

Evening Ledger PUBLIC LEDGER COMPANY C. CURTIS, President. J. C. MERRILL, Treasurer. PHILADELPHIA, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1915.

was regarded as a great man, and the tradition still survives that one A. Lincoln was once called typical of what this country could produce.

"Pell-Mell to a Veto"

FOR months Councils has nullified the new housing law by refusing to provide funds wherewith to render it effective.

But they will not have good housing. They are determined to perpetuate the profitable system of make-shift houses in which the poor are compelled to live.

It so happens, however, that Governor Brumbaugh knows something of conditions and feels upon him the burden of relief.

In this great industrial State it is our duty to pay definite attention to the housing problem. Every family should be housed in a home that is private, sanitary, safe and attainable at a reasonable rental.

"We cannot breed good citizens in disgraceful houses." The object of Councils' moves in relation to the housing law is to perpetuate disgraceful houses.

Money Seeking a Job

FOUR DOLLARS applied for every dollar job that the Pennsylvania Railroad had to give last week. Money is out of work and is seeking it at every point where there is any prospect of earning a living wage.

What the Groundhog Would Like to See WHEN the groundhog comes out of his hole today he will look upon a very different world from that which met his gaze twelve months ago.

The prospects are that he will gaze toward the scene of conflict with calm imperturbability, declare his absolute neutrality, hope for an early peace through the decisive victory of the worthier contestant.

Milton had the Senate filibuster in mind when he wrote that they also serve who make the others wait.

When one reflects that yesterday was Straw Hat day in San Diego one is impressed with the versatility of a country which can provide all kinds of climate at the same time.

St. Charles the Martyr has been dead a good many years, but his memory is kept green in Philadelphia, if not anywhere else in America.

Philadelphia is thirty enough to prefer the 3 and 4 per cent. interest paid by the private savings banks to the 2 per cent. paid at the Postoffice.

The "sneer counter charge" with which the Canadian troops repulsed a German assault was mild in comparison with the charges seen in the Philadelphia stores on bargain days.

Many men who never gave a thought to international politics or to the philosophy of history until the armies began to fight are explaining the causes of the war as if they knew something about them.

The spectre of Hunger, the new ally of the Allies, has taken the field. The bakers in Germany must cut down their baking to three-quarters the usual amount, and in Austria only 10 per cent. of what flour may be used to make bread.

IS WAR RECONCILABLE WITH CHRISTIANITY?

If Waged in Behalf of Certain Legitimate Objects, Says Rev. Dr. S. Parkes Cadman, It is the Righteous Course.

REPEATEDLY the question has been asked, Does the war in Europe reveal the futility of Christianity? Or, Does the war show the impotence of the Christian Church to bring to pass the peaceable ideals of the Master? These questions, in perhaps the majority of minds, can be satisfactorily answered. Not God is on trial, but men; not Christianity, but the world.

"No spurious patriotism can thwart the fair dealing of God, nor can the Christian faith for a new heaven and a new earth wherein dwelleth righteousness be blighted by the apocalypse of hell which we watch with agonizing hearts in Europe today."

When Moral Interests Are Imperiled

It does command us not to fear the armed bully who can kill the body, and after that can do no more. It incites us to a contempt for physical danger when moral interests are gravely imperiled.

"The exhortation to love our enemies at once suggests the query whether or not we sincerely regard them with genuine benevolence by allowing them to ride roughshod over the defenseless and the poor."

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"The cowardice of non-resistance. "On the other hand, such an unthinkable acquiescence would increase the evils of the powers that prey and augment their own wretchedness and infamy."

"Again, the teachings of Jesus were framed in the terms of Oriental thought; terms which never anticipated the literalism which has been the curse of Biblical exegesis."

Blowing Up Civilization "Jesus was the supreme idealist, but He also possessed an unequalled sanity."

"Jesus was the supreme idealist, but He also possessed an unequalled sanity. He drove home the loftiest truth in uncompromising, vivid word pictures, devoid of qualification, and making no pretense to cover the whole range of possible contingencies."

"For the Master recognized war to this extent, that He drew a parallel from the strategies of a king who watched anxiously the progress of an invading army on his borders."

"The whole performance is uncomfortable. Which means that it is bad manners. "No Talking Allowed" would be an elevator sign that many a harassed citizen would bless."

