

Evening Ledger PUBLIC LEDGER COMPANY EDITORIAL BOARD: P. E. WHALEY, Executive Editor JOHN C. MARTIN, General Business Manager

thorities. Perhaps the investigators who have been pursuing their studies in the loper colony in the Hawaiian Islands have succeeded where others have failed in proving that it can be transmitted from parent to child as certain blood taints are transmitted.

NEW WINE FOR OLD BOTTLES

It was said recently that the Republican and Democratic parties are two wine bottles, differently labeled, and both empty. Recently a new bottle has been put up, labeled "Nonpartisan."

EVERY four years the citizens of the United States come to the crossroads, hesitate momentarily, read the signposts, divide off and plunge helter-skelter down one road or the other. For four months, at least, they dash hotly along the chosen path, cry imprecations upon those who have gone by another way, make desperate efforts to keep the country from the demerol bowwows, and conclude their endeavors by electing a President and a part of Congress—or by failing to elect them. Then for three and a half years the country goes on as before.

Most of these ardent laborers believe that the roads lead to very different points. In the past the signs have read, "This way to a strong centralized government," or "To State Rights, six miles!" Later one sign pointed to "Abolition," another to "Slavery." In more recent times the skillful sign-painters have both used the same place-name, "Prosperity."

The first thing to be noted is that the proprietors of the two main highways, the leaders of the Democratic and Republican parties, have painted out the sign on the Progressive line and have each added Social Justice as a suburb of their own. That is important, because the bypath was followed by many to whom it led merely "the road along which I go."

No, these splendid and patriotic actions are not the immediate forerunners of a millennium. There are a number of gentlemen still in either party to whom the thought of such a sacrifice of party is abhorrent. The standards of Pork and Privilege still hang high in the breeze of American politics. But these new divisions are straws in the wind. American politics is beginning to blow straight to appointed ends.

What new divisions will there be? Unless there are differences which correspond to deep distinctions among the citizens of the country, then all this oratory, all these cigars and all the disruption of civil life is worse than wasted. A mere disagreement between the Ins and the Outs, a politicians' rivalry, with barkers stationed at each circus entrance, is unworthy of a great people.

The relation of government to business, big and little, is involved in this great problem, and so are all the many items of social welfare which the nation may and may not take on its shoulders. When citizens think, as the voters of America are beginning to think, the existing political parties will have to lead their thoughts, or be discarded. A strongly centralized government will be opposed to a loose, the service of the State to the individuals will be opposed to the liberties which the State can afford to grant. The compromise between Order and Liberty will be made in the alternation of parties representing one thing or the other. The question which the voter will be asked to answer will be in simple terms. Do you want greater control of the railroads or less? Do you favor a certain type of tax? Shall Washington control Philadelphia or vice versa?

But behind all these questions will be the differing impulses of men, and these new impulses are the vines which must be poured into the bottles of our political parties. Otherwise, the voters will turn elsewhere for their drink.

ROOTS OF PROSPERITY IN THE SOIL

THE Four-State Country Life Conference, now in session in this city, will probably pass without exciting overmuch attention, in the fashion of a number of important things. The conference has no spectacular attributes, and it is even hard to get "news" out of it. But it is vastly and vitally inclusive of the interests of Philadelphia and of the country.

Tom Daly's Column

Comes written by myself Little Colly

KITCHEN TROUBLE When Mother starts right in to wear Upon her face a look of care I know without much further warning That there is something wrong this morning.

And sure enough when I had asked I found that Bridget had not tasked Her customary task as one Might well expect it should be done. The chops were burned and so I guess She simply cooked them to excess And I could tell from Mother's eye That maybe Bridget's time was nigh.

So do you wonder that I fret Because I am too little yet To work so Mother will not wear Upon her face that look of care?

If you should have a quarrel with your dentist And we're thinking of buying us a nice, shaggy Plymouth Rock or Wyandotte to frisk about us and bark us a special welcome when we come home evenings. We saw this ad. in our own dear paper on Saturday.

DENTISTS AND BLEEDERS AND PLACED ONE DEGREE ABOVE BLEEDERS WITH LEECHES

Details Requested "I feel like a two-year-old!" He bragged, and slapped his leg: But somebody spoke up, loud: "Whadymean? An egg?" —Aloysius.

The youngsters are very fond of their Airdale, and we're thinking of buying us a nice, shaggy Plymouth Rock or Wyandotte to frisk about us and bark us a special welcome when we come home evenings. We saw this ad. in our own dear paper on Saturday.

