# Evening Ledger

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PHILADELPHIA, MONDAY, JULY 19, 1915.

Future delights seem farther away than

#### past joys. The Gadfly at Work

TN ALL this uncertain war there seems to be nothing so fortuitous as the relations of America and Germany. Between the difficulties of communication, the varying and alien tempers of the two countries and the speeches of Mr. Bryan to hyphenated audiences and to Mr. Dumba, the natural antagonism of interests set up by the favorable situation on the Allies on the high seas has been fanned hither and thither, now hot, now cold, in a way that makes for no sort of mutual understanding. Sunday brought the newest complication of the sort.

Secretary Lansing's account of a communication to Great Britain, demanding the application of the rules of international law to American cargoes now in prize court, would undoubtedly have done much toward a better understanding between Germany and America, especially as it came on top of promises from the German Admiralty of more respect for life at sea and on top of well-meant attempts by Ambassador Bernstorff to read a more pacific and conciliatory meaning into the last German Note.

But these moves toward a mutual understanding were very successfully overshadowed by the news of the attack on the Orduna. The attempt to torpedo without warning and the actual shelling of a passenger ship, an America-bound ship, a ship carrying neither ammunition nor contraband in any form, naturally aroused new indignation. The most unfortunate part of the whole affair, however, was that paper after paper treated this attack as a direct refutation of Germany's conciliatory attitude during the last week, as a new defiance, as something that threw all chance of harmony to the winds. That is the impression American readers undoubtedly carried away.

#### Back Up the Chamber of Commerce

F PHILADELPHIA'S Councilmen are as progressive and as anxious to advance the prosperity and good name of this city as the Chamber of Commerce, an adequate convention hall, centrally located, will soon begin to take shape for the prospective Republican National Convention next year. Chairman Hilles has told Secretary Kelly that many of the national Republican leaders favor the selection of this city. The Chamber of Commerce has the thanks of every loyal Philadelphian for the initiative it has shown in going after the convention, for the way it has put the issue up to Councils and for the publicity campaign it is preparing to undertake to make Councils show its colors.

Every business man and every voter, too, should back up the appeal the Chamber of Commerce is preparing to send out to members of Councils, demanding that this body take action at its first meeting in September.

Philadelphia is now an active candidate for the convention. With an adequate convention half we would have a handicap on every other city in the country. Today Philadelphia. is forging to the front rank among nationally advertised cities. But we don't want the sort of advertising that would follow our rejection by the National Committee because Councils won't provide the convention hall.

## \$1,000,000 Worth of Honest Work

COMETHING else besides the Vare brand of harmony must have taken the heart out of the contractor-politicians who read Sunday's papers. It was the announcement of dates for bids on sewer, street and bridgebuilding for the city. What a sharp and cruel reminder that the Blankenburg Administration has nearly \$1,000,000 of public work still to give out, work that can never drain fat contractors' profits into sagging pockets!

## Human; All Too Human

BEFORE things began to hum, women and war were supposed by a good many antimilitarists to partake of an inherent, divine and salubrious antithesis. They were the corrective to man's pugnacious predilections. If wemen had the say-!

And now 20,000 women have braved a rainy day to parade London begging for employment in the munitions factories.

There are quite a few things, of course, which tend to dull the point of this contrast. Thirty thousand women are not, after all, a majority; the women who mourn, mourn at home. Further, the 30,000 were led by women like Mrs. Pankhurst, who constantly seek wider action for the female of the species, and who in the present case are supporting war because they hope thereby to end it.

At bottom the whole thing is no more than another argument against generalization. Women are just about as human, just about as heroic and just about as pathetically romentio as men. Once war is loose they can be counted on for patriotism. But before, perhaps for a little more sanity where human life is concerned.

## Another Blankenburg Record

XOOD works gather momentum. In the That months of the Blankenburg Administration a hundred fine results of honesty and efficiency are piling up. Now more than ever before, the voter can get a just measuse of what good government can do for

Philadelphia. Last week was a terrible week. The poor, the sickly, the young have rarely gone

and hurofdity. Yet what is the city's mortallty record for the period? Four hundred and one deaths, as compared with 403 in the same week a year ago. With the exception of tuberculosis-which is traceable to bad housing and ill nutrition rather than to atmospheric conditions—the new cases of communicable disease developed last week were fewer than a year ago.

Such a record is a feather, indeed, for the cap of the city's Bureau of Health and the care it has had since Mayor Blankenburg began his term. It means a steady growth in efficiency year after year. And the momentum of such an accomplishment is likely to last clear into whatever sort of administration the voters give Philadelphia in November.

