demand for seats to the world's champion baseball series is double the supply.

There are occasions each year when a seating capacity of 100,000 would scarcely be sufficient, and increasing popular interest in sports augurs a time when even so vast a seating capacity as that will not be adequate. Football matches in England are sometimes viewed by larger assemblages.

Philadelphia must have a stadium, the most complete in America, the most commodious. It must be able to offer to the Army and Navy annually the finest facilities in the country for their great game. It must be able to present such unparalleled advantages for other major sports, the intercollegiate track meet, etc., that there will be no possibility of any other city challenging its supremacy.

It is an investment that far-seeing business men cannot ignore. Receipts from the increased number of seats at the Army and Navy game alone would provide a sum sufficient for interest and amortization in 10 years of a \$400,000 stadium.

Philadelphia must not again run the risk of losing the Army and Navy game, even in alternate years. It must not jeopardize its prestige in national athletics. It must be prompt and quick in meeting this situation. It must rush ahead into modernization of facilities and utilize the opportunity for the perpetuation of its supremacy.

Our business organizations should arouse themselves, and so should Councils. Let the greatest stadium in America be ready for the celebration of its opening by the Army and Navy when next they play here. This is a thing so wise and necessary that no vigilant city can ignore it. Philadelphia needs a stadium and Philadelphia will get it.

New Internationalism

AT ONE time the American consciousness was bordered by the Atlantic on the east and the Allegheny Mountains on the west. Expansion was slow and difficult to achieve, but eventually the boundary passed the Mississippi, then the Rocky Mountains and at length crossed the Pacific coast.

Today the whole world is being forced upon our consciousness, and without any effort we are using continents as units of thought and terms of speech. At last America has taken its international place of pre-eminence, and the eyes of all races are turned toward the one country that can replenish the exhausted markets.

From across the five seas, from every continent and many of the far-flung islands of the world inquiries for American-made commodities and American raw material are pouring in upon our manufacturers and jobbers. Our ability to meet the demand is commensurate with the opportunity. We have been given a place in the sun that we must never relinquish, and if our enterprise keeps pace with our enlarged vision, there will be no port in the world where the American flag is unseen and no market that is not dominated by American products.

Another "Merc Woman"

YES, this is the age of feminism. It doesn't take Government census reports to convince the average citizen that there are 273 lady boiler-makers in the United States. All he has to do is to watch his newspaper.

This week introduces a New York girl who acts as night watchman in the produce district. She keeps an eye on the fruit left standing on the curb over night. Every now and then she nails a thief with a box of grapes under his arm. It's her enterprising way of solving the high-cost-of-living problem now that her father is dead.

But, of course, she can't vote. She hasn't the cool judgment. She isn't to be trusted with large affairs. She doesn't understand things outside the home. It wouldn't be right to force her to enter the mixed crowd of a polling place. And, of course, she couldn't go to war.

They had to catch Croker in his old age before he would fall victim to any tribe but Tammany. With England floating a billion and three-quarters war loan, America wasn't a moment too soon with her new banking system.

An aluminum and copper alloy that looks like gold and wears like Egyptian bronze ought to make good jewelry. But it will probably be too cheap.

If the weatherman is partial to Saturdays during the football season, he seems positively prejudiced against bad weather when the Army and Navy come along. It is reported that Mme. Calaux has left France for an unknown destination, presumably South America; but a more reasonable surmise would be that she is headed for the New York vaudeville stage.

ARNOLD BENNETT WANTS GERMANY TRIED BY NEUTRALS

Suggests President Wilson as Chief Justice to Preside at Trial—A Distinctly British View of the Case of Belgium, in Which the Fatherland is Assumed to Be the Defendant in the Dock.

By FREDERIC WILLIAM WILE

"LET the Hague Court of Arbitral Justice Linnaughts its career with a bench of neutrals under the Chief Justiceship of President Wilson, with Germany in the dock on an indictment reading 'Belgium!' This is, in substance, Arnold Bennett's reply to a question as to the most effective service America can render civilization at the present crisis in the world's history.

