

Evening Ledger

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THE AVERAGE NET PAID DAILY CIRCULATION OF THE EVENING LEDGER FOR FEBRUARY WAS 104,115

Philadelphia, Saturday, March 25, 1916.

Immodest words admit of no defense, For want of decency is no sense. -Earl of Roscommon.

The reason for the high price of pork may be found in the pressing demand for it in Washington.

The report that Herrera had joined Carranza was only one of the many reports coming out of Mexico that are not so.

One might think the submarines were in the class of prey and not of predators, the way Uncle Sam's submarines meet misfortune.

Of course Joseph T. Richards says that the so-called Twining bottled transit plan is not worth 30 cents. That is the view of every competent railroad engineer.

Yuan Shih-kai might remind the insurgents who are demanding his resignation that it is as true in China as in America that few Presidents die and none resign.

Another ministerial crisis instead of England's million in France for the "rush," postponed last year, seems likely to be Britain's contribution to the spring campaign.

Though a young man's fancy turns to thoughts of love in the spring, there's no reason why a dozen of them from Philadelphia should take out their marriage licenses at Elkton. Cupid has a first aid at City Hall.

It didn't take a plebiscite of Wellesley College girls to let a lot of us know that a Philadelphia girl was one of the prettiest four on the campus. And the dispatch was evidently defective in omitting to say that the other three were of the same charming nativity.

A picture of a mother and her child won the suffrages of mechanics and millhands at the Academy of the Fine Arts. The same picture received a regular prize, and, what may be more important, a buyer. The plain people may not know what they like, but they know Art!

The Jamaica Johnson Chapter of the D. A. R. of Paris, Kentucky, has written Senator Ollie James, asking him to endorse all of the bills in the Senate relating to preparedness and protection of the United States. The surest way to have unpreparedness is to endorse all of the bills before Congress.

And now the Mexicans are planning to collect a duty on the army stores sent across the border for General Pershing's command. They must have read of the plan of the American strategist who said that it would be easy to prevent an invasion of the United States by levying a prohibitive duty on arms and ammunition brought here by a foreign foe.

The Governor's friends are now boasting that he has the support of William Flinn, and that they are proud of the resolutions passed at the Harrisburg conference calling on all Progressives who are enrolled as Republicans to vote against "those baneful influences which split the Republican party asunder in 1912." And harmony is still anchored far away in the offing.

It is not yet known whether Lieutenant Sir Ernest Shackleton accomplished the various objects of his South Polar expedition, but for the lay reader the safe return is in itself a proof of success. Stefansson was also lost to communication for a long time, and his safety, now ascertained, was a promise of Lieutenant Shackleton's good fortune. Unlike other expeditions, this of Shackleton was directed not so much toward the finding of a definite point as to the exploration of lands whose very existence was still a matter of conjecture. If the mad struggle for territory continues in Europe, such expeditions may presently be followed by colonial settlements and commercial travelers.

The plot against the Taylor plan which the All-Philadelphia Rapid Transit League has uncovered is based on the assumption that it is easy to fool the people. But no one need be deceived against his will. No intelligent resident of a district in need of better transportation facilities can be fooled into signing a petition against a modern transit system by the promises of some petty local improvements. The subway and elevated lines proposed in the Taylor plan will benefit the districts they serve so much more than they can be benefited by any other expenditure of public money that the thinking men who are approached by the agents of the plotters will refuse to consent to trade a great benefit for a small one, just as they would refuse to give their good money for a gold brick. Further, the new transit lines will improve the sale and rental value of every piece of property in the districts through which they run. They will increase the trade of the neighborhood stores by increasing the population or by attracting families with more money to spend than those now living there have at their command. The old houses out of repair will be torn down and replaced by modern structures, and prosperity will take the place of starvation. The arguments used in West Philadelphia are as fallacious as those employed on the men living east of the Schuylkill. The West Philadelphia League must know that the purpose of the improved transit system, were the Taylor plan, is to provide for the population already living

east of the Schuylkill and for the new population that is coming here at the rate of 30,000 or 40,000 a year. No one is planning to take population from one part of the city and put it in another part. There is no need of sectional jealousy when a great public improvement for the benefit of the whole city is proposed.

SPRING AND FLOWER SHOWS

The calendar tells us spring is here, though the weather fails to corroborate the almanac. But affirmation is given in the mall daily laden with seedsmen's catalogues.

NEXT week, maybe, the vernal breezes will sweep the land in their buccannering way. The front is due to leave the ground. Already green young things shoot out of the fecund sod.