#### Helping the Harmony

HE MIGHT have picked out a kinder time to break the news. "The Hon. William Vare, Congressman from the 1st District of Pennsylvania, whose balliwick is virtually South Philadelphia," shouldn't have let the cat out of Mr. Lennon's bag until Jim Mc-Nichol had enjoyed a little of his prospective vacation at the Cleveland trotting races. The Senator might have had to stay over and rehearse his Harmony Quartet again.

It is hard to say what elements of Philadelphia read Mr. Lennon's editorial with the most interest. Those of a literary, even oratorical, turn of mind searched it with wondering eyes. Early business opponents of Congressman Vare must have found a particular fascination in the sentence: "Before his entrance into politics he had exhibited a capacity for the details of business, which is to this day a treasured recollection

of those with whom he dealt." But of all that scholarly plea for sectionalism in city politics, no portion can have attracted the interest of the best and the worst elements of Philadelphia so sharply as the following:

Looked at from whatever angle chosen, he is the so-called "logical" candidate, the type of man needed to handle the tremendous municipal problems which await solution.

Estimating the thoughts of such a one as Jim McNichol is no simple or salubrious matter; but it is safe to say that the contractor-Senator thinks those "tremendous municipal problems" might be more profitably handled by somebody nearer home than Washington and South Philadelphia. Nor does that "faculty of quickly seizing details," which Mr. Lennon parades, commend itself to a rival of brother-contractor "Ed."

As for Philadelphia's reaction to this matter of a solver for "tremendous municipal problems," it is something very like the smile which illumines the face of the commuter who reads that sign along the Reading: "Edwin H. Vare, Largest Street Cleaning Contractor in the World. Underground Conduit Department."

There is, however, one time when the public values that "judgment amounting almost to prescience," which Mr. Lennon attributes to the South Philadelphia Congressman. That is the time when the gang is after "harmony." Philadelphia can stand a lot more of it. It can stand enough to bring about another tragi-comedy such as Congressman Vare enacted in 1911.

#### A Scholar and an Athlete

TTO THOSE grouchy persons who think that A scholarship and athletics cannot thrive in the same body we commend Norman Taber. Here is a youth who was a Phi Beta Kappa man at Brown University, is now a Rhodes scholar at Oxford, and last week crowned these achievements by running the fastest mile on record by professional or amateur. Not only did he lower the previous world's amateur record of 4 minutes 14 2-5 seconds. made by John Paul Jones, of Cornell, also a scholar and an athlete, but he lowered by three-twentieths of a second the world's professional record of 4 minutes 12% seconds made 29 years ago in London by W. G. George.

Overindulgence in athletics at the expense of scholarship is becoming more and more a myth in the college world. It is an abuse which may be controlled by the proper sort of faculty supervision. Indeed, it is a question if our faculties are not a little unfair to the athletes, because in most universities the athlete must carry fewer conditions than the nonathletic student.

Young men like Taber are a credit to this nation, whether as scholars or as athletes.

## Our Part in the War

TET NOT Americans worry over the place Li the United States will hold in history for the part it has played in this world war. While we are trying to maintain strict neutrality and to keep out of "entangling alliances" our sympathy for suffering and our efforts to relieve it have been world wide. On top of the achievement of feeding starving Belgium our country has rendered the most conspicuous service in checking the ravages of typhus fever in Serbla. Distinguished Europeans have paid tribute to the timely and effective steps America took when warridden Serbia was dying with 300,000 typhus cases, aid which Sir Thomas Lipton said "has made America beloved by all Serbians, from the King to the lowest peasant," Feeding the starving and healing the sick is certainly a nobler thing than helping to spread the ravages of war.

Labor wants a few of the munition melona.

New England says, "Me, too!" on the ammunition question.

What is the proper cargo for Inventor Lake's freight submarines? Watermelons. of course.

With the typewriter factories making war munitions for Europe, there ought to be a big boom in the pen industry.

Why remark that it is the Liberty Bell which brings out all this enthusiasm in the West? No one would think that the presence of our Councilmen accounted for it.

If the French and Germans in the Argonne continue pushing each back in this annoying and unseemly manner, the umpire will have to penalize them both for off-side play.