DOGS FINE breeding cocker spaniel Barred Plymouth Rock, Wyandotte, Light Brahma, Leghorns, Anconas, Minors, Rhode Island Reds, from the most reliable stock. Call and see our immense stock, etc.

Dr. Alexander Hamilton in Philadelphia Saturday, June 9, 1744.—This morning there fell a light rain, which proved very refreshing, the weather having been very hot and dry for several days. The heat in this city is excessive, the sun's rays being reflected with such power that the brick houses and from the street pavement, which is brick; the people commonly use awnings of painted cloth or duck over their shop doors and windows, and at sunset throw buckets full of water upon the pavement, which gives a sensible coolness. There are stocked with plenty of excellent water in this city, there being a pump at almost every fifty paces' distance.

There are a great number of balconies to their houses, where sometimes the men sit in a cool habit and smoke. The market in this city is perhaps the largest in North America. It is kept twice a week, upon Wednesdays and Saturdays. The street where it stands, called Market street, is large and spacious, composed of the best houses in the city.

They have but one public clock here, which strikes the hour, but has neither index nor dial-plate. It is strange they should want such an ornament and convenience in so large a place, but the chief part of the community consisting of Quakers they would seem to shun ornament in their public edifices as well as in their apparel or dress.

The Quakers have two large meetings; the Church of England one great church in Second street, and another built for Whitefield, in which one Tennent, a fanatic, now preaches; the Romans one chapel; the Anabaptists one or two meetings, and the Presbyterians two.

In Bert Taylor's column in the Chicago Tribune we read: —Bob Jones' new car stuttered, so he had it fixed, and now it whizzes. If it starts to sputter, take a look at the valve-head. The curious thing about it is that this just describes the case of our own Bob Jones right here in this town, except that our Bob's new car is an old one.

What's in a Name? He's light as any summer breeze; Two hundred pounds he'd weigh— Yet he was christened Hercules; Her given name is Fay.

"AND this man I want to speak to," he said to the telephone operator, "is a compositor; he's in the composing room." "Say, listen," she, in turn, called to the long-distance operator, "that party is a compositor; he's in the composing room."

We certainly are glad we're not raising poultry, for friend wife would probably want to dress the part. Over an elegant picture in the Brooklyn Eagle the other day we read:

CHIC HOUSE FROCK Isn't there somewhat of fractured neutrality in this, from the November catalogue of Victor records:

U. S. MARINE BAND RECORDS. German Fidelity March (Germanentem) and National Emblem March—U. S. Marine Band (17377) and Deutscher-Potpouri—Victor Band (35454) Krupp March (March) and Grand Duke of Baden March—U. S. Marine Band (17355) Salute to Mexico March (Brooke) and Parade Post with Kaiser Friedrich March—German Cavalry Band (16677) Trou de France (True to the Flag) and Enter dem Kaiser (Under the Star of the Guard)—U. S. Marine Band (17330) Mit Homben und Kanonen (With Shot and Shell) and Treue an Kaiser und Reich—U. S. Marine Band (17331)

The Plot Thickens "I tried to get some information for you," writes B. F. B., "about that flag of the Penna. Lumberman's Association and here's what C. F. W., of Media, who is mixed up in the thing poetically, replies in part: Dear B. F. B.—Your note received. I hasten to reply. You note that "a" is used for "u" and ask the reason "y." I do not know. But why complain? If "a" seems not to please, "u" fits it, for change like that is always made with "e's."

What's Your Favorite Simile? "He has a backbone like a banana." "As busy as a one-armed paperhanger with the bives." "As sure as a goldfish." —M. S. D. JACKANAPES.

S. P. U. G. May I call to the attention of the Society for the Poisoning of Useless Ginks the woman who leans her wet umbrella against your knee in the trolley car? —MORRIS.

Bright Kid Stuff Little Virginia Tener's folks had just put up a "To Rent" sign on their house for they were going to move. "Bucky," the 4-year-old from across the street, "wanting to rent from whooping cough, accuse Virginia: 'You must be sick, if you got 'Are so!' 'Are not?' 'You must be sick, because there's a sign on your house.'"

Si—I'm a young Sunday school teacher and I have answered all the questions put to me by my class, give between the ages of 7 and 10, but Sunday's questions was the limit, and if you can answer it please do. It is as follows: "Was K. ever a member of the A. S.?" "Was K. ever a member of the A. S.?" "Was K. ever a member of the A. S.?"