Let us jibe at the almanacs in these last days of March, which are the forerunner of spring, most gladtime in the cycle of the seasons. "God made the country and man made the town," and both join in tribute to spring, one with His flowers and birds and trees, the other with his exhibits of how well he has made use of the intelligence and industry vouchsafed him—exhibits which reach their finest achievement in the National Flower Show, which should take every Philadelphian to Convention Hall.

Let the mood of spring, then, pervade your heart. Night is darkest just before daybreak, with its gradual vision of light and loveliness. So, too, today spring is merely potential. We are in the transitional period before the glorious dawn of life and love, burgeoning and melody. It is the eve of the feast, full of promise and hint. Eyes are wistful and hearts longing for the full manifestation.

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Tom Daly's Column

OUR VILLAGE POST
Whenever it's a Saturday and all my work is through
I like to walk on Chestnut street an' see what news is new.

An' here we are, right off the bat! before I leave my desk
I'm lookin' out the window here at somethin' picturesque;
The Public Ledger has her rooms across the alleyway.

The dear old lady's all fussed up—she's eighty years today.
She looks real port an' lively and not too unduly vain,
For, gee! see all the pages that are holdin' up her train!

Land sakes! it seems to me this week, no matter where you go,
You can't run into anything but just shoes, shoes! shoes!! shoes!!!
There's picture, appie, fashion shows; an' nose, the best of all,

The Flower Show that's worth the trip up to Convention Hall.
The Watsons, Pennocks, Theroldsens an' other floral guys
Will be on hand this afternoon to kinder put you wise

About the different blossoms an' present you to the same.
(No! none of 'em will bite you, ma'am; these flowers all are tame.)
By all means, go an' take it in; 'twill elevate your mind

An' heart an' soul to stroll among the flowers there you'll find;
But as for me—the fever's on! I think the golfing itch'll
Be takin' me for eighteen holes with Uncle Joseph Mitchell—

For sometimes on a Saturday when all my work is through
I don't stick 'round on Chestnut street to see what news is new!

SOME time ago some one asked us, "Why do folks pay any attention to the imagoistic work of Miss Amy Lowell?" We didn't know any reason, but yesterday we discovered what may be three. We clip from a report of one of her recitals in Chicago:

Miss Lowell is a sister of Dr. Abbott Lawrence Lowell, president of Harvard University; a distant relative of the American poet, James Russell Lowell, and one of the wealthiest women of Boston.

Musical Trios (Most of them knock-turns)
To Thaddeus Rich
I hold rooted objection.
I've an 'orrible tick
To Thaddeus Rich
It's his eye-glass connection.
To Thaddeus Rich
I hold rooted objection.

We're strong for musical criticism when it's constructive, like the above. But wait!

Our Uplift Series
A Roman Strataegem
IN THE year A. D. 375 an overwhelming force of rugged Saxons had succeeded in penning a detachment of the Roman Second Legion (Legio II. Adultra), commanded by one Diodorus, in the fort of Brancastrum. The Romans lacked entrenching tools, cigarettes and motorcycles, and the outlook was grim. As night fell Diodorus was approached by one Glauco, his senior trumpeter. "Well, Cap," said Glauco, cheerily, "the squarheads are gonna eat us alive in the morning unless you beat it tonight."

"The Second Legion dies, but never retreats," answered the intrepid commander, proudly. "As that stuff's all right for the reporters," argued Glauco. "But they ain't any here; besides, the first game of the World's Series comes off in three weeks in the Coliseum." Diodorus showed some interest. "What do you suggest?" he inquired. "Well, you see I can't go home, because they's a warrant out for me for non-support. I don't know being captured. I'll stay and blow the horns, and you get the boys together and slide."

And so was it done. The Saxons, hearing throughout the night the trumpet blasts that thought the Legion still in the fort, but a desperate charge in the morning showed they had been outguessed by the Romans.