Possibly some of the shippards are right about the inferiority of the submarine, but the awkward thought simply will intrude that there is more money in building dreadnoughta

Woman suffragists in lingland have won at least one point: When they begin work in the munitions factories Lloyd-George promises that they will receive equal pay

The passes that the Italians occupied Saturday may have been 16,000 feet high, but weren't half so long as the Liberty Bell pass that the junketer-guardsmen of Councils through such a seven days of trial by heat | cocupled on their way West,

## THE WEAKNESS OF ANNAPOLIS

Professor Fiske, of Columbia, Says the Naval Academy Is Handicapped by Its Inability to Employ Enough Up-to-date Professors.

DOPE SHEETS," with answers to the approaching examination questions. given out in advance, and easy access to the department offices at Annapolis, as revealed in the Naval Academy inquiry new under way, have directed criticism not only toward the cadets, but toward the faculty for complicity on their part in the system.

Some 18 or 20 graduates of Annapolis are sent to Columbia every year for advanced work in the higher mathematics, electrical engineering, wireless telegraphy, ballistics, etc., and as many more are sent to Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Boston

for work in a course in naval construction. Discussing the question of why it should be necessary to send the navy men away from Annapolis for their most advanced work, Professor Thomas Scott Fiske, administrative head of the department of mathematics at Columbia, said to a representative of the EVENING LEDGER:

"The United States Naval Academy at Annapolis and the Military Academy at West Point can never hope to secure the services of teachers of great distinction in the scientific world until they can offer those teachers dignified conditions of service. It would be impossible for a teacher of the highest scientific ability and reputation to accept a teaching position in either institution under the conditions existing today.

"One of the crying needs of the country is that the Government should undertake the education of military and naval engineers of higher type than they are now prepared to turn out.

Teachers Wink at Fraud

"One of the unfortunate results of the present situation is that the teaching staff have come to wink at practices among the students in preparing for their examination that would be disapproved and immediately prohibited in the best colleges. If what we read in the papers is reliable the teachers themselves put into the 'dope sheets' circulated among the students the answers to the very questions they intend to ask in the approaching examination. The motive, of course would be to bring the number of men in their classes able to pass up to a higher average.

"England and France and other nations have solved satisfactorily the problems herein involved, and some of the greatest scientific men in the world hold professorships in the great military and naval colleges of those countries. The head of the Royal Artillery College at Woolwich, England, is Sir Alfred George Greenhill. He was nothing but an ordinary professor of mathemathics in the Ordnance College to start with, but the British Government knighted him in recognition of his services to the country; the young British artillery officers feel that it is an honor to be permitted to study under such a man. By this policy of recognizing and conferring prestige upon her great scientific men, England is able to secure their services for her army and navy. The United States Government could never hope to get a man of that sort, one with a world-wide reputation, to accept a position in her military and naval academies. But England can.

#### Handicap of Civilian Professors

"One of the most distinguished mathemati cians connected with any of the educational institutions of the Government is Professor William Woolsey Johnson, who has been a civilian professor at the Naval Academy since 1891. He has never received any recognition from the Government, has never been accorded any official prestige, and now, when he is an old man over 70, he is forced to go on teaching past the age when he ought to retire, because the Government refuses to pension him. Unless a bill has been passed in his favor very recently there is absolutely no provision made for his old age. When some of us tried to get a bill through for him not long ago we were refused on the ground that it would create an unfortunate precedent, and would commit the Government to a policy of pensioning its civil employes. On the other hand, the Carnegle Foundation to whom we appealed refused to include the civil employes of the Military and Naval Academies on their list on the ground that it would be encouraging the Government to neglect its duties.

"Our Government has set a precedent, however, in its recognition of the late Simon Newcomb, who was director at the Naval Observatory at Washington, and who, in recognition of his great services, as one of the greatest scientists of his time, was given a rank equal to that of a captain in the navy. Since his death other civilians at the Naval Observatory in Washington have been given rank in the navy. But mark this-the thing that helped Professor Newcomb to his recognition was the fact that he also held a professorahip at Johns Hopkins University and a separate salary. This gave him a certain strategic independence in his dealings with the Government.

"The trouble, of course, is primarily due to the jealousy of the army and navy officers who hold the high positions in these academies. and are jealous of any recognition of outsiders, and regard them all as interlopers. These army and navy officers were them selves graduated from their studies some 20 or 25 years ago, and have not kept up with the newest thought and discoveries and research in the scientific world."

## HOW MEXICO MUST FEEL

From the Portland Argus The small boy who eats green apples knows how poor Mexico must feel with the disagree-ing factions rioting within her borders.