On every hand Americans in England hear the view seriously expressed that our sympathy for the Allies—or what is believed here to be the sympathy of at least 75 per cent. of us—ought to take a more positive and tangible form than merely platonic sentiment. Many Englishmen are paraphrasing what the old German historian, Theodor Mommsen, once said to me during the South African War when I told him that the vast majority of Americans undoubtedly sided with the Boers: "That is all very well, but why don't you do something? Platonic love never bore children."

Englishmen who feel that America ought to be "a hero in the strife" submit that Britain and France are fighting our battle as well as theirs. They say that the British navy stands not only between Kaiserism and its frankly confessed designs on Monroism. Such a view is held by Arnold Bennett, with whom I have just had the privilege of discussing the particular phase of the situation at his private residence, like all thinkers of his race and generation, abhors war; but he is at one with them today in insisting that there can never again be peace till "the German menace" has been stamped out for all time to come. I asked the author of "Your United States," to which he paid a memorable visit three years ago, to air his opinions as to the most effective role neutral America can play amid the crash and din of Europe's titanic killings.

Bennett's View of Our Duty
The idea that the Allies fight for America as well as for themselves is lucidly advanced in Bennett's "Liberty—A Statement of England's Case," which is one of the most popular and telling of the many pamphlets on the war now crowding the English bookstalls.

"I didn't want even the assurance of one like yourself, fresh from the United States," said Bennett, "to convince me that the great majority of people in America are strongly on the side of the Allies in this affair. I have had lots of letters from American friends and readers, and they leave me in no doubt on the point. Other English writers are receiving quantities of evidence of the same kind as to what you think over there.

"The fact is the proofs of sympathy are so striking that we have begun to ask ourselves whether such sympathy could not be turned into deeds, and ought not to be turned into deeds.

"Some persons in England, perhaps, consider that you ought to mobilize your army and navy and cross the Atlantic with both. I don't, indeed, I consider such an idea entirely absurd. The United States has shown that her moral force will be far more useful than her arms, however efficient they may be. At least that's my opinion.

"It's true that just now we are fighting the battle of the United States as well as our own. But we can manage. We can, I believe, keep our end up, and a bit more, in the altercation. I've been gradually coming to this conclusion for some time—and so have a lot of other Englishmen.

"If we were going to be beaten America would assuredly have to create an army and increase her navy—and quickly, too. Only we aren't. So that America is free to confine herself to the moral role. This is not an easy role.

Moral Role Needs Courage
"The Kaiser (as he still is) might and probably would smile at the moral role.

"But the Kaiser doesn't understand everything—even in the conduct of war. See how he is mixing up political and military considerations at the present time. The moral role needs just as much courage as the military role. Indeed, it needs more.

"The Kaiser and his staff don't sit in the trenches and they doubtless take care to get a good meal every few hours. They only tell other people to go out and starve and get wounded and killed. But if the United States undertook such a moral role as I have in mind, it is President Wilson himself and his greatest officials who would have to sit in the trenches.

"Now there are two things I want you to understand before you go any further. First, I have no wish that the United States by moral intervention should try to end this war. We prefer to end this war ourselves. Germany began it in her way. I believe that we shall end it in ours.

Urges Conclave of Neutrals
"Secondly, I have no notion whatever of teaching President Wilson his business. We in England clearly realize that President Wilson is in an extremely difficult and delicate situation and is proving splendidly equal to it. I'm not a diplomatist; I'm a novelist. But even novelists have ideas occasionally.

"I have had an idea for the utilization of the warm sympathy and the moral force of the United States at the present time. Others may have had the same idea—I don't know. All I know is that I've had it. I offer it with the greatest diffidence and deference.

"It's this—that the United States, as the greatest and most powerful neutral State, should as soon as possible invite the other neutral States of the world to assemble in conclave at the Hague. If ever the court of arbitral justice, recommended by the second Hague conference, is to be inaugurated, now is the moment for doing so.

LIKE CASTLES

Like castles stand the bastioned walls of France, Dun, gray and white upon the boundless blue, With allports where knights have ridden through.

SCRAPPLE

The Halfback
A halfback is a college student who is suffering from sprained ankles, water on the knee, a chipped rib, tangled ribs, a loose ear and a condition in German.

