Evening Ledger

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Philadelphia, Monday, September 18, 1916.

'Tis sweet to hear the watch-dog's honest bark
Bay deep-mouth'd welcome as we draw near home. —Byron.

It is not a question of what Hughes would have done, but of what he's going to do, and that's a plenty.

Pennsylvania manufacturers have to obey a more stringent child labor law than the one about the meaning of which there is so much dispute.

Professor Munsterberg, pro-German, of Harvard, declined to attend the funeral of his colleague, Professor Joyce, pro-Ally, lest he be understood as approving it.

The report that Mr. Ford will put a cheap fuel on the market to keep pace with his new machine is encouraging. It may be, after a while, that the things will run on hot air.

It will be time enough to believe that nearly forty men have been admitted to the bar through fraud in the last six months when proof is submitted to the Supreme Court.

We have no patience with those who assert that there is no strength in the United States Navy. Any institution which could survive three years of Daniels must have the goods.

The French have shot a German woman guilty of espionage, as the Germans shot Edith Cavell in Belgium, but the English papers have not yet begun to denounce the French for their barbarity.

Ambassador von Bernstorff wants it to be understood that Germany will pay no loan that Belgium may contract in the United States. It has not been understood that Belgium expected Germany to pay it unless through the indemnity which she must give up when the Allies win.

The plan of selling twenty-five car tickets for twenty-five cents may seem to the police to be legal and simple, but the most simple thing about it would seem to be the simpletons who bite. Didn't they have a shoe-buying scheme of this sort, whereby a man could get a $3 pair of shoes for a few cents? They did, and those who were left holding the bag are still holding it. But there is one born every minute.

Direct service between Philadelphia and South American ports will be inaugurated with a sailing on October 15. We have no doubt that ample freight will be offered for the trips south. The success of the venture will depend largely on the ability to secure return cargoes, and the increasing strength of our financial representation in South America should make that entirely possible.

A new epoch in German official report writing is marked by this message from Berlin, "We were forced back through the villages." Hitherto the motto there seemed to have been, "Never confess." More confessions will probably be in order this week, as the Anglo-French drive gains momentum. The British on Friday captured more ground and took more prisoners than on any single day since the big drive began. As they plow deeper into their foe's lines the task becomes easier, as the Germans have not the time to construct adequate defenses.

Never has there been such a saturnalia of tax-levying as in the last year or two. Until the Wilson Administration came into power there was no such thing as burdensome taxation in the United States, certainly not in time of peace. We are rapidly becoming the most tax-ridden people on earth, in spite of unparalleled industrial prosperity. Mr. Ford alone, we estimate, under the new income tax law will contribute annually not less than $4,000,000 to the national treasury. Penalizing success may be good politics, but heretofore America has meant opportunity, and opportunity has meant success.

About ten billion dollars' worth of wealth is created every year on the farms. The prosperity of the country is wrapped up in the prosperity of the farms. Governor Brumbaugh is, therefore, headed in the right direction when he says, as he did at Clearfield, that "We must keep in mind the importance of holding our people close to the soil; we must conserve our rural life." If, as he said, within ten years the State has lost fifty per cent of those who till the soil, no time can be lost in getting men and women back to the land and in making the farms productive. The task of the State Department of Agriculture is set before it. No State in the Union is better adapted than Pennsylvania to diversified farming, and no State has better markets within its own borders. There is the great manufacturing city of Pittsburgh in the west and the greater manufacturing city of Philadelphia in the east, and there is a large non-agricultural population engaged in mining in both the west and the east. These people must be fed. We have the land which will produce the needed food. We are building good roads to get the food to market. It is up to the farmers, instructed and guided in improved methods, to rise to the occasion and show what they can do.