## WISHING

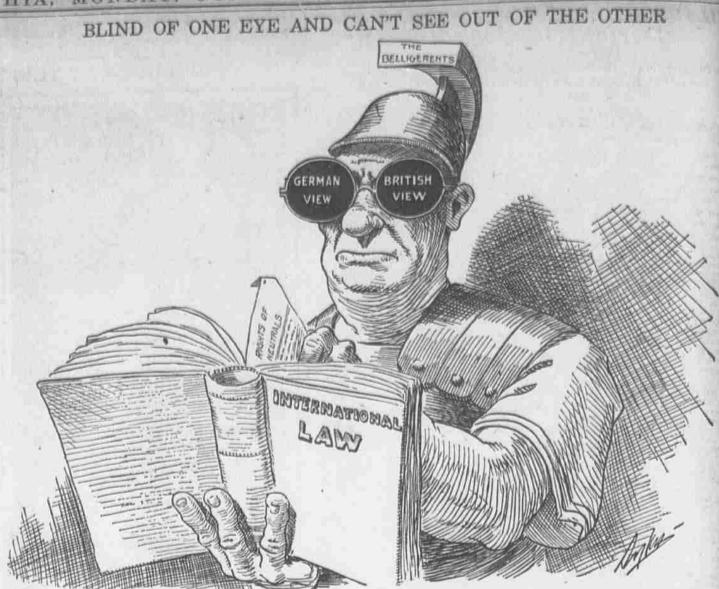
I've only but to bend my head To see the Western skies grow red Beyond the home I used to know, And hear the gentic cattle low As they come to the pasture hars, And see the vanguard of the stars Come dimly into the pale sky.

And hear the whipporwill's and cry,
And feel the all-pervading love
Of the old home I wearled of.

And I have but to close my eyes To hear my mother's lullabyes, And feel myself grow young again; And be a boy as I was then, With cotton line and alder pole Beside the old-time fishing hole. Neglecting line and hook and bait.
And sitting till the hour grows late.
A little figure all alone.
Wishing and wishing I were grown.
That poor, pathetic little tad!
With all on earth to make him glad
watter with longing for the years. With all on earth to make him guid watting with longing for the years of disappointment and of tears!

The years are good, the tasks to do, The chance to stand straight, strong and true, then up for all you thought worth while, To mest misfortens with a smile:

But I think graws are new years assis, all with that they were years assis.



# THE LIPS OF THE ORACLE ARE DUMB

Reminiscences of St. Clair McKelway, Who Abandoned the Bar for the Tripod and Made Brooklyn Journalism Famous-His Philadelphia Brother Gave Him Loyal Legion Button.

By GEORGE W. DOUGLAS.

HERE are two kinds of journalism, I namely, journalism and Brooklyn journalism, and the latter is an acquired taste." This epigram, delivered at a dinner in New York by St. Clair McKelway, editor of the Brooklyn Eagle, was greeted with appreciative laughter by the

guests. The distinction of Mr. McKelway, who has just died, in that he acquired the taste and then made Brooklyn journalism distinguished. He belonged to a later generation than Greeley and Dana and Raymond, but he had the dominating personality that characterized these men, and he still believed in the

ST. CLAIR McKELWAY. power and import-

ance of the editorial page in making the character of a newspaper. He devoted his time and his energy to that page, and was in the habit of writing from one to two columns a day. I have said

He did not write, but dictated his articles to an expert typewriter, who reproduced them directly on the machine without the intervention of shorthand notes. I have seen him walking up and down his room declaiming as if before an audience, gesticulating and ending a rhetorical period with a shout of triumph. The emotion which he put into this sort of composition was so strong that it saturated his words and reproduced in the reader the feeling that inspired them. I have seen him so moved that the tears filled his eyes as he poured forth a procession of sentences filled with an appeal to the noblest sentiments of the electorate.

He was born in Missouri, but he was educated in New Jersey, chiefly by private tutors in Trenton, where he lived with his grandfather, while his father was engaged as a surgeon in the Civil War. He did some writing for the Trenton newspapers, and, as he grew older, he took an interest in politics. He studied law and was admitted to the bar, but he never practiced.