There are many more who are not contagious, and yet a halfback catches them. No one runs after a halfback so simply as a halfback, or overtakes it more easily.

The halfback plays behind the line on his own football team and under the line of the other team. His duties are numerous in the extreme. He has to grab a football and carry it over an under and through 11 men who are determined to upset him and sit on his neck.

Without opposition a halfback could carry the ball a mile at a time. As it is, he is half proud and half happy when he carries it five yards before his feet are so imbedded in the frozen ground that there are many occasions which require nerve unadulterated with thoughtfulness, but none which require more nerve and less discretion than that of a man who is carrying the ball. It is also his duty when the other side is advancing to stand before a thundering giant and to throw himself against the quarter-back and jarring automobiles by the hind wheel is good practice for this sort of work.

It will thus be seen that the halfback leads a busy and care-free life. He often goes to the backshop for repairs, but as a rule he finishes school with his class and all of his limbs, and thereafter he displays a calm confidence in his own strength and plowing through opposition, which makes him known as a man who doesn't mind hard knocks. We need more halfbacks in politics—reform in these days would do much good. Catching automobiles by the hind wheel is good practice for this sort of work.

Expert Review of the Week's War
Monday.
Relations today it is now strained; The Deutch are active still in Flanders, And Bernard Shaw still prints his slanders.

Tuesday.
Today our friend Ypres is bombarded, And our aviators are retorted, The Crown Prince shamed at 8 p. m. The Germans Joffre cannot stem.

Wednesday.
The Germans now retire from Lodz, The Yser fields are swamps and muds, The French are still at (name deleted); The Turkish rout is now completed.

Thursday.
On this our bright Thanksgiving Day We go to see Penn-Cornell play, The war goes on, for who can stop it? But we are willing just to drop it.

Friday.
A British ship goes down at Sheerness, The Allies take Dixmude again, This world is full of odds and queerness; The Crown Prince subdued again.

Saturday.
We don't predict, we will not lie, This poem's written Friday morn. Let Allies rage, let Germans cry; We won't predict, we will not lie, Tomorrow peace may come, and why? We won't predict, we will not lie; This poem's written Friday morn.

Sunday.
My watch and jewelry were stolen last night, "Burglars in the house" "No, in the pawnshop."

Logical Question
A witness, in describing a certain event, said: "The person I saw at the head of the parade was a man with one eye named Wilkins."

According to the Dispatches
What time the West was wily wild; It bristled with great big revolvers, At least in the East, where a man is out of it, the better for himself and all concerned.—From "An Inland Voyage."

Imaginary Individuals
We introduce to you Pat Keats. He really is an honest fellow. Though rain was coming down in sheets, He would not steal an umbrella.

Even In Olden Days
Teacher—Diogenes lived in a tub and Johnny—What an awful lot of company his parents must have had.

Tempus Fugit
The prodigal son returned home after these many years. "It's the same old home, the same old room, but what an unfamiliar air," he said, "it's been changed twice since you went away," responded his fond dad.

\$999,997.50 Out
"Her father declares that the day she marries that college football player she will lose a million dollars." "And you get a quarterback"—Boston Transcript.

Opportunity
"Who was the message from?" asked Neal when the wireless sparks began to fly over the Ark. "An Atlantic City promoter," replied the operator. "He wants to sell you a concession."

From the Cub's Notebook
Every public office holder must have his "favorite dish." President Wilson, for instance, is reported to be a lover of chicken fricassee, and the Washington correspondents say that a plateful of that dainty is a source of greater delight to him than a Republican in a Republican State. But the tastes of Governor-elect Martin G. Brumbaugh are less pretentious. His hospitalized hours are spent before a dish of onions—good, old-fashioned pungent, non-deodorized Pennsylvania Dutch onions. The professional educator boasts that he can eat three whole ones without giving way to tears and that he has eaten them at one.

Mustard pretzels also have a claim on his appetite. Once when the Board of Recreation threatened to drive the traditional pretzel man from the public playgrounds, he exclaimed: "When mustard pretzels are involved, I have eaten them since I was 4 years old and now when I can sneak behind a curtain I can devour two or three. Watch me eat and see whether they have ruined my digestion."