THE GRAND JURY ON "DOPE"

AROUSED by the gravity of the situation, the Federal Grand Jury last Friday took unprecedented action in offering a written presentment to the Court in reference to the illegal traffic in narcotic drugs. It urged, in particular, the two things proposed by investigating committees and this newspaper, namely, the enactment of laws, both Federal and State, which will give the police better instrumentalities for the prevention of the drug traffic; and, secondly, the establishment by the State of an institution for the care of unfortunate addicts.

The Legislature in 1913 provided for a commission to secure a site for such a hospital, although the impulse behind the movement at that time contemplated the care of alcoholic rather than drug victims. This commission was intrusted with the expenditure of $20,000. It has already secured a site. The location it wisely refuses to divulge, on the principle that not enough ground has yet been secured and speculators would advance prices for adjacent and necessary plots were they informed in the matter.

The last Legislature did nothing to further the plans, owing, it appears, to a lack of funds. Nor is it apparent that the commission, which is still in existence, is particularly active. Its members seem to be rather surprised to learn that there is a "drug" situation. This is not altogether remarkable, in view of the fact that the spread of the evil has been somewhat stealthy. We suggest to the commission, however, that it would be worth its while to begin a comprehensive study, particularly of what such States as Massachusetts have done in the care of drug victims, with a view to submitting to the next Legislature the kind of report that cannot be ignored.

There are two things in which society is vitally interested: the prevention of waste and the recovery of waste. Efficiency in manufacturing first cuts down waste and then exerts itself in the utilization of remaining waste products. The first object of the State should be an effort to suppress the traffic in narcotics, and the second object should be to cure the victims. The traffic never will be entirely suppressed, and not more than a part of the victims will ever be cured. The most that can be hoped for is progress in each direction.

It seems reasonably sure now that legislation of some sort will be enacted next winter. It is important that the statute conform to the recommendations of experts, police and medical, and that it be written in strict accord with the Constitution, so that no further halt in the fight against the evil may result from devitalizing court decisions.

THIS IS WHAT YOU VOTED FOR

IT WAS inevitable that political machines should be affected by the high cost of living. The price of everything else has gone up, so why should not the price of power follow suit? The demand on the city employes for an increased payment to the Republican City Campaign Committee means that the old standard of expenses has had to be abandoned. Now, why should not the city employes make the payments demanded? Elections are fought for the sake of the spoils. The workers deserve the offices for which they have fought. They are rewarded for their services by appointment to fat jobs.

Is it not better that the syndicate that does our governing for us should be self-supporting and maintain itself by an assessment upon the sums taken from the public treasury than that it should be dependent on the contributions which it can extort from outsiders who seek favors from it?

We know there are citizens who do not like this system, but they vote into power the men who do like it and when it is too late begin to object.

The Campaign Committee has a deficit and it needs funds for conducting future campaigns. To expect it to abandon its old methods is to doubt the high authority which has assured us that figs do not grow on thistles and that grapes cannot be picked from thorns.

ANY CHANGE IS FOR THE BETTER

THE failure of the combined county and State system to care for the insane is notorious. There are eleven almshouses in the Commonwealth in which insane paupers are maintained in disgraceful conditions. According to the men who made a survey for the Public Charities Association "they are treated more as wild animals than as unfortunate human beings entitled to every consideration and sympathy," and "they constitute a class of individuals for whom no possible future misfortune can have any terrors."

The State Board of Charities, which has been considering the subject, is to meet in this city on September 30 to decide what it is best to do. It is agreed that something must be done. There are advocates of an enlargement of the State hospitals to accommodate all the unfortunate and there are also equally expert specialists who favor improving the county hospitals. What they agree upon is not important so long as they find a way to get the insane in hospitals, large or small, where they can receive proper medical treatment, where the sexes can be segregated and where the surroundings are sanitary.

Tom Daly's Column

SATURDAY'S WORK

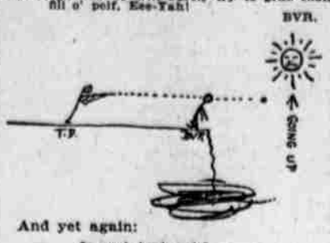
Both tricks!
Our Micks'
Big sticks
They licks
Oh's kicks
Three-six
An' six-nix.