Delivering Frelinghuysen's Speech

One of his favorite stories is how he campaigned New Jersey with Senator Frederick T. Frelinghuysen. . He was reporting the political meetings for a New York paper going from town to town with the speakers. Frelinghuysen was late in arriving at one meeting, and McKelway, who was known to the committee, was asked to fill in the time. He consented, and thought that he could not do better than to tell the crowd what the announced speaker would have told them. He had heard Frelinghuysen's speech every night for a week or two, and he knew it as though it were his own, So he launched forth. When he was about half way through Frelinghuysen came in-He was in the middle of an argument, and he kept on until he had made the point. But before he stopped he noticed that Frelinghuysen suddenly sat up in his chair with look of astonishment and then leaned back with an amused smile. McKelway offered to withdraw, but the crowd shouted, "Go on! Go on!" and Frelinghuysen insisted that he should continue. He finished the speech. Then Frelinghuysen arose.

"The gentleman who has just spoken," he said, with a quiszical look at McKelway, "has said what I should have wished to say so much better and so much more eloquently than I could have said it that I will not detain you, save to say a few words in indorsement of his remarks."

When he sat down he seized McKelway's hand and shook it heartily.

"How in the world did you do it?" he asked. Explanations and apologies followed, and there were no hard feelings.

Named the "Carpet-baggers"

He coined many phrases that have become the common language of political discussion It was while he was employed on the New York World that he called the reconstructionist Republican officeholders in the South "Carpet-baggers." He happened to be workwhich he at one time shared with E. H. on the editorial page you will know who Clement, who was editor of the Boston Tran- he is." script for years when a message came in announcing that the Administration was send- were the Loyal Legion button. His elder ing a lot of Northerners into the flouts. He | brother kept a drug store to this city until

invaders "carpet-baggers," and sent it to the composing room. Manton Marble, then editor of the World, saw the heading in the proof, and asked McKelway to write an editorial article about the new phrase. The next morning "Carpet-bag government" was denounced

He was an editorial writer on the Brooklyn Eagle for several years, and then went to Albany to edit the Albany Argus, owned by Daniel Manning, who was to become Secretary of the Treasury in Cleveland's Cabinet.

on the editorial page and its inauguration

announced in the news columns. The phrase

fitted the situation so exactly that it still

"My salary was \$3000 a year when the Republicans were in power and \$3500 when the Democrats controlled the State government," he said to me once. "But I managed to see to it that conditions were such that I got \$3500 most of the time that I was with the Argus."

## A Tradition in Albany

After a short interval under another editor he succeeded Thomas Kinsella as editor of the Eagle. Kinsella is the man who is credited with nominating Hancock for the Presidency. Long before the convention he had sent William C. Hudson, one of his ablest political writers, through the South and the West to talk with the leaders about Hancock's availability. He sowed the seed which bore fruit in the convention. Kinsella was a great editor, and for several years after McKelway took charge of the Eagle men in the office would say in times of crisis, "Oh, if Kinsella were only here to handle that subject!" And it galled him to know that there was a feeling that he was not so big as his predecessor. But one day he went back to Albany and visited the Argus office. His friends all said that they wished they had him back there again.

"And whenever something big happens," they told him, "we all say among ourselves, 'Oh, if McKelway were only here now, we should have something worth while."

He stopped worrying about the traditional greatness of Kinsella when he discovered that he also was a tradition.

While he was in Albany he delighted in unusual words. One of the office boys said that he kept in his desk a small dictionary of obsolete and obsolescent words-the office boy did not call it that-and studied it every day. And they say that the Albanians waited eagerly for the Argus every morning to discover what new word the editor had used. In his later years, however, he cultivated a simple and direct style. I once used "caoutchouc" in an article. He came to

"I wouldn't use that word. The girls in the composing room do not know what it means. Put 'india rubber' in its place."

But he would persist in writing long sen tences. At a dinner in honor of his birthday the boys of the staff printed on the menu the most recent example of his ability to marshal words that moved with orderly precision to a full stop, and it filled as much as three inches of a newspaper column.

Best Speech of the Bunch

There was a time when he was one of the most popular afterdinner speakers in New York. But he had to give up going to publie dinners because it was impossible for a man to work all day and then talk all night. The popular, if profane, estimate of him as a speaker was expressed by an Irishman after attending a mass-meeting in the Brooklyn Academy of Music, held to denounce some political chicanery.

"That blankety, blank, blankety blank Mc-Kelway made the best speech of the bunch. And T. P. O'Connor, who heard him in a debate on immigration, wrote: "I never heard a wittler, a more sensible or more pulverising speech than that of St. Clair Mc-Kelway, \* \* The one man who could have made such a speech in my experience is Sir William Harcourt; and I am not sure that even he could have made it."

