

Evening Ledger

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Philadelphia, Saturday, December 9, 1916.

Oh, it is excellent
 To have a giant's strength; but it is
 To use it like a giant.
 —Shakespeare.

Do you hear any one kicking about
 the high cost of pleasure?
 Isn't the congressional demand for
 pork partly responsible after all for
 the high cost of living?

Speaking about Christmas presents,
 why not arrange to have a Parkway go
 through your yard, too?

Mr. Carranza may not be interested
 in French verse forms, but he would
 doubtless be delighted if he could hear
 the Villa knell.

The war has done more to achieve
 the purposes of scientific socialism than
 could have been accomplished in a thousand
 years by argument.

Ambassador Gerard called for Ger-
 many without any peace plans, but he
 took with him four tons of good Ameri-
 can food.

John Bull is not afraid to swap
 horses while crossing a stream; especially
 when he finds that the one he is riding
 has balked when halfway over.

Would make Sullivan trail a State
 road—Hendrix.
 It is more important just now to
 make the trail to the hiding place of the
 men responsible for crooked insurance a
 well-marked highway.

"Brumbaugh the Misdemeanorist"
 is M. J. Ryan's title for the Governor.
 But who is in a more advantageous position,
 with his every word printed and
 respectfully weighed, to make himself
 understood?

The usual scenes marked the opening
 of Congress, according to reports, one
 of them, of course, being Uncle Joe
 Cannon—Indianapolis News.

Uncle Joe is more than a scene. He
 is a whole play in five acts and an epilogue.

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 suit should go on as defense or to be
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 States will find it has a new and alert
 competitor for sea trade when it begins
 tardily to rehabilitate its merchant ma-
 rine. Our shippers are busy, it is true,
 but a large part of the work is for the
 navy, for the coastwise trade and for
 foreigners.

SERGEANT BRUCAMPS

MR. SIMONDS, who valorously fol-
 lowed Belloc and Cecil Chesterton
 in declaring that Germany was perma-
 nently beaten at the Marne, turns
 pessimist and is teaching his colleagues
 of the New York Tribune to recite those
 touching lines:

"We are lost" the captain shouted,
 As he staggered down the stairs.

Mr. Brucamps, however, writes to the
 EVENING LEDGER direct from the
 trenches, on remarkably clean notepaper,
 that it's an awful bore waiting between
 attacks, and that he'd like one of our
 "lecturers" (woman readers) to adopt him
 as a godson at long range and exchange
 chatty letters with him. Between the
 opinion of military experts at more or
 less distance from the trenches and the
 opinion of Sergeant Brucamps (he tosses
 off the fact in passing that he's about to
 be promoted to that rank from corporal),
 we are inclined to accept the Sergeant's.
 He doesn't express any.

A small war is settled in terms of terri-
 tory won or lost. A great war is settled
 only by a change of heart. What happens
 to Serbia, Poland and Belgium, we make
 bold to say, is not so important as how
 it happens. The war—or, rather, the
 wars—will go on until the bullying spirit
 has been humbled. The Allies have not
 won because they adopted as bullying a
 tone as Prussia's. They started to parcel
 out the German lands in August, 1914.
 However much of a lie it may have been
 when the Kaiser told his people he was
 fighting in self-defense, that lie soon
 turned out to be the truth, as they could
 very plainly see. To know the truth and
 fight on heroically in self-defense, right
 or wrong, this has been the secret of
 German success.

When the Allies are ready to restore
 Germany's colonies, or internationalize
 all colonies, guarantee the use of trade
 routes to all nations, propose interna-
 tional protectorates for the small con-
 quered countries, including Alsace-Lor-
 raine, they will be ready to start the war
 against Prussian bullying with a clean
 slate. When that happens Sergeant Bru-
 camps will forget his sentimental accept-
 ance of boredom and gentle yearning for
 fair godmothers. He will have an opinion
 that will startle Berlin.

MORE ASSESSMENT FACTS

WHAT explanation will the Board of
 Revision of Taxes find for the dis-
 closure of underassessment made by E.
 M. Harris?

This gentleman six months ago bought
 a North Broad street lot for \$27,000
 which was assessed at \$18,000. He paid
 \$10,000 for another lot whose owner six
 months earlier had sworn before the
 Board of Revision that it was worth only
 \$6000, and he had great difficulty in per-
 suading the man to accept the larger
 figure. He wanted more, Mr. Harris
 owns a new garage which he would not
 sell for \$50,000, but his assessment on
 it is only \$35,000. He mentions a piece
 of property in the vicinity of Market
 and Twenty-third streets, assessed at
 \$125,000, which, at the prevailing prices
 of land in that neighborhood, is worth
 \$400,000.

