# EVENING LEDGER-PHILADELPHIA, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1915:



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CLARS MAIL MATTER

THE AVERAGE NET PAID DAILY CIRCULA-TION OF THE EVENING LEDGER FOR AUGUST WAS 95,618.

PHIRADELPHIA, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1918.

A nickel does not make a fortune, but fortunes are made up of nickels.

## WHO CARES ABOUT HIS TAX BILL?

EN get excited over national systems of taxation which touch them slightly and indirectly, while they give no though to local taxation, the burden of which they feel with every recurring autumn.

The size of the tax bills which the small scholders in this city have to pay deands on the honesty and efficiency of the overnment in the City Hall. They have got more nearly value received for the money paid in the last four years than ever before. but there has been waste and extravagance which the executive department has been powerless to prevent. They are vitally inrested in the kind of administration which comes into power next January. If they choose, they can have an administration which will see to it that the proceeds of the tax levy are spent honestly and with good judgment. If they are indifferent, their ney will be squandered to make Gang favorites rich. They can get the worth of their money in efficient policing and adequate fire prevention, in good pavements and clean streets, in sanitary garbage and refuse removal and in proper street lighting, or they can permit slovenly and slipshod methods if they care to do it. It is up to the voters. They will get the kind of government that they want and if, after they have got it, they are displeased, the condemnation is on their own heads.

### THE ONLY THING TO DO

THE President has pursued the only course open to him in asking for the recall of Ambassador Dumba.

The representative of Austria-Hungary, when asked to explain his plan to tie up stry in Bethlehem and the Middle West, admitted that he had written the letter that Archibald carried. He did not apologize, but said that he had acted in accordance with orders from his Government.

The President might have gone much farther than to ask Austria-Hungary to recall Dumba. He might have asked that Government to disclaim giving any such instructions, but for the present he has coned himself with bringing about the re moval of a diplomatist whose usefulness in Washington is ended.

Beigium ravished and of France outraged, who could chat unmoved with widows and orphans, but who were finally driven to war by the repreachful nagging of spelibinders and fanatics.

The Government of England seems bent on making Messers. Gilbert and Sullivan seem rank failures in the art of musical comedy.

TURN ON THE LIGHT

Printer's ink is saving more lives than any other single agency employed by mod-ern health workers.-E. A. Moree, of the New York State Charities Aid Association.

THIS illuminating and suggestive remark was made in the course of an address before the American Public Health Association now in session, and it attracted the attention which it deserved.

Mr. Moree was pleading for publicity not only to remove squalid tenements, but to inform the people on the way to keep well, on the way to preserve the lives and health of their children and on the way to combat the sale of noxious poisons in patent medicines. He made the statement, startling to those who never thought of it before, that the health authorities would never reach the goal of ultimate achievement until they realized that precisely the same principles govern the sale of public health to the community that govern the sale of beans and bedsteads. atomizers and automobiles, crackers and corsets. He cited an instance of the breaking up of an epidemic in a city by a campaign of publicity. Old fogles, afraid that the good name of the community would suffer, protested, but they discovered that publicity not only stopped the spread of smallpox, but gave the city a reputation for good sanitary administration that it had never before enloyed

Publicity will cure epidemics of disease that spread through indifference or a desire to conceal the plague spots. It will also cure epidemics of political indifference that make Gang rule possible and result in the criminal waste of the money paid into the City Treasury out of the hard won savings of the honest tollers. So turn on the light! And again, turn the light on!

#### THE MAN WITHOUT A COUNTRY

BY CANCELING his passport, Secretary Lansing has made Archibald for the time being a man without a country. He is on his way home, for that is about the only place where he will be safe. Without a passport he could travel nowhere in Europe unless, perchance, in Vienna. If there be any other American who would offer himself as a bearer of dispatches concerned with upsetting American business by foreign influence, he will doubtless think twice and perhaps thrice before laying himself liable to similar treatment.

# THE IMPOSSIBLE BORDER SITUATION

WITH a singular disregard for the policy of watchful waiting General Funston has put the entire danger zone on the Texas border under martial law. That is to say, soldiers of the United States have taken charge of the region which was formerly patroled by peace officers and the Rangers.

Outrages may cease as a result, but the impossible situation on the Rio Grande will remain. The inconsistency of attitude displayed by the Administration is certainly not calculated to strike awe into lawless Mexican breasts. From whatever high moral ground this country has acted, all that is known to Mexico is that American rights have not been defended, and that American lives may be taken with impunity.

