

Evening Ledger

PUBLIC LEDGER COMPANY
CYRUS H. K. CURTIS, President
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Published daily at Public Ledger Building, Independence Square, Philadelphia.
Subscription prices: One year, \$10.00; Six months, \$6.00; Three months, \$3.50.

THE AVERAGE NET PAID DAILY CIRCULATION OF THE EVENING LEDGER FOR DECEMBER WAS 119,816

ON THE SIDE OF HUMANITY
The United States has taken its stand squarely in opposition to German fightfulness. The break has come because of the entrance of Germany upon a new and extended policy of disregard of all the principles of humanity in warfare.

War makes its own conditions, but we have registered our protest against a course which began with the sinking of the Lusitania and is now to be extended to as many Lusitanias as may come within reach of the submarines.

RIGHTS OF GERMAN IN AMERICA
In the event of war no German in America has anything to fear so long as he obeys the laws. His rights are protected by the treaty with Prussia ratified in 1828, which continued in force the provisions of the treaty of 1799.

SHALL SUBMARINES RULE THE WORLD?
The German Government has counted the loss it would be likely to suffer through attempting to destroy the world's commerce, but it has also counted its possible gain.

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THE more so because torpedo-boat destroyers have already sunk or captured scores of submarines and proved they are not invincible. The problem that confronts the Allies and will confront America if it is forced into the war is that of building enough destroyers to wipe out these vermin of the seas.

IT'S UP TO GERMANY NOW

The President makes it very clear in his address to Congress that the break with Germany is not yet war.

He gives to Germany the benefit of every conceivable doubt when he says: I refuse to believe that it is the intention of the German authorities to do in fact what they have warned us they will do.

This is a fair warning to Germany. The issues of peace or war are in her hands. If she wishes to increase the number of her enemies by adding to them this great and powerful nation the way has been pointed out.

STATUS OF THE HOUSATONIC

When war broke out in August, 1914, the Housatonic was a German merchant ship, belonging to the Hamburg-American company.

She was sold on April 16, 1915, nearly nine months after the war began, to an American syndicate, in disregard of the rule of international law that a merchant ship belonging to a belligerent nation may not be transferred to a neutral flag after the beginning of hostilities.

She was chartered by an English company and put in the service of English commerce. Her last voyage was from Texas to England with a cargo of grain.

When the Administration was considering enlarging the American merchant marine by the purchase of the German ships tied up in our ports, it was asserted by the international lawyers in the Senate that the Government would buy an international dispute, if not war, with every ship it purchased.

SPEAKS FOR ALL NEUTRALS
The President said in his address to Congress: 'I take it for granted that all neutral Governments will take the same course.'

This statement he has promptly followed up by appealing to them directly and officially to break with Germany.

The neutral nations have indeed looked to the United States for leadership since the day the Lusitania was sunk. They have suffered the same and even worse indignities that crime heaped upon America. Their protests could be laughed to scorn while Germany sank the ships of all weak neutrals, refraining only from defying the one great neutral Power.

Spain is stirred to a fever heat of wrath by the loss of Spanish lives on a torpedoed Greek steamship. Never since the start of the war has that Government come so near the end of pacific relations with Germany.

WHAT THE NAVY MAY HAVE TO DO

Small Ships Can Be Used to Convoy Merchantmen and Battleships Reserved to Repel Attack

By a NAVAL EXPERT
In the event of this country joining with the enemies of Germany, it would appear that the principal work at first will devolve on the navy.

It would seem that our work would be to relieve the navies of the belligerents from the peace of the sea so that all their efforts may be used near at home.

The efficient Bureau of Operations of the Navy Department has been planning for two years for just this emergency and all ready for action when the emergency goes forth.

Relieving the Allied Navies
All small craft has been listed, and what each one may do to assist the navy has been mapped out.

What the navy must do at once, then, is to put every ship of the destroyer type in commission and every craft it has less than the best battleships at work at once in relieving the forces of England and France on the ocean.

After the destroyers are fitted out there comes the question of the mosquito craft, of which the navy will need at least a thousand.

Battleships Ready for a Rush
The picture then shows the battleship fleet securely placed in a safe harbor ready for instant rush in case a strong enemy force should get past the English and French coasts.

JUSTIFIES GERMANY
To the Editor of the Evening Ledger:
Sir—The intensely justifiable position which Germany has now taken is squarely that of a nation which has been wronged.