SPEAKING THE PUBLIC MIND

Opera in Philadelphia—Keeping the Sidewalks Clean—Letters From Readers on Topics of General and Timely Interest

To the Editor of Evening Ledger: Sir—I would like to comment on your editorial of Saturday and express my appreciation of the same in regard to humiliation of Germany. I do not think any right action will humiliate any man that is not based on the enlightenment of the people.

It is a humiliation to every right-minded American citizen that any government can order the killing of any one, much less the citizens of this country, and have this country accept an apology or money for it.

And, while every one errs, there should be no humiliation to any one to acknowledge their errors.

My own humble opinion is that this country should have her own vessels and her citizens not be compelled to ride in other country's ships to transact business. However, if they do, the high seas should be as free as a public highway in this country in a borrowed cart.

WILLIAM W. MASON. Philadelphia, February 7.

SLUSH AND SIDEWALKS To the Editor of Evening Ledger: Sir—In the course of an hour's walk last Saturday afternoon I passed three public schools in the northern section of the city. The sidewalks surrounding each of the schools were covered with a thick slush, indicating that no attempt had been made to remove the snow of last Wednesday.

From this I infer the city considers the removal of snow from the sidewalks and, incidentally, there are quite a few thousand householders who evidently lay claim to the same exemption, judging from the condition of the pavement during the last five days.

However, I am writing this to suggest that since the City Fathers find themselves unable to provide a means for removing the snow from around the public school buildings, the several principals designate a couple of youngsters and old pupils to perform this duty. You can bet the boys would like it, and the snow will fly. Philadelphia, February 7. W. S. W.

WHAT OF THE OPERA? To the Editor of Evening Ledger: Sir—"What do you think of the opera for this Tuesday night?" seems to be on the lips of almost every one at all interested in music.

My question is just a little different: "What has Philadelphia done to deserve this?" The very beginning of the season was a raw deal. To be sure the house was packed for "Il Trovatore" and at first sight you might think that the answer. But how many in that audience were the real genuine music lovers of Philadelphia who are regular patrons of the opera and help make it possible in this city? Wasn't the audience almost entirely composed of youngsters and fogies who go to hear "Il Trovatore" because it is one of the few operas within their comprehension, and who go to hear it every time it is given, just the same as they go to see "Beatrice" or "East Lynne"?

The EVENING LEDGER has already commented upon the lamentable fact that we have so far been afflicted with Madame Rappold three times this season. Her performance in "Il Trovatore" was almost the exception, and while in "Lohengrin" and "The Magic Flute" she did not have to scramble around for her high notes as she did on her first appearance, I would certainly beg to differ with one of the Philadelphia critics who said that she sang "The Magic Flute" as though it had been written for her.

Aside from the way we have been stung several times on the singers (some of this may have been due to the great amount of grip during this season—Oh, welcome "grip"), how can we explain the selection of operas? Of course, everything that has been given has its place in a complete operatic repertoire, but that is no reason for giving us the same things over and over again year in and year out: witness—"The Magic Flute," "La Boheme," "Lohengrin," "La Tosca."

Why cannot Philadelphia get some of the newer productions? Surely we have not had enough of "Boris" and "The Three Kings." From the way things have gone so far this year, we may easily believe that all we shall see of "Prince Igor" and "Goyescas" for the next few years. "Tristan" is the press notices from the New York papers. You will glance over those papers and read the big list of operas produced there every week it makes you feel as though Philadelphia were getting only the dregs.

And now we must have "Lucia di Lammermoor"! If the Metropolitan Opera Company could feel the undercurrent of sentiment against the presentation of this "revival" in Philadelphia, perhaps they would be made to realize that we are desiring of a little better than this: let us hope that it will be strong enough to spare us their latest revival—"Rigoletto."

We might, however, welcome a few of the "Old Cycle," or "Tristan," "Parsifal" or even "Tanhauser"; but it is almost a sacrifice to mention them in the same paragraph.

The whole thing looks as though this is merely another manifestation of what Prof. Scott Nearing calls the great American philosophy: "When a man is down, hit him." Figuratively speaking, we are down; we are absolutely at the mercy of the Metropolitan Opera Company. Being practically in a state of operatic starvation, we crave for more operas and like the proverbial hungry dog, grab after all the crumbs that are thrown to us. I suppose the Metropolitan Opera Company take that as an overwhelming indication of our approval of their policy in this city: their policy of handing us a Caruso—or a Wagner—"sup" once in a while, just to give us something to distract our attention from the rest that they give us.