It is a situation which should never have occurred. It is a situation which must not be allowed to last until an offensive war is the only remedy.

GIVING THE MELTING POT A REST

## CAN PHILADELPHIA PAY ITS ORCHESTRA?

## Good Music Is Not a Profitable Business, But It Is a Good

Public Enterprise, None the Less

## By GILBERT V. SELDES

LITTLE more than a month from now A the Philadelphia Orchestra will begin its 16th season of concerts in the Academy of Music. From the six performances given to a total of 14,176 auditors in 1900-1901, to the ninety-odd given in and out of the city last year is a progress which can hardly be measured in the terms of numbers itself. The regular concerts in this city alone were heard by 75,000 persons; the specials and popular concerts will run the total into six figures. With that progress the standing of the orchestra has gone steadily upward until now it ranks as one of the best two or three organizations in the country. This year, under the direction of its inspired conductor, it will perform for the first time in America. a symphony which makes the very last demand on the abilities of an orchestra. In every way the orchestra is a great institution; certainly it gives more pleasure, of a higher order, and with a nearer approach to perfection, than any other cultural institution in the city.

And yet, in spite of all this, the Philadelphia Orchestra does not pay expenses. To run the orchestra for a year costs about \$200,000; its receipts are only three-quarters of that amount. The rest would be silence were it not for the devotion of a group of men and women who guarantee the expenses and pay about \$45,000 n year so that the people of Philadelphia may hear good music. This is not a local condition. There are only two great orchestras in this country which pay running expenses. The Boston Symphony, after 24 musical seasons crowned by deficits, is at last self-supporting. The Chicago Orchestra was put on a paying basis after 15 years. In other cities orchestras have failed, have suspended, or have been supported by just the sort of guarantee which makes the Philadelphia Orchestra a possibility.

Now the surprising thing is that if the Academy of Music were sold out every Friday afternoon (which is practically the case) and every Saturday (which ought to be the case), the orchestra couldn't, at its present scale of prices, pay the necessary expense of production. It would still have to make a great deal of money on road tours, or call again on its supporters,

## The Riddle in the Orchestra

All in all, the plight of an orchestra looks like a riddle. It looks like a bad business proposition, and there are many economists and efficiency experts who would say at once that an organization which serves the people and cannot make its expenses is not serving the people properly and ought to be abandoned. Which may be very good economics, but is very bad human nature. Listening to the Orchestra is a growth. One must begin with casual interest and an open mind, preferably in youth. There may be a sharp struggle when Bruckner is put on, or a positive rebellion when Schoenberg is played. But one must go on. In the end the Orchestra will repay. To evolve a musicloving, and particularly a symphony-loving populace, the Orchestra is now playing popular concerts, of which there will be three weeks this year against two last year. The Orchestra must also play when the people can come to hear it; and here it is sadly hampered by the Sunday law. A third concert at a reduced rate, played on Sunday afternoon, would be a blessing to the city in many ways, if it could be played without offense to public decency. It would introduce beautiful music to those who under present circumstances have no opportunity to hear it, and it would go far to putting the Orchestra on a saner financial basis. It is a great question whether the Saturday night audiences actually exhaust the number of music lovers in the city. The "rush" seats, in the famous amphitheatre of the Academy, are frequently sold out, but a number of seats in the lower divisions are vacant. They should be filled by those who can afford to go, but simply haven't got into the habit of listening to good music.



# TAFT ON THE VISIBLE GOVERNMENT

The Voter Is Everywhere in Evidence Through His Action or Inaction, Wisdom or Folly-Former President Discusses the Way to Rid Politics of Bossism and Corruption

The following discussion of the relation of povernmental mechanism and the party system to honest, efficient government is part of the address delivered by ex-President Taft before the American Bankers' Association. Ten days ago the country heard from Senator Root on the invisible government. Now Professor Taft em-phasizes the importance of the visible government.