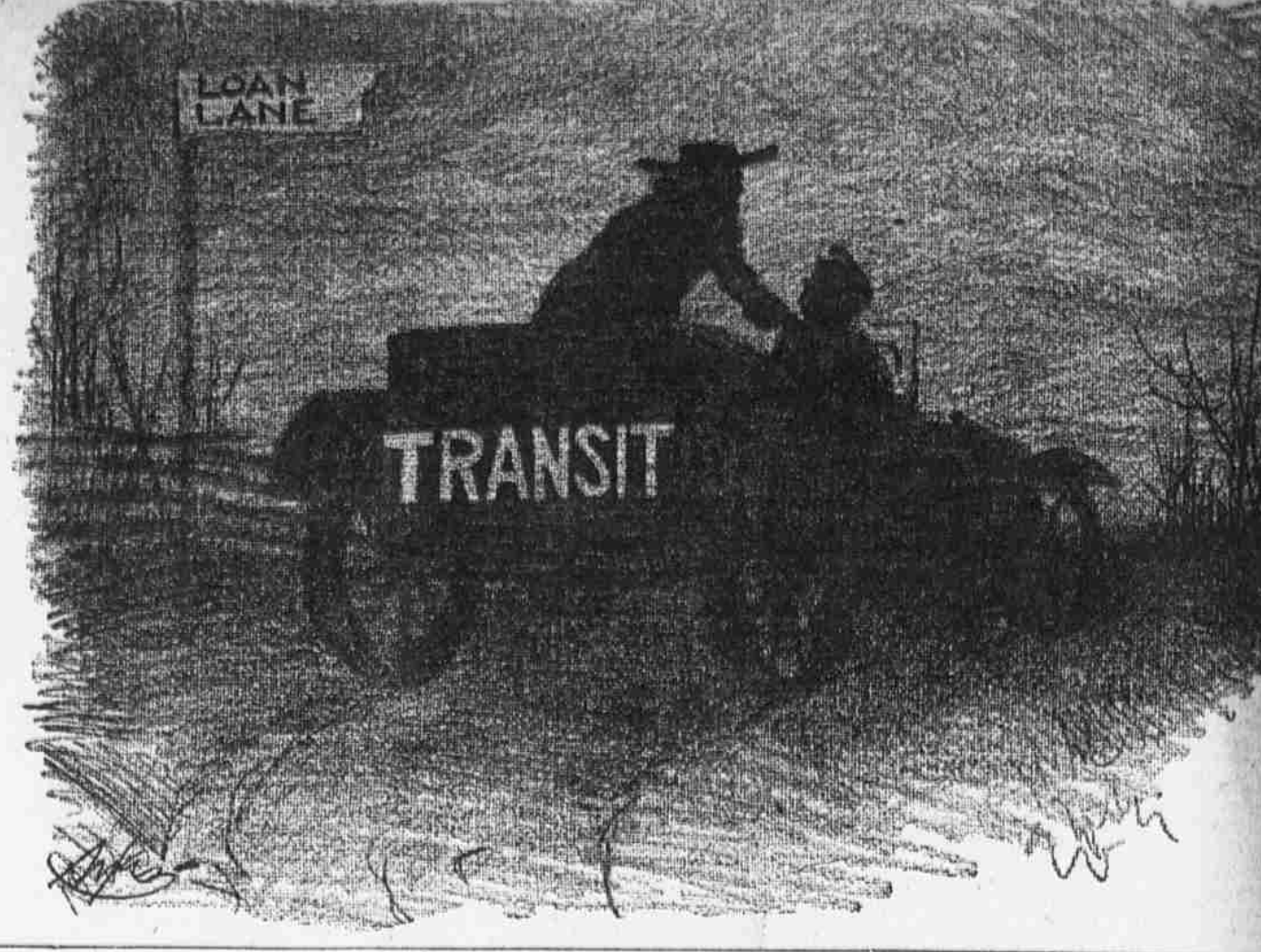
Sad to State
A "pome" is Kato
At any rate,
She seems to be
Averse to me.
Gottlieb Mitten.

Kute Kid
Little 4-year-old Ida B. was telling her nurse how much she loved certain members of the family.
"I love my mother first of all; then I love my grandfater; then I love my Uncle Frank; then I love my aursie."

Will Some Reader Please Answer?
Who invented "curiously enough"? What does it mean?
Quaero.

Phyllis
My Phyllis knows how best to choose
Gowns, gloves and such regalia, whose
Soft harmonies and apt design
Express herself in every line
Engagingly from hat to shoes.

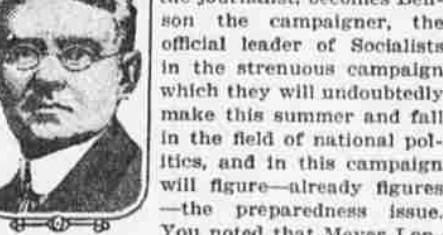
"SAFETY FIRST, MR. MAYOR! TURN THE LIGHTS ON, PLEASE!"



ALLAN BENSON FOR PRESIDENT

Socialist Nominee a Fighting Journalist and Now a Busy Campaigner—A Candidate With But a Single Thought

WHETHER we should speak of Allan L. Benson as a presidential possibility depends—in short, it depends. Leastwise, he's the first man in this campaign of grace, 1916, to be actually confirmed in his title as a party candidate for the highest office in the land.



ALLAN BENSON
Benson was one of the two Congressmen who voted against the Hay measure Thursday night. He declared that the "imperialist elements of capitalism are behind the preparedness movement."

