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use of salt, of bread, of meat, of milk, of saucers, of vegetables, of all things which human beings consume. The water waste is enormous. Even people who have meters use water without thought of the cost.

The American people throw away every day enough food to feed an ordinary nation. They discard enough perfectly good clothes to clothe tens of thousands. It is not all waste, of course, for it means more buying, and more buying means more business, and more business means more prosperity.

The demands on the charity of Philadelphia have been unprecedented this winter. They have been met, too, in an unprecedented way. To every legitimate demand there has been a generous answer. How much suffering has been prevented cannot be told, but hundreds and thousands of women who have publicly and privately given their personal attention to the relief of the needy and come into direct contact with the necessities of the situation know something of the privation which has been averted.

A practice in high favor with plundering politicians is to exhort men who stand on the battle line and fight against fraud in municipal affairs, "You are blackening Philadelphia," they cry. "For the sake of the city do not tell the truth about us."

Men who fear that their community will suffer if the truth about them is told are very good men to tell the truth about.

THE child as a young girl again I could keep straight," a woman once remarked after she had promised not to yield to her appetite to drink again.

It has happened that when a young babe belonging to another woman has been put in the arms of an apparently depraved wretch, the clinging hands, the three-cornered smile and the trustful look in the infant eyes have been enough to draw the woman back to herself. It is the most wonderful thing in the world. All the forces of society, therefore, should conspire to keep mother and child together for the good of both.

ALL that remains between the "plucking board" and dissolution is a veto by the President, and that is not at all likely. The melancholy spectacle of the retirement of able officers, fully competent mentally and physically, for no other reason than to give quick advancement to men lower down on the lists, long ago disgusted the nation. That Congress, too, has become weary of such extravagant waste of good material is encouraging.

PROHIBITION is marching steadily along. Iowa goes into the "dry" column, and the Idaho Senate by a vote of 23 to 6, has passed a prohibition bill which the Governor declares he will sign.

THE general verdict seems to be that a man cannot be a spy and married at the same time. Japan is perfectly willing to take over the control of China while the rest of the world is looking the other way.

It did not need a special congressional committee to discover that Philadelphia is the best place for an armor plate factory. Private capital discovered that long ago.

THE SUDDENNESS OF OPPORTUNITY

Webster's Reply to Hayne, Instead of Being an Extemporaneous Speech, as It Seemed to Be, Was Really the Product of a Lifetime.

By JOSEPH H. ODELL. THE prizes of life go to those who are prepared to grasp them. Opportunities are plentiful enough, but they bring rewards only to such as have trained themselves to see and to seize them.

The greatest speech of modern times was Daniel Webster's reply to Hayne. It may have appeared to be an extemporaneous effort when delivered, a sudden outburst of inspired genius; yet it was simply the culmination of specialized study. At eight years of age Webster bought in a country store a cotton hankerchief with the Constitution of the United States printed upon it.

Whitney Made His Own Tools. No one can estimate the immense wealth and happiness brought to the cotton-growing States of the South and to the whole world by Eli Whitney's invention of the cotton gin.

Again, the habit of asking "Why?" when anything unusual or unexpected came up in his work led to the invention of the phonograph.

A PLATFORM FOR PROGRESSIVES. A few days ago the Sun considered the need of extending the minimum wage hour to the farmers and their wives.

A BATTLE SONG OF TRANSIT. "Who will write a transit 'Marseillaise,' calling the freemen of the city 'To Arms!'" My plums have always been "Made in America," so I am not going to copy a foreign song.

THE Fight Is On. Councilmen, O Councilmen! Think not to thwart an honest man, Councilmen, O Councilmen! In autos ride your kith and kin, We working people have to win.

TOMORROW. "Tomorrow," he promised his conscience, "tomorrow I'll mean to be good; tomorrow I'll do as I should; tomorrow I'll conquer the habit that holds me from heaven away."

Too Late to Get Ready. Life's opportunities come suddenly. When they arrive their demand is immediate; they allow no time for preparation.



mitted that it was his own fault. He had failed to gather a knowledge of just one branch of the work required in the new position.

"If," he said, "I had used the time I have spent in attending the theatre and reading novels during the past two years I would have been ready."

When the foreman of a shop is promoted to a superintendency or a partnership, the firm cannot wait while a man prepares for the vacancy; if there is a man in the establishment whose ability and knowledge are ahead of the rest, who has applied himself to place his practical skill upon a scientific basis, who has developed his powers of observation and application by careful study, that man will receive the promotion.

Employees of any rank or grade who do only just enough work to hold their present positions never reach higher ones, and in a few years usually sink still lower. Each generation is a little better educated than the one preceding it; younger men come forward who are more alert and vigorous, and by the time a worker is 50 he finds himself out of date unless he has studied and applied himself industriously to master his work in every detail, theoretical as well as practical.

One (1) full day's rest in seven for farmers and farmers' wives, and Saturday half day holiday. A Federal insurance for all domestic animals (chickens in the South excepted).

THE "FULL CREW" QUESTION. Sir—It has been said the full crew law, compelling the railroad companies in the State to spend \$1,500,000 every year in wages to men for whom there is no work, has levied a tax upon railroad users.

LIBERTY BELL NOT THE NATION'S. Sir—I read with deep interest your editorial in the EVENING LEDGER, February 23, entitled "Drawn to the Shrine"—meaning Independence Hall.

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READERS' VIEWS ON TIMELY TOPICS

Rapid Transit, Philadelphia's Historical Relics and Other Local Subjects Discussed—Opinions on Matters of National Interest.

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: Sir—One weakness of the human family is the cause of wars, and is mainly responsible for industrial evils.

Men hug delusions and cherish weaknesses. They take pride in family, party affiliations, religious beliefs and other things. They appear to think they possess first mortgage on a political or religious belief.

KEEPING THE STREETS CLEAN. Sir—in traveling the length and breadth of Philadelphia, it is distressing to see the untidiness of the streets of what was once a primly tidy city.

UNDER TWO FLAGS. Sir—There are thousands and thousands of Americans starving and out of work. Our so-called big men, to whom we look for the prosperity of America, certainly violate, in my estimation, the American principles.

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HABIT-FORMING DRUGS. Sir—On the first day of March the Federal Government will take up in an aggressive manner the important work of restricting the sale of habit-forming drugs.

FAIR PLAY FOR THE PRESIDENT. Sir—Although my former communication was not favored with publication, I venture to again plead for fair play for President Wilson.

BETWEEN CUMMINS AND CLARK. Sir—J. C. Hamphill, in the EVENING LEDGER, pays a deserved tribute to Mr. Taft.

High Cost of Waste. It has been possible to find out within reasonable limits the cost of fire waste in the United States, and it amounts to tens of millions of dollars annually.

Prohibition Marching On. PROHIBITION is marching steadily along. Iowa goes into the "dry" column, and the Idaho Senate by a vote of 23 to 6, has passed a prohibition bill.

End of the "Plucking Board". ALL that remains between the "plucking board" and dissolution is a veto by the President, and that is not at all likely.

The Child as a Young Girl. "THE child as a young girl again I could keep straight," a woman once remarked after she had promised not to yield to her appetite to drink again.

The Habit of Asking "Why?". Again, the habit of asking "Why?" when anything unusual or unexpected came up in his work led to the invention of the phonograph.

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