A MOST important development in the country has been an attack upon our representative system of Government as a cause of the corporate and corrupt control of politics. If it be true that a people have not information and intelligence to select from their own number competent and honest agents to do their work, they certainly have not the capacity to perform the much more difficult task of passing useful judgment on statutes, frequently difficult to construe or understand. Again, the duty imposed upon the people in legislating by initiative and referendum is so much more burdensome than that imposed by the representative system in selecting agents to do this work that the majority of the voters too frequently refuse to perform their electoral duties, and thus leave to a minority of the electorate the decision of important questions submitted by referendum. The majority of the electorate thus show that they do not approve the reference to them of such difficult questions.

cases. If the initial letter of the candidate's name comes early in the alphabet, and he is first in the list of candidates, he may receive thousands of votes more than the man whose name begins with W. Anything that gives a man notoriety or conspicuousness in the community, however unimportant in showing his qualifications, attracts votes to him because the voters have no other means of identifying or discriminating between the many candidates. The man who advertises himself most in the newspapers has a great advantage.

#### The Duty-Dodging Voter

The general primary, in the opportunity which it offers to the use of money in organizing a campaign, expended, not corruptly but merely in giving publicity to the candidate, greatly increases the power of money. I have known man after man, worthy of party preference, who has declined to enter a primary contest because of the financial burden that a successful issue imposed.

Nor is it true that the general primary is any less subject to the control of a machine and the boss and a political organization than a convention. Primaries are usually

land, as German sympathizers insist it is, how does it come about that the severest and most uncompromising criticisms of England have ap-peared in the news and editorials of those same papers? How is it that the shame of England her muddling methods, her incompetency and her cowardice in the face of a great crisis, have all been made clear to Americans theorem have all been made clear to Americans through have all been made clear to Americans through the bought press of England? The semi-Americans made a bad guess. As a matter of fact, the press has sold its soul to the money interests of Monaco, against whom they have not printed one word since the war began, OLIVER MUDIE.

West Philadelphia, September 9.

#### NATIONAL POINT OF VIEW

Perhaps Mr. Bryan will learn in time that it would have been wiser as well as more pa-triotic for him to stand by the captain and sail under his orders .- Baltimore Sun

That today President Wilson may finally succeed in restoring peace in a neighboring country by the methods of diplomacy is surely the widespread hope of his countrymen-Springfield Republican.

The withdrawal of all the trans-Pacific liners under the American flag engaged in the Oriental trade must be regarded as an accomplished fact, however the champions of the new seamen's law may explain it.-Springfield Republican.

AMUSEMENTS. FORREST- Now Mats. 2:13 Evgs. 8:15 TWICE DAILY D. W. GRIFFITH'S THE BIRTH

## MR. TAFT BUTTERS NO PARSNIPS

THE kind words written by ex-President Taft on the subject of woman suffrage are buttering no parsnips for the November tival which will follow a suffrage victory in this State. The criticisms printed in the ENING LEDGER are at one in their opinion of Mr. Taft's policy of waiting hopefully for a little while and then waiting for a little while, and then some more walting.

Mr. Taft, like many casual observers, be-Neves in votes for women until the propalists start to talk. He is brought back the fold when the antis begin. But all agh it he seems to be saying: "Let me see this thing in the decline of my years. rrow please-or next day-or a little ter."

Very properly the suffragists say, "Nonmee!" If suffrage is good, this time is as ood as any. If it is bad, fight it to the ' If suffrage is good, this time is as ast ditch. As for women being prepared, that is an endless process.

## THE OLDEST NEW YEAR'S DAY

THE Jews in Philadelphia and the rest of the world are engaged in celebrating the beginning of the year 5676, probably the oldest New Year festival now observed by human beings. This is the year 2575 of the Japanese, and the Mohammedans date their calendar back only 1235 years. They will selebrate their New Year's Day on Novem-

The Christian New Year did not always begin on January 1. It has shifted through all of the first three months of the year, even if it never came in April. The antiquity of the Jewish celebration now in progress is as remarkable as the continuity of the Jewhis people through so many thousand years.

#### "NAGGING" AN ARMY INTO BEING

THAT the British trades unions would deciare against conscription was as fully to be expected as was their approval of the ir hy the overwheiming vote of 609 to 7. in England should make herself ridiculous edintely afterward is an ironic com-

he greatest power of earth. centure taken by the Government is a turned to the pettiest of uses. There to be no conscription, but each man who a give no satisfactory excuse for remaing at home is to be nagged until he joins a colors. A pleasing spectacle! Dear girls, amateur recruiters, will come

and make catly remarks. Ancient will grow more than wontedly aciduagants will be employed for perof the army. In the end a vast minutes the army in the end a wast minuter an will grow entirely too wrary to end will grow entirely too wrary to not three are in musical of three are in musical of and will join the army, where sam of to do things and do shem without three are in musical it minuter three are in musical of and will join the army, where sam three are in musical of a station it minuter three are in musical of a station it minuter three are in musical of a station it minuter three are in musical of a station it minuter three are in musical of a station it minuter three are in musical of a station it minuter three are in musical of a station it minuter three are in musical of a station it minuter three are in musical of a station in the station it minuter three are in musical of a station it minuter three are in musical of a station it minuter the station it minuter