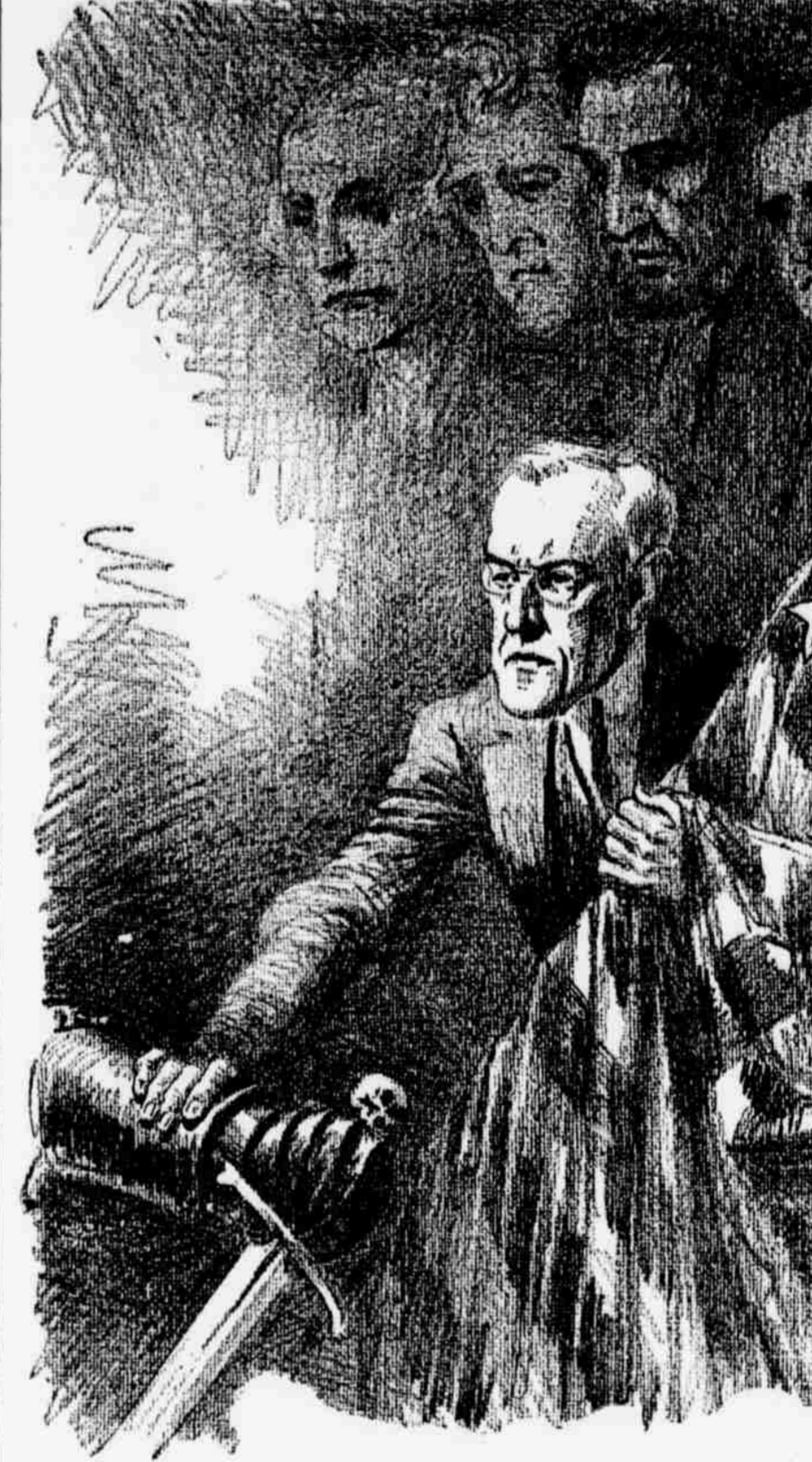
PROGRESS OF TAX REFORM
To the Editor of the Evening Ledger:
Sir—It begins to look as though the reform wave that has just spread over North Dakota will not only cover the adjoining States, but will probably not stop until it has swept the entire West.

NOT AFRAID OF GOLD
It has remained for the Federal Reserve Board to discover there is a mighty portent of evil in "the excessive and uncontrolled inflow of gold."

SAM LOYD'S PUZZLE
THE combined weight of a bottle and tumbler equals the weight of a pitcher. The bottle weighs equal to the tumbler and a plate.

ANSWER TO SATURDAY'S PUZZLE
THE boy must have been five years of age.

"I CAN DO NOTHING LESS"



THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

American Neutrality Attacked—Germany Justified in Her Fight for Her Life—Arguments in Favor of the Single Tax. Prohibition That Does Not Prohibit

AMERICAN NEUTRALITY
To the Editor of the Evening Ledger:
Sir—I wish to be informed through your columns of the meaning of the word 'neutrality'.

PROHIBITION THAT FAILS
To the Editor of the Evening Ledger:
Sir—Here is a curious parallel that suggests more than a coincidence.

A PRINCIPLE: NOT A RACE
The Poles who live in those portions of Prussia and Russia which were torn from Poland in 1772 by the first partition have preserved for the 145 years that have elapsed since that day an undying loyalty to the ideal of Polish independence.

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Tom Daly's Column

TO THE GROWLER
Be patient! Be a Christian and forbear to oburgate the weather man and stress because the sting of winter's in the air.

THE CRISIS
The crisis, sir, is a burial bold. When the color is not around, Or warner yet, a basted pipe, When the plumber can't be found.

THE COLONEL simply can't keep still. The only other man in the country qualified by actual experience to tell what his him is Doctor Taft, and he won't.

Reason Enough
We question of the baker, "Each morning at the door, "Why don't you leave a man's size loaf As was your wont before?"

A Letter From the Front
(Received by a Philadelphia Italian, Translated by our own Italian interpreter.)
" My Dear Mother— I have your letter in which you appear to be afraid of being called to the colors while the war is still going on.

SENATOR SUTHERLAND, of Utah, is reported to have said: "The use of a new weapon does not alter international law. The killing of an American by gunpowder when gunpowder was first invented was no less murder because it was performed with a new instrument."

Collier
J. W. C. B.—A collier, to be registered, must be pedigreed and the sire and dam must have been registered before January 1 of the year in which application is made.

Fairmont Park's Name
T. W.—Fairmont Park derives its name from the Robert Morris five-acre estate, Fairmount, which the city purchased in 1812.

Center of Population
B. C.—The center of population in this country is at Bloomington, Ind.

Secret Service
STUDENT—William J. Flynn is chief of the Secret Service division of the Treasury Department.