Isn't there some way in which the management of the Metropolitan Opera Company can be made to realize that Philadelphia does not always want to hear repeats, and must sometimes desire to hear new things? The odds and ends of the operatic rank least desired upon it, even though it is for the purpose of showing off some particular remarkable singer? If they

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have the idea that this is the kind of stuff we want to see there some way in which we can redeem ourselves? What is the opinion of your Music Editor on this subject? W. L. H. B.

Philadelphia, February 3. [Note.—Comment on the opera, the repertoire and the artists sent here by the Metropolitan has been freely made in the columns of the EVENING LEDGER devoted to musical criticism. In some respects that comment has agreed with the writer. In others not. The opinion of the music editor is, after all, of no importance in comparison with the opinion of Philadelphia.—Editor EVENING LEDGER.]

THE FITLER SCHOOL CASE To the Editor of Evening Ledger: Sir—May I have the courtesy of your columns to deny the statement sent here by the Metropolitan has been freely made in the columns of the EVENING LEDGER devoted to musical criticism. In some respects that comment has agreed with the writer. In others not. The opinion of the music editor is, after all, of no importance in comparison with the opinion of Philadelphia.—Editor EVENING LEDGER.]

HOLMAN WHITE, Superintendent, District No. 8, Philadelphia, February 7.

ENLIGHTENMENT AND CITIZENSHIP To the Editor of Evening Ledger: Sir—Your editorial on "The Vocation of Citizenship" leads me to say that citizenship should be relative to enlightenment and not enlightenment relative to the political caprices of citizenship.

Intelligence and education must precede the vote. Enlightenment is absolute. Literacy must precede votes.

There is no liberty that is sane that is not based first on enlightenment.

There can be no justice or equity for the plain man that is not based on the enlightenment of a greater equity for the poor man and the plain man.

American civilization and American culture place no eternal premium on the stubborn, narrow-minded fool simply because the narrow-minded fool is a plain man and a poor man.

Our patriotism is educationally complex. Our actions and views at the polls prove that we are all theoretically equal to express ourselves as holders of ignorant rowdies, ruffians and semisavages.

Is light the equal of darkness? American civilization and American culture imply the possibility of a general enlightenment immediately above the narrow enlightenment of the cruel specialized lines of the narrowest of vocations—in unwearying, unrelenting, industrial money-making sense.

We have the choice between two ideals: Our American civilization can only secure to us, as an expression of American culture and world culture, the greatest national morality, happiness, and liberty to the extent that we broaden the scope of our national enlightenment.

PROF. HENRY G. WALTERS, President Plant Research Institute, Langhorne, Pa., February 5.

THE NUMBER SEVEN The number seven is the favorite of literature, whether religious or secular.

The seven archangels are Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, Uriel, Chamuel, Zophiel and Zadkiel. The seven Bibles are the Bible, the Koran, the Eddas, the Tripitaka, the Five Kings, the Three Vedas and the Zend-Avesta. The seven champions of Christendom: St. George of England, St. Denis of France, St. James of Spain, St. Anthony of Italy, St. Andrew of Scotland, St. Patrick of Ireland, St. David of Wales. The seven crosses (ecclesiastical) are the Greek cross, the Latin cross, the Maltese cross, St. Andrew's cross, the Latin cross, the Egyptian cross and Constantine's cross.

The seven bodies recognized by the alchemist were gold, symbolized by the sun; silver, symbolized by the moon; iron, symbolized by Mars; quicksilver, symbolized by Mercury; lead, symbolized by Saturn; tin, symbolized by Jupiter; copper, symbolized by Venus. The seven hills of Rome are the Capitoline, the Palatine, the Aventine, the Esquiline, the Quirinal and the Viminal. Roodin's seven lamps of architecture are the lamp of sacrifice, the lamp of truth, the lamp of power, the lamp of beauty, the lamp of life, the lamp of memory, the lamp of wisdom.

In the Middle Ages the learned men spoke of the Seven Liberal Arts, which were considered to be arithmetic, geometry, astronomy, music, logic, rhetoric, grammar. Pope wrote of Good sense, which only is the gift of heaven. And, though no science, fairly worth the seven.

History records the Seven Days' Battle (in the Peninsular Campaign of the American Civil War); the Seven Days' War (between Austria and Prussia for supremacy in Germany, 1866); the Seven Years' War; the Seven Years' Captivity; the Seven Weeks' War.

NOT AS I WILL Blindfolded and alone I stand With unknown thresholds on each hand; The darkness deepens as I grope, Afraid to fear, afraid to learn to know, Yet this one thing I hold to be true, Each day more surely as I go— That doors are opened, ways are made, Burdens are lifted or are laid. By some great law unseen and still, Unfathomable purpose to fulfill. "Not as I will."