On Parboiling "To the Editor of the Gazette:—Sir: Having heard you are an authority on cooking, I write to ask, would you advise parboiling a goose?"

"A woman who parboils a goose, a chicken, or a turkey should be arrested and sent to a detention home. There is no surer way to make good fowl taste like leaswood than to parboil it; and no animal is so odd that it should have to endure that foolish treatment."

"However skilfully they prepare, however vast the extent of their preparations, nations which defy war are finally crushed beneath the juggernaut to which they have offered their oblations."



PROPHET GROVER'S WHOLESOME OPTIMISM

He's a Rough and Ready Prognosticator, But He Isn't Stingy, and in This Important Respect He Far Outclasses Mme. Thebes, of Paris.

IF THE daily weather reports that sift in from Washington bore you with their monotonous repetitions or provoke you because of their reserved and cautious tone cast them aside and study the portents with Prophet Grover, of Kansas City.

"It is infinitely more moral and in harmony with all we can discover concerning God's intentions than even a tacit denial of faith and freedom. Once more, we are wise to keep well in view the significant fact that whatever Jesus said was intended for the most advanced stages of human development."

A Premature Millennium

"Slavery was never directly attacked in the New Testament. But once the slave knew that he was also a man and a brother, his bonds were doomed. Wherever the New Testament has been received, slavery has been rejected."

"The social order which has been top heavy with feudalism and absorbed in hero-worship, and so morally stupid as to claim for human dust, still dust, though robbed in the meretricious pomp of obsolete regalia, those titles and honors which belonged to God alone, will pass away forever."

ON TALKING IN ELEVATORS

Some "Don'ts" for the "Book of Downtown Etiquette." WHEN the "Book of Downtown Etiquette" comes to be written, we trust that the first "don't" will be: Don't speak aloud the name of an acquaintance when met in a crowded elevator.

"The weather conditions for the year 1915 should cause the agricultural growth to be enormous and result in larger crops than last year, and be followed by enormous crops in the Southern Hemisphere from September, 1915, to March, 1916."

Anybody Can Predict Evil

D. A. N. Grover, of Kansas City, may not be in the same class as Mme. Thebes, of Paris, as a herald of cataclysm. He never permits even the shadow of disaster to edge its way between the pages of his forecasts. Any half-witted Moki medicine man can predict evil, says Grover, and it is a symptom of feeble-mindedness to do so.

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"The moral of this is, Don't be any kind of a prophet if you are going to be a stingy one. Lay it on as thick as you know how, stand pat. Above all, don't be a shrieking optimist or too specific in your special brand of optimism."

Lay it on Thick

Explaining this little circumstance, Grover says: "If I had predicted that our treatment of our land would have endured eternally as a shame and an eyesore, most folk would have shrugged their shoulders and turned to the sporting page. Instead, I promised a great public benefit, and they held it against me, and laid for me, and lambasted me whenever they had a little spare ink to sling."

"This will give you an idea of the whimsical side of this Kansas City optimist. He is what you might call a rough prognosticator, almost the last of his ilk to retain his place in the sun."

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A City-Planning Lesson

From the Kansas City Star. To open the streets to its water front, which is Boston's gateway—that city is considering a plan to sweep away entire blocks of old buildings, stretching for a half mile between Washington street and the Atlantic street docks. It will cost \$50,000,000.

Silver Linings for 1915

Grover sees ahead into a normal February, with the worst part of the month from February 1 to 19. March will be warmer than usual, and April will be warmer and drier than usual. May will be about as usual, only a little more so, followed by a cooler than the average June, blessed with a sufficiency of rain. July will match June in this respect, and August promises to behave itself as an average August should.

CHILDREN OF THE DEAD

From the New York Sun. Five hundred and fifty orphan children, mostly babies and all nameless, were brought here this afternoon from the quake area.—Cable dispatch from Boston. Gone are the hearts that bore them. Gone are the hands which soothed them. Lost are the lips that kissed them. Silenced are the songs which lulled them. Sweet at the close of day, Oh, for the angel mothers. So far, so far away! Who is to plan their future? Who is to teach them games? Who is to answer questions? Who is to give them names? Who will wind the path tomorrow? Where runs the road next year? Who is to guide their footsteps? Up through the hills from heaven!