The Philadelphia Rhyme

We despair of getting any one to follow the rules we have laid down. For instance:

The Patmoran and Hughey's clan are racing
For the lead Eee-Yah!
While in the van are Alexan and Tyrus, Man of Speed, Eee-Yah!
Should Patrick win the Tigers' skin will hang in Philadelphia,
But Hugh and Ty will surely try to grab their fill o' pelf, Eee-Yah!

BVR.



And yet again:

In oush back yahd
Wea' ah pullin' ha'd
Foah Philadelphia.
If Moran wins,
We'll kick oush shins
And spill a yell fo' yeh!

C. H. L.

And what's infinitely worse:

Listen, Tom, you silly,
Here's a rhyme for Philly.

MORIARITY.

QUOTING our comment upon "J. Barton MacPherson, acknowledged embalmer of the U. S.," the official organ of the Walnut Street Business Association says:

The MacPherson firm is the only undertaking establishment having representation in our association.

And, lifting our delicately arched eyebrows, we pause to inquire—that proves what?

Dear Tom—What's in a name? These are culled from the telephone book: Doctor Shoemaker, Seventeenth and Chestnut streets, is a dentist, while Joe Dentist, on Fifty-second street, is a shoemaker; William Clothier, Fourth and Walnut streets, is a banker, and H. P. Banks, of Frankford, is a clothing dealer. W. F. M.

BEWARE THE BUNKHOUND!

Serving the City Beautiful He Bites All Unlovely Things

WE TOOK a long chance yesterday and allowed the Bunkhound to run about the streets without any leash at all. He made straight for the City Hall courtyard, and with leaps and snorts approached the wooden exhibit building there. We thought for a moment that he meant to tear it to pieces, but he probably didn't consider it worthy of his tusks. At any rate, he didn't bite it at all.

Well, the Bunkhound is in fine condition, and he expects to be busy all day tomorrow eating up two iron dogs, couchant, on a tiny lawn at Thirty-ninth street and Woodland avenue.

In an article in the Inland Printer upon "Cultivating the Ugly," Stephen H. Horgan takes a crack at the Modern Art Collector, the mouthpiece of the wild ones, and presents these four wallpaper designs for your consideration—but let it not be too near your bedtime:

AND here's that sweet singer of "Heart Songs and Home Songs" back again:

AMERICA FIRST

Whatever the shores that your forefathers hailed from,
Whatever the flags that they fought for afar,
Whatever the lands that yourselves may have sailed from,
Today you must cherish the land where you are.
Today you are sons of this nation of nations,
Untroubled by war and its spirit accurst;
So, guarding your souls against racial temptations,
Let this be your motto: "America first!"

This nation of ours every people has greeted,
Has welcomed them in to partake of her cheer;
And even the humblest, despised and defeated,
Have felt themselves men when they found themselves here.
The victims of systems and dynasties royal
With her have found freedom, their dreams to fulfill,
And surely such hearts will not now be disloyal
To her and her spirit of peace and good-will.

God keep from our shores the dread issue of battle;
God keep from our country the curse we abhor.
They speak not the mind of the nation who prattle
So lightly of plunging the land into war.
But if, proving futile our peaceful endeavor,
The tempest of war on her borders should burst—
Then, then, whatsoever your race, you must never
Forget the great watchword, "America first!"

DENIS A. McCARTHY.

"HEY, WHY DON'T YOU CONDUCT A DIGNIFIED CAMPAIGN!"

THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Why the Clearview District Objects to the Way the Car Tracks Are Laid on Island Road—Jamaica Ginger and the Drink Evil—The Single Tax

This Department is free to all readers who wish to express their opinions on subjects of current interest. It is an open forum, and the Evening Ledger assumes no responsibility for the views of its correspondents. Letters must be signed by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

ISLAND ROAD CAR TRACKS

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger:

Sir—So many different accounts of the injunction proceedings taken against the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company by the taxpayers, citizens and residents of the sixteenth division of the Fortieth Ward, as reported in the daily press, that I take the liberty of requesting you to publish this letter:

It was incorrect, as stated in the newspapers, that the residents of this locality, the part of the Fortieth Ward known as Clearview, from Elmwood avenue and Island road to Lyons avenue, objected to a second track being placed on Island road, nor were we concerned because the tracks were laid twenty feet apart instead of twenty-one feet six inches.

But what was of most interest to us was that from Elmwood avenue to Lyons avenue, on Island road, there is no sidewalk for the pedestrian.

For a distance of several squares the tracks are laid on the extreme sides of the street, with a bank four feet high within two feet of the track. The bank is surmounted with a fence, and on the other side of the street, within two feet of the track, there is a ditch from about two to three feet deep, and with also a fence on the other side of the ditch, and persons traveling the road from Lyons avenue to Elmwood avenue must either walk in the street between the track, or on the car tracks themselves.

By actual count taken for twelve hours on Saturday, September 9, there were 700 automobiles and teams, 425 cars and 1191 men, women and children passed through one square on Island road, from Bulst avenue to Elmwood avenue, not taking into consideration the persons who must cross the tracks at Bulst avenue to board the cars.

The tracks are laid on the road in such a manner that teams cannot go on them should a congestion occur, for the reason that they are five inches above the street, with nothing between the rails, in the same manner as steam railroads are laid, a high rail instead of a flat rail being used, or a flat grooved rail as is usual in city streets.

These are the reasons why we have objected to the operating of another track on Island road, and we are informed that the city of Philadelphia has granted a permit to the transit company to create these dangerous conditions, therefore, the traction company can proceed to kill and maim because of the permit granted.

If any of us gets killed or hurt through being on the track, out of the way of teams and automobiles, we have no redress—we have no right there, and if we get hurt or run over in the roadway, there is nothing we can do. Why? Because we should be on the sidewalk, and if there are no sidewalks, where, may I ask, are we to walk?

These are the conditions that have aroused the residents.

JAMES WARNER.

Philadelphia, September 16.

INSISTS IT IS A PANACEA

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger:

Sir—Let us hope your designation of the single tax as a "panacea" was not given in an ironical or flippant manner. We claim it is a panacea for the evil of industrial slavery, because, as all men must draw all their sustenance from land, it naturally follows that if access to land is made easier and cheaper more land will be profitably used and the production of wealth would increase. This the single tax will do. Let us consider the situation of today. In all the large cities hundreds and thousands of vacant lots abound. No labor has ever been expended on them, they furnish no shops, factories or homes to the community or customers for the existing capitalists and laborers, but the price asked by the owners may be very high, because these owners know that if the city continues to grow in population some one will pay the price to get the landlords out of the way, and then he can put the vacant lots to work, in furnishing employment to laborers and capitalists in erecting shops, factories and homes, which will soon be occupied with customers for the existing merchants and tradesmen. The single tax would abolish all the taxes on the products of labor and capital and would levy a tax (to the extent of the full rental value) on the land. Land would then only show a profit to the holder when used. Competition among those who would use land would then be so great to employ laborers that industrial slavery would cease to exist. It would then be the employer, not the employe, who would go around hat in hand asking for consideration.

OLIVER M. KNIGHT.

Philadelphia, September 9.