THE war is giving the United States a I much needed opportunity to assimilate the foreign-born population. For the last ten years an average of 1,000,000 immigrants have entered the country every year. Of course, some of them have returned, but the net gain in population from this source alone has been astounding. It has taxed the powers of the nation to absorb this vast mass of humanity unfamiliar with American institutions and American ideals. With the outbreak of the war the rush of immigrants stopped suddenly. In the year ending with June 30, only 326,700 landed in American ports. As the war has gone on the travel this way has continued to dwindle. July brought only 21,500, and only 71 of them landed at Philadelphia.

The problem of making good Americans of those here is becoming easier not only through the decrease in the number arriving, but through the return to their native country of thousands who had not yet become citizens and were compelled to respond to the call to arms.

It is to laugh when they talk of Penrose for the Presidency.

The way to keep the British war spirit at fever heat is to continue killing civilians by air raids on London.

Patrons of the Broad street hotels most naturally object to the preaching of the Gospel out of season.

Zepps bombarded Trafalgar Square in London, the heart of the American colony. Trying to start something?

More than 200,000 citizens have already qualified to say at the polls what kind of a city they would like Philadelphia to be.

If the Czar were a man of bigger calibre it might be easy to believe that he has put himself at the head of the Liberal movement in Russia.

The Vice President of the Packard Works in Detroit is sticking a knife into the peace propaganda of Henry Ford. Persuasion should begin at home.

On the day the Czar took control the Russian Press Bureau announced a great victory. Which suggests that the Czar took control of the Press Bureau.

The man who swore that the Lusitania was armed has confessed that he is a perturer, but Von Bernstorff has not confeased that he knew it all the time.

Lloyd-George is going to tell the workers of England that the munition manufacturers are not making excessive profits from their war orders. If that's the case, why not stop the war?

"Twenty Stories on Wilson Plot" is the surprising headline in the New York Sun. Twenty is excessive, unless the last two or three are in musical comedy. And for genaral information it may be stated that this has nothing to do with the President. It

Unless an Orchestra speaks directly to great numbers it is virtually wasted. Unlike the opera, the orchestra is not primarily a society institution; it is a social institution. Its message is not for the musically learned nor for the socially elect. It has a function in the civic life of the nation. Abroad that function is fulfilled in many ways; here it is hampered.

## The Endowment Question

Ought the Orchestra to have a State endowment? Quite apart from political considerations, there are grave objections to the plan. The Orchestra must be free to embody the highest artistic ideals, without petty intrigue and bureaucratic interference. No great conductor would accept a position with the understanding that he was to play only such compositions as recommend themselves to the musical judgment of the State Legislature. Private endowments are, to be sure, excellent things when they are given freely and without reservations. Almost any orchestra in the country would accept a bequest. Yet in the largest sense the principle of an endowed orchestra is wrong unless the endowment comes from the people directly. If 46,000 men and women of this city subscribed one dollar each to the Philadelphia Orchestra to make up the deficit, and then devoted every effort to make the Philadelphia Orchestra a force even more compelling than it now is in the city, that would be a truly great, truly democratic thing to do. If 92,000 men and women subscribed half a dollar each, that would be better still. It is not, of course, merely a question of how many people are interested in the Orchestra. but how deeply, and how sincerely they are interested. The fact that more people read and write nowadays than read and wrote in the Middle Ages would not be half to our credit if they read nonsense and wrote poppycock. The hope of democracy in art is both qualitative and quantitative.

Because there is no such democratic support, the guarantors of the Orchestra are doing a splendid work. They are sincerely trying to present to Philadelphia a wonderful Orchestra. It cannot be doubted that no one would be more pleased than they if the city showed its appreciation in the fullest and heartiest way by making the Orchestra a self-supporting institution.

## FEATURES OF THE FAIR

Charine Chaplin anters as the last great adapty-making leature at the State Jair. The is pumphin and the gigantic sharaghal reaster the scent be getting paslous. - Chip State Jour.