AREAS OF INTEREST

AREA OF INTEREST
To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: Sir—I challenge the assertion you make in today's EVENING LEDGER in the Rapid Transit article, that Philadelphia has so much more area than any other city in the United States. This is not correct, and I ask you to publish the areas of the five largest cities in population in the United States. Please on you to be always knocking your own city.

WILLOUGHBY GOODE.
Philadelphia, November 27.

THE METROPOLITAN AREA OF THE FIVE LARGEST CITIES IN POPULATION IN THE UNITED STATES ARE AS FOLLOWS: Philadelphia, 75 square miles; Boston, 66 square miles; New York, 66 square miles; Chicago, 43 square miles, and St. Louis, 41.7 square miles. The figures are taken from a report made by experts in Philadelphia, given in Volume No. 1 of the report of the Transit Commissioner of the city, issued in July, 1913.—Editor of the EVENING LEDGER.

LIKES PHILADELPHIA'S CARS

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: Sir—As a recent arrival from the home of the Brave, I want to compliment Philadelphia on its cars. The big green ones, of course, Boston thinks pretty well of them, too, especially the "pay-as-you-enter," which she calls "Prepayment Cars." But they're not to be compared with Philadelphia's. The big virtue of these is their front entrance which lets the passenger get a little before the motion of the car in getting to his seat as it starts, or to the door at a stop, and the ventilation system is not to be passed by without commendation.

L. S. H.
Philadelphia, November 27.

CUSTOMS AT OPERA AND MOVIES

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: Sir—Your correspondent, Edward Gordon, in his letter published in your columns last evening, wishes the customs at the movies and at the opera at the most inopportune moments. I should like to make a protest against the custom of some of the people in moving picture audiences of coming into the theatre on the screen in voices loud enough to distract the attention of their neighbors. I have intelligence enough to follow the plot without being told all wrong by the man sitting behind me.

MOVIE DEVOTEES.
Philadelphia, November 27.

JUSTICE IN COLORADO

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: Sir—I note from your news columns that the Governor and the Governor-elect of Colorado are agreed that the labor trouble in the mine district must be solved in a more money saving and bloodless. That's right, stop the money and the bloodshed. But see that the issue which caused the original trouble are thoroughly investigated, and that some arrangement is made whereby those issues will be settled in accordance with justice to the men concerned. Do these things first, and expense and bloodshed will stop.

G. F. H.
Philadelphia, November 27.

NATIONAL POINT OF VIEW

Interstate Commerce Commissioner Clements appears now as a platform denouncer of irregular rate-making by State Governments, and as a champion of "uniformity." Under recent decisions, if Clements' commission does its duty, neither the railroads nor the people will suffer. The real question is, if or when this duty is going to be done.—Brooklyn Eagle.

More than 80 per cent. of ocean shipping is British. In steering the sea with floating explosives the Germans had a better chance, according to the law of averages, of hitting a British than any other vessel. But the foreign nations whose vessels are destroyed are not inclined to tolerate this attack toward the law of averages.—Toronto Globe.

Many men who make a study of such matters predict that next spring will see a great forward movement in American industry. The war, which seems quiet likely, when New York and New England begin to show optimism in the rest of the country may well clear up a bit. We have the staff to sell and are finding the market for it.—Indianapolis News.

Mr. Wilson has created the conviction that his conduct of foreign affairs is determined by justice; that he has an iron will to pursue the course he thinks right in the teeth of clamor and passion; that he has integrity and love of peace; that his understanding is as clear as his principles are high.—London (England) Daily News.

CURIOSITY SHOP

Most of the cats in Liberia are of a bright red tint, and they are very conspicuous in the moonlight.

At one time watches were called Nuremberg eggs, because they were oval in shape and made in that town.

In size and importance the Bodleian Library, at Oxford, with 2,750,000 volumes, is the greatest university library in the world and the greatest library not directly aided by the State. About seven rank above it in the world, but among English-speaking people only the British Museum.

S. V. Dronyakov, the Czar's oldest soldier, born in 1811, recently walked a distance of 150 miles in the arched intention of ending as a volunteer, through he was not.