THE DRINK EVIL

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger:

Sir—No sincerely minded temperance man, realizing the blighting effect of the drink habit and the terrible enormity of the drink traffic, can read without some degree of resentment Mr. Gilmore's letter in the EVENING LEDGER of the 12th inst. in its effort to bring into disrepute the temperance legislation which has been enacted for the suppression of this monstrous evil. Ill does it become any man these days to attempt to defend strong drink. It has long ago been repudiated by those who are in a position to speak authoritatively upon the subject, among Judges, philanthropists, scientists, physicians, preachers, penal experts and criminologists, and it is a serious reflection upon a man's intelligence these days for him to question the evident justice of the powerful indictment that society has already placed upon the booze habit and the booze business. No one can plead ignorance of the formidable array of sins that lies at the door of the open dram shop. Mr. Gilmore's reference to the use of Jamaica ginger in Kansas is only too sad a commentary upon the shameful weakness of those who cannot or will not emancipate themselves from the demon of the still, but in the clutches of that demon are being inevitably dragged down to the death in perdition that knows no resurrection.

The good people of Kansas and other States who uphold and sustain the salutary prohibition laws, and the people who resort to any dangerous expedient to gratify their unnatural passion for the destroying stuff are not one and the same people. The former are the conservators of the best interests of the State, its welfare, its morals, its progress, its health, its happiness. The latter are the debauched, mania-potu victims of a vicious demoralizing system that long before this should have met its doom at the hands of a free, enlightened Christian people. Kansas wants to take no back step on this question. There may be some few alcoholic degenerates in Kansas, as elsewhere, who openly, publicly, as well as surreptitiously, override all the safeguards that society has placed in their way to prevent their headlong rush to destruction.

It is only too sadly true that after society has done its very best to save men from disaster, there still remains enough of the initiative to the ill-disposed as to enable the latter to wreak misery, woe and disaster upon themselves and upon others as well. Never will such conditions ever obtain in any state of society that will transfer the character-making factors from the individual himself to the corporate body of the State. But one question I should like to ask our friend Gilmore, and it is this, How can any man professing any regard for the welfare of his brother-man ally himself in an attitude antagonistic toward those forces that are calculated to conserve the highest good of the people, to shield and safeguard the weak from their own self-destructive, suicidal hand, and save the innocent and the helpless from an endless amount of sorrow and suffering?

WALTER W. HUBBARD.

Philadelphia, September 16.

NATIONAL POINT OF VIEW

Mr. Hughes has not only climbed the mountain heights, but he has most comprehensively overturned the Democratic Hopefest.—Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

Birmingham is the logical place for the Government armor plant and deserves the prize, despite the fact that it is located in the "solid South."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

It seems that the armor plate plant should be placed somewhere in the central territory, for it then will be safer from attack, and it also will be closer to the ore fields and the bituminous coal supply. It is reasonably certain that the winning city must be on the Great Lakes or on either the Ohio or Mississippi river, for cheap transportation of at least some of the materials is essential.—Indianapolis News.

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.

QUIZ

1. How is Concord, the name of the Massachusetts town where the Revolutionary battle was fought, pronounced?
2. What is a "pocket veto"?
3. What is meant when it is said that one vessel blankets another?
4. Explain the phrase "the Ides of March."
5. What is a virus?
6. What States, or parts of States, are now included in what was once the Louisiana Territory?
7. Name three members of the United States Supreme Court.
8. What does the "raison d'etre" mean?
9. What is the latitude and longitude of Philadelphia?
10. There are three arks, told of in the Old Testament. One was Noah's. What were the others?

Answers to Saturday's Quiz

1. Bashibazouks: irregular Turkish troops.
2. A superdreadnought can hit a target at a maximum distance of about eleven or twelve miles.
3. Thomas R. Marshall is Vice President of the United States.
4. Small cotton crops mean high prices and large ones small profits. Part of the crop has sometimes been destroyed in order to keep up the price.
5. Printing and publishing leads as the industry here with the largest value of annual product.
6. Frets: pieces of wood or metal placed transversely on the finger-boards of stringed instruments to mark off the intervals.
7. Sir Henry Bessemer (1813-98): English inventor who originated and developed a process for making steel.
8. "Crocker Land": reported by Peary to have been seen in the Arctic region. A mirage is an optical delusion caused by certain atmospheric conditions which make distant objects appear nearby, upside down or multiple.
9. Parthenon: the temple of Athene on the Acropolis of Athens.
10. Baseball has gradually evolved during a century. What is said by some to have been virtually the same as the modern game was played in 1833, but most authorities give the date for the beginning of the national game as 1858.