It was written by Benson and was first adopted by the Philadelphia "local." By a referendum, now in progress, it will become incorporated in the Socialist platform. It demands that the Constitution be so amended that war shall not be made without previous reference of the question to the people, women included, and without their approval.

Responsibility and Choice
"We all know that the Czar has power to declare war for many millions of subjects. But we fail to realize that in our own country the same power rests with a tiny minority of 135 men. I refer to a majority of a quorum of both houses of Congress and the President. They have no physical responsibility for war. The rest of our 100,000,000 have the physical responsibility with no right either to declare war or peace. My idea is: Let every one vote as to whether he or she wants an aggressive war, but balance the vote with responsibility.

On Benson has fallen the mantle of Debs as party leader. It is the first time in 16 years that Debs has not been the nominee. He said it was only just that the nomination should go to some one else and withheld his own name. Charles Edward Russell was eliminated from the list of possibilities by his preparedness address in Philadelphia. Benson's distinction lies not only in his career as a writer and his selection as presidential candidate, but also in the manner of his selection. He is the first presidential candidate in the history of the country to be nominated by direct vote of the rank and file of his party.

ALLAN L. BENSON was born at Plainwell, Mich., November 6, 1871. His father in early life was a factory worker, later a country miller. Allan's mother died when he was an infant, and he lived with his grandparents' family on a farm until he was 13 years old. He attended the district school, and finally got a job working on a farm at \$8 a month. When he was 15 his father's mill burned and he was compelled to forego his ambition to go to col-

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. What office did Doctor Brumbaugh hold before he became Governor?
2. How many American cities have a population of 1,000,000 or more?
3. When was the battle of Gettysburg fought?
4. Is Richmond, Va., east or west of Buffalo?
5. When was Pennsylvania admitted to the Union?
6. Which is larger, the Netherlands and her colonies or Mexico?
7. How does the railroad mileage of the United States compare with that of other countries?
8. About how old is Edison?
9. What State did Daniel Webster represent in the Senate?
10. James Whitcomb Riley.

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

- 1. Elbert H. Gary is chairman and James A. R. Farrell is president of the United States Steel Corporation.
2. The German Chancellor is responsible to the Kaiser alone.
3. The estimated population of Augusta, Ga., is 60,000, an increase of 22,000 since 1910.
4. Yes.
5. The Lusitania was sunk on May 7, 1915.
6. Wharton Barker.
7. A sister of Henry Ward Beecher and the author of "Uncle Tom's Cabin."
8. John Grier Hibben.
9. Lincoln was one of the leading lawyers of Illinois.
10. James Whitcomb Riley.

Name for Boys' Club

Editor of "What Do You Know?"—Would you kindly favor us by helping us to select a name for a social club for boys, their ages ranging from 15 to 17 years? Kindly put several names so that we could choose the best one. S. R. and C. B.

Another Classic Anagram

Editor of "What Do You Know?"—The query and reply respecting anagrams in the EVENING LEDGER of March 22 brings to mind a fine example of that form of transformation which I have known for many years.

The name of Jesus He was asked by Pilate "What is truth?" This, put into Latin, reads "Quid est veritas?" From the letters of this which in English gives us, "It is the man who is before you."

As I passed by a fair
A hiss fell sharply on my ear;
Started, I saw a ——— there,
With others ——— to rouse my fear;
But ——— there I did not see,
And on my way went quietly.

"Forest" Quotation

Editor of "What Do You Know?"—Will you please tell me who said, "I have a hearty love for forests," and if there is any more to the quotation, I have an impression that there is. SEEKER.

Colwyn is a Borough

Editor of "What Do You Know?"—Your answer as to Darby and Colwyn is partially incorrect. Colwyn has a borough government, the same as Darby, consisting of Chief Burgess and a borough Council, and is only part of Darby in so far as postal facilities are concerned. E. L. R.

Margaret Sangster's Poem

Editor of "What Do You Know?"—Here is the poem asked for by "M. L. K." It is by Margaret Sangster, and is entitled "Our Own." G. A. T.

If I had known in the morning
How worldly all the day
The words unkind
Would trouble my mind
I said when you went away,
I had been more careful, darling,
Nor given you needless pain;
But we vex "our own."

DOING WITHOUT GENIUS

People think genius a fine thing if it enables a man to write an exciting poem or paint a picture, but in its true sense—that of originality in thought and action—though no one says it is not a thing to be admired, nearly all at heart think they can do very well without it.—Mill.

"AMONG THE UNTRODDEN WAYS"

She dwelt among the untrodden ways
Beside the springs of Dove,
A maid whom there were none to praise
And very few to love:
A violet by a mossy stone
Half hidden from the eye!
Fair as a star, when only one
Is shining in the sky.