The man who can afford to hold a
 piece of property worth \$400,000 is cer-
 tainly better able to pay taxes on a fair
 valuation than the man who finds it
 difficult to pay taxes on a \$5000 valua-
 tion of a home which he would be un-
 able to sell for that sum.

An increased tax rate we have, but
 a revision of assessments is not yet on
 the calendar.

SPEAKING OF THE NAVY

I feel it my duty to warn as sol-
 emnly as I may against the danger that
 lies in a possible feeling on the part of
 our people that the navy has now been
 attended to—Secretary Baile.

WE HASTEN to measure the Secre-
 tary. The people will not feel that
 the navy has been attended to until they
 know that Josephus has been attended to.

EXPERIMENTS IN CHEAP MEALS

IT COST only twenty-eight and a half
 cents a day to feed the Chicago
 diet experimenters for the second week.
 Health Commissioner Robertson an-
 nounced, when he began, that he could
 feed a family on forty cents a day for
 each person. He has proved that the
 average cost for two weeks was only
 thirty-one cents. He says that if he
 had continued his experiment for an-
 other week he could have reduced the
 cost to twenty-five cents. This sum is
 much nearer the amount the average
 workman can afford for his family than
 the original estimate of the commis-
 sioner. The experiment has value for
 the families of only comfortable incomes.
 The meals supplied were varied and ex-
 cellent, as good as the average American
 family eats. As prices are not likely to
 come down for a long time, and as the
 salaries of men must live on his old pay,
 the commissioner seems to have pointed
 out the way to make both ends meet.
 We avail, with interest, the report of
 the results of the similar experiment in
 progress at the University here.

Tom Daly's Column

THE VILLAGE POET

When Peter hits a Saturday an' all my
 work is through
 I take him out on Chestnut street to see
 what news is new.

But what I really say to him, the while
 we're on our way,
 Is: "Johnny, if you see fine of you to etel
 me today,
 An' now the h. b. season is a thing that's
 past an' gone
 Mayhap nobody'll mind if you discuss it
 no an' coo;
 I'd really like to pull a scoop on dear old
 Granddaddy Rice,
 An' if you'll only help me I'll report you,
 John, as 'nice."

But Johnny answered, "Can the bull an'
 nix upon the pab!
 Folks only recognize me when you write
 me down a 'crab."

"But listen, John," I say to him, "the
 guys who know you best,
 Who realize the work you do has weath-
 ered every test,
 Believe that if you'd speak your mind an'
 tell us what you know
 This burg might learn a lesson as to
 how to thrive an' grow;
 That if you'd only tell the way you play
 the h. b. game
 A lot of folks might profit by their study
 of the saws."

But John he looked reproachful an' said:
 "Nix upon the pab!
 Folks only recognize me when you write
 me down a 'crab."

That's why, despairing of the chance I
 finally hoped to
 of drawing helpful lessons from the
 thought I had in mind,
 When Peter hits a Saturday an' all my
 work is through
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 what news is new.

Musings of a Motorist

There is lots of broken glass on the roads
 these mornings and it's almost all in
 one piece.
 If you see a car ahead wabbling around
 and acting foolish generally, and given that
 the driver isn't drunk, it's either:
 1. He's trying to fight his pipe and
 steer at the same time, or
 2. He's a woman.

Early Doors

The gentle spring has come and gone
 The summer days have went,
 The melancholy days of fall
 Have all been gone and spent.
 That brings us up to winter time,
 With that old Christmas myth,
 "Go do your shoppin' early."
 Yes, but tell me please—what with?
 MINNIE HA-HA.

Re the R

Dear Sir:—See the papers, as Mr.
 Dooley would say, that the subject of
 medical education on the basis of full-time
 professorships is being agitated for Philadel-
 phia, following some action toward
 a similar arrangement in Chicago. It is
 suggested that as the professors in medical
 schools are usually chosen from among
 "great authorities" in their special fields,
 both in the eyes of the profession and in
 the eyes of the public, those chosen are
 primarily too busy with their practice and
 consultations properly to prepare for and
 give the time and effort to their work of
 teaching.

While there may be a question as to
 whether those less successfully busy with
 their practice would be fit and whether
 money enough could be offered to induce
 the "great authorities" to leave their special
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CHILD TERRORS IN MOVIES

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