Reserve Banks

R. A.—(1) Every national bank is required to become a stockholder in the Federal Reserve bank of the district in which it is situated, and any State bank or trust company which complies with certain specified requirements is permitted to become a member bank. (2) Each member bank is required to subscribe to the stock of the Federal Reserve bank of its district in the amount equal to six per cent of its paid-up capital stock and surplus. The Federal Reserve bank does not do business with the public in the sense that banks usually do. It is made a depository for a certain proportion of the reserve of all the member banks, and, in addition, may also be a depository for Government funds. An important function is as a bank of issue and redemption of currency, for it may secure from the Treasury Government notes known as Federal Reserve notes, which it is authorized to issue against commercial paper with a minimum gold reserve of forty per cent. Besides this, Federal Reserve banks are granted certain powers in the matter of operations in the open market, such as the purchase of commercial paper, foreign exchange, etc., and in a general way are expected to perform important functions as clearing houses between their member banks.

Area of Alsace

G. McG.—The area of Alsace-Lorraine is 5603 square miles.

The Deutschland

D. S. F.—Your doubts as to the return of the submarine Deutschland to Germany are hardly well founded. There would be no reason for the Germans to keep her at sea, as she is not armed, and if the British had captured her the fact would doubtless have been made known. The captain of the vessel was reported to have been interviewed by foreign correspondents and this should put her safe return out of the realm of doubt.

Election of Judges

W. D. R.—The Judges are nominated under the nonpartisan act, the names of candidates being placed on the ballots by petition. If it is found that a candidate is not qualified for election after the primary, the law provides that the vacancy shall be filled by "the otherwise unnominated and not so disentitled candidate for the same office next in rank with respect to the number of votes received at such primary." The candidates do not represent parties; they are not considered to have party affiliations.

WHAT'S IN A NAME IN CITY DIRECTORY?

Suffragists Insist on Justice of Recognizing Married Women in That Publication

Suffragists want the names of married women in the Philadelphia city directory. If not separately, they want the names printed in parentheses directly after their husband's name. It would be a good thing, they say—a recognition of the married woman that she does not now have. As far as the directory has it, the married woman, they say, is a nonentity or something of that sort, while the widow and the unmarried woman may find their names in the lists with the men.

"As a suffragist," said Miss Caroline Katzenstein, executive secretary of the Equal Franchise Society, "I welcome the recognition of the heretofore silent partner in the housekeeping firm. I cannot understand why women should be penalized by being omitted from public documents like directories while unmarried women are thought worth recording. I have no personal grievance, but am making an abstract fight.

"Surely if Mrs. John Jones is material for directories after Mr. Jones's death, she should be equally valuable while he lives. Directories should be public documents where the addresses of adult human beings are recorded."

William G. Torchiana, president of the Directory Publishers' Association, says that to gather and publish the names of Philadelphia married women in the directory would be impossible because of the extra cost.

The city directory of Rochester, N. Y., recently published, contains the names of married women. The Rochester Chamber of Commerce is said to have inaugurated the innovation in an attempt to decrease the amount of divorce litigation. It was decided that, by publishing the name of a man's wife directly after his name in the directory, he could not deceive any one about the matter when the directory was accessible.

THE UNKNOWABLE CITY

Brooklyn is the Asia of the cities, so mysterious, engulfing. From Greenpoint to Brighton, from the Narrows to East New York, it encompasses a land and a people too large for one mind to comprehend. Many may know a few parts of it, as Fulton street, where all the clocks keep different time and the roar of traffic deafens the traveler from Manhattan. A few may know many parts of it; these usually are chronic movers or else veteran trolley conductors. But a man may know a thousand places in Brooklyn and yet not know that he knows it all or even a fat fraction of it.—New York Sun.