Blindfolded and alone I wait, Lost seems too long, but too late; Too many burdens in the load, And too few helpers on the road; And joy is weak and grief is strong, And years and days so long, so long; Yet this one thing I learn to know, Each day more surely as I go— That I am glad the good and ill By changeless law are ordered still. "Not as I will."

"Not as I will," the sound grows sweet Each time my lips the words repeat, "Not as I will!" The darkness feels, More sure than light when this thought steals All unrest and all loneliness. "Not as I will," because the One Who loved us first and best has gone Before us on the road, and still For us the way is made. "Not as I will."

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What Do You Know?

Queries of general interest will be answered in this column. Ten questions, the answers to which every well-informed person should know, are asked daily.

1. Who are the Danbury Hatters? 2. What cities have reserve banks under the financial system? 3. What great convention will meet in Philadelphia in June? 4. Name three great London newspapers. 5. Who is Yuan Shi-Kai? 6. The failure of a Philadelphia firm precipitated the panic of 1873. What firm was it? 7. To what city was the Government of France transferred just before the Battle of the Marne? 8. Is Jacksonville, Fla., east or west of Philadelphia? 9. Who wrote "Our Mutual Friend"? 10. Who is Champ Clark?

Virginia Editor of "What Do You Know"—What the Senator in the poem on "The Island" is completely detached part, the detached part being an island? Please print answer in your editorial page query column some time this week. R. T. CHEW, Virginia.

Will a Reader Answer? Editor of "What Do You Know"—Some time ago I heard a song about Mother in which a singer spells the word "ambassador" as "M-A-M-O" for the million things she's done for you. O is only that she is growing old. T is for the tears that she has shed for you. H is for the heart that is all gold. E is for eye where gleams the love light. It is for... I don't remember what "R" stands for, but I would like to know the name of the song if possible. BATH, PA. Perhaps some reader can answer.

Opportunity Editor of "What Do You Know"—I had a son of the name of Opportunity. He was a very good boy, but he lost it. Will you be kind enough to help me in getting another copy? KANSAS

Master of human destinies am I. Fame, love and fortune on my footsteps wait. The British Ambassador tested by King with "George the Third, who, like the sun in its meridian, spreads a lustre throughout and enlightens the world." The French Minister arose with his glass and drank to "The British Minister the Sixteenth, who like the moon sheds his mild and benignant rays on all influences the globe." Franklin with great gravity then called on the company to drink to "George Washington, commander of the American army, who, like Joshua of old, commanded the sun and the moon to stand still, and they stood still."

Franklin's Toast Editor of "What Do You Know"—Can you help me to find the words which Franklin is said to have proposed at Versailles, when he compared Washington to Joshua? RIDGWAY LIBRARY

Franklin, the English Ambassador and the French Minister Vergennes were dining together at Versailles when a toast from each of the British and French Ministers was proposed. King with "George the Third, who, like the sun in its meridian, spreads a lustre throughout and enlightens the world." The French Minister arose with his glass and drank to "The British Minister the Sixteenth, who like the moon sheds his mild and benignant rays on all influences the globe." Franklin with great gravity then called on the company to drink to "George Washington, commander of the American army, who, like Joshua of old, commanded the sun and the moon to stand still, and they stood still."

Success Editor of "What Do You Know"—I have been told that there is a word that appears only once in the Bible, but have not been able to find it, and so I appeal to you. C. WESLEY JONES

The word is "success." It appears in Job 1: 8: "This book of the law shall not depart from thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate thereof day and night; that thou mayest observe according to all that is written therein: for thou shalt make thy way prosperous and thou shalt have good success."

Palindromic Editor of "What Do You Know"—What is meant by a palindromic word? CURRIE

A lady, it is reported, once asked Susan Hale this identical question. His answer was "Consult a dictionary, madam."

The Kaiser's Power Editor of "What Do You Know"—One of the questions you asked a few days ago was about the President's power to declare war. Ask you now to inform me whether the German Emperor has this power. "RIGHT"

The German Emperor has the power to declare a defensive war. For offensive wars he must have the consent of the Bundesrat.

"The Barber" Editor of "What Do You Know"—I read yesterday that Rossini's "Barber of Seville" (opera) celebrated its centenary. Can you tell me who wrote the play and what its connection is with "The Marriage of Figaro"? H. J.

The connection is that Caron de Beaumarchais wrote the two plays, one of which made into an opera by Mozart; the other was made into an opera by Rossini. The opera was performed in the central square of the city on the 20th of February, 1785.