Like so many other men, he shortened the name given him at birth. He was christened St. Clair Kirtley McKelway. But he remarked to me once, "Five names were too many for one man to carry, so I dropped one of them. But if you should happen to see ing on the telegraph desk one night—the desk any quotations from the philosopher Kirtley

Although he was not the eldest son, he wrote a heading for it in which he called the he died, and years ago he surrendered his

claim to membership in the Legion in favor of the younger man, to whom it had some value because of his relations with public men and events.

#### GERMANY BUILDING BATTLESHIPS

From the Liverpool Journal of Commerce. The fighting strength of the German navy at the present time can only be a matter of con-jecture, while its power of expansion has been the subject of considerable speculation.

To her battle squadrons the enemy will un To her battle squarons the chemy will madoubtedly have added the Kronprinz, which was laid down at Kiel in the middle of 1912, while the battle cruisers Lultzow, launched at Dantalonear the end of 1913, and the Ersatz Herthalaid down in the same year, will certainly bays joined the waiting battle cruiser squadren by

The best known of the new ships under construction are the Ersatz Worth and the "T," both commenced early in 1914. These vessels are approximately of 28,000 tons displacement and mount eight 15-inch guns. Compared with the Queen Elizabeth class they carry the same armament much more efficiently protected, but at an inferior speed.

The German fleet is most likely to fight when the land campaigns have gone so badly for her the land campaigns have gone so badly for her that a master stroke is necessary in order to retrieve the situation. When that state of affairs will arrive is, at the moment, beyond motal knowledge. Many critics still anticipals that another winter campaign will not be necessary, but this view appears to err on the optimistic side, and if we neglect it and assume that is months of war is a practical possibility, then the German navy is likely to prove a much more powerful argument than it is at present.

Early in the war the superior value of the battle cruiser was emphatically demonstrated, and if the big ship facilities of the German yards were concentrated on rushing cut this class of ship the squadron would be immediately strenghtened. Firms such as the Germania at Kiel, Blohm and Voss and the Vulcan Company and the Schichen ward it. pany at Hamburg, and the Schichau yard at Dahtzic, could probably between them complete seven or eight battle cruisers by the end of next spring, when the Germans would have available something like 29 dreadnoughts and 15

battle cruisers. The above figures can only, of course, be quite general, but they serve to indicate that if the final sea battle be postponed till next year the tussle is likely to assume proportions hitherto undreamed of, and far beyond the general

## MODERN DIPLOMACY

From the Washington Star, "I understand that you have a new motor-"Үев." "Do you drive it yourself?"
"Nobody drives it. We coax it."

#### A BAD COMBINATION From the Obio State Journal.

A Massachusetts man had a monkey wrench torn from his hand by a thunderbolt. Any man, Massachusetts or otherwise, who attempts to turn that kind of bolt with that kind of wrench is very certain to come to grief.

#### THE MANXMAN From the Boston Evening Transcript.

"The only material source of Manx income," complains Hall Caine, "is the visiting industry." He forgets literature. THE NATIONAL POINT OF VIEW

Secretary McAdoo's admirable plan for limit-ing the cost of Federal buildings will have the manimous support of everybody in all the unanimous support of everybody towns it does not affect.-New York Sun. There never should be another Thaw

in the State of New York, If Thaw's wasted life and squandered money have given us that assurance, they have not been spent in vain.
-New York World.

Mr. Daniels isn't getting to the root of the trouble in his department. He is skirmishing around the edges, and it is doubtful whether he can accomplish much with his new hobby. -Detroit Free Press

The Tribune is a critic of Mr. Daniels that would delight to be confounded. If there be steam behind his idea and if it can be nationalized we shall have started toward efficiency. Chicago Tribune Tribune. -Chicago Tribune.

It is not a had sign that Secretary Lansing shows, like President Wilson, a disposition to think things out alone before talking about them. Successful government by the people depends quite as much on thinking as on talk-ing.—Springfield Republican.

It is the eminently practical nature of the Edison genius which constitutes its value, immediate and prospective. He brings about results. No more inspiring selection could be made as adviser and director of the undertaking to bring our navy up to the standard required by the new conditions of defense and of warfare—Boston Post.

## AMUSEMENTS

## B. F. KEITH'S THEATRE BELLE BLANCHE POPULAR PHIMMADONNA IMPERSONATOR "BALLEY DIVERTISSEMENT": BOWERS. WALTERS & CHOCKER; OLD HOMESTRAD DOUBLE QUARTETYS; MARY MELVILLE; OTHERS.

II A. M. TO II:15 P. M. THE Stanley Laura Hope Crews STAPHONT ORCHESTRA AND BOLDISTS

GRAND