The success of our popular Government, in promoting the happiness of all the people, depends upon the justice and equity with which it reconciles the rights of minority and of individuals.

#### New Mechanism No Solution

Such justice and equity has been obtained by the adoption of a written constitution and an interpretation and enforcement of it by an independent judiciary whom the people took pains to surround with every protection against popular passion or congressional or executive restraint. The system of representative Government is an institution hammered out in the struggle for liberty by our Anglo-Saxon ancestors for 800 years. The system of written consituations and an independent judiciary has vindicated itself in the strenuous life of the Republic for 125 years and there is nothing in the actual results of the initiative, referendum and recall that commends them as a substitute.

What is true with respect to the State is true with respect to the party. Parties are essential to popular government. In no other way practically can the will of all the electorate be interpreted and embodied in affirmative action, legislative and executive, The selection of candidates by a party is a matter in which the community may properly take an interest and with respect to which the legislature may properly pass laws to prevent abuses which have arisen in party government.

But the question which I moot is whether the selection of candidates at a general primary has tended to the elimination of corruption or political machine rule and the selection of better representatives of a party. I say without hesitation that it has not. Certainly it has not with respect to the many offices to which it applies, when the persons to be selected are not persons of whose qualification the public can, in the nature of things, have any intimate knowledge. The standard of judges in those States where the candidates are selected by a general primary has notably and perceptibly become inferior to those who were selected under the old convention system.

The convention system gave rise to abuses. Bosses and machines were able to control the convention, but even under the worst boss and the worst machine the convention was a body with a sense of some responsibility growing out of its desire to nominate a ticket which would win in the election and therefore while it may have nominated many machine candidates whose selection did not make for the public interest, it frequently nominated men of strength and popularity and high character in order that the ticket might be a vote-getting one.

Under the system of the general primary there is no self responsibility. Especially is this true in the selection of the subordinate officere. Circumstances of no real or moner significance in the effection of qualiand association after the choice in such

attended by a minority of the party. In other words, the result is much affected by the number who can be aroused to come out to vote, and that depends upon organization. This places in the hands of the politiclans who have an organization the means to control.

In America we have been greatly influenced by the success that our people have shown in the invention of machines to reduce the amount of labor needed and the cost of production, and we cannot get over the idea that political evils can be remedied by a change in political machinery. I don't mean to say that one form of machinery in politics is not better than another, but I do mean to say that every one will fail, or will suffer in its operation if the electorate do not perform their electoral duties.

The representative system in legislatures and in conventions will work well if the people who ought to vote will turn out, and it will work a great deal better than the initiative and referendum and the general primary. But we should realize under any system the politicians will control, if the people fail in their electoral duties.

These so-called reforms and their popularity are a sincere expression of the desira of the people to make short cuts and to avoid the evils of a failure of the people to de their duties. It is a futile policy, as experience is showing. We find the so-called bosses still controlling under the general primary, and we find the reformers as bitter against the result of the general primaries when they are defeated as they were against the convention. We may, therefore, expect a wiser reaction from this attempted infusion of 'more democracy to cure the evils of present democracy."

## HOW TO MASTER THE SILVERFISH

The silverfish, a 16 to 1 bookworm, is under condemnation by the Department of Agriculcondemnation by the Department of Agricul-ture. It eats the pasts out of books in libraries. A poisoned paste or prethrum is the thing to use to kill if. The silverfish has six legs and a shiny appearance. It will also cat the pasts that holds wall paper to the wall. Farmers' Bulthat holds wall paper to the wall. Farmers' Bul-letip No. 681 tells how to master the silverfah. No farmer can raise a good library without this knowledge. Not a day goes by without the department telling the farmer how to get rid of some new bug, and now officialdom pursues him to the quiet of his library to warn him of the parasites that are blighting his almanace and bulletins. Farmers are rapidly becoming toxicologists. This will help them when they serve on juries where murder mysteries are be-ing explained. And it may also serve to in-crease the production of more of the mysteries if the hired man goes to the closet in the dark for a drink of medicina.—Brookiyn Engle.

## A BAD GUESS

A BAD GUESS To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: Bir-You published, a few days ago, a lotter accusing one of your editorial writors of being an ignoramus with a diseased mind. The writer of that letter took exception to the spirit of an editorial on the battle of the Marne and in the course of his criticism accused the press of New York of being series and lickspittles for New York of being series and lickspittles for

