

Evening Ledger

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Philadelphia, Wednesday, March 7, 1917
The loyal majority in Congress is large enough to prevent the acceptance of the Iron Cross by any Senator.

Mr. Knox has taken the oath of office, and Pennsylvania can now be said to have a representative in the United States Senate.
We hope those submarine nets at the mouth of the Delaware won't prevent the shad from paying their annual call a little later.

The Pennsylvania Railroad carries a ton of freight six miles to earn a cent profit, yet people talk about exorbitant rates!

There is a prevailing suspicion that the insanity plea is being resorted to a second time in the Thaw case to get the man out of the toils of the courts.

There should be no compromise on the U-boat issue with Austria unless she agrees to the three cardinal requirements of sufficient warning, right of search and safety for noncombatants.

Ten boys were sent to Washington for the inauguration ceremonies on the strength of having written prize essays on "What I Would Do If I Were President." They can thank their stars they don't have to try to do it.

The Congressional Union suffragists have abandoned picketing the President temporarily, till some of them can think up a new course. There is one consolation in the thought that they can't think of anything more idiotic.

The opening of a dark room by a local hotel suggests to householders one way of reducing the high cost of living. A light meal in a dark room might be as satisfying as corned beef and cabbage with the gas on full.

As the President was speaking to the world as well as to the United States in his inaugural address, he has very properly had copies of it forwarded to all foreign Governments, that they may know authoritatively for what his nation stands.

"If you and your friend, Senator La Follette," writes Alton B. Parker to Bryan, "had gone to heaven three years ago Germany would not have attempted to drive the United States from the seas." Which many will subscribe to, after amending the eleventh word.

The American Life Extension Institute should open an annex to demonstrate how to get the twenty-five per day to provide the necessary 3000-odd calories, otherwise the "free-lunch" route will continue to alternate with the "hand-outs" for a number of distinguished citizens.

It isn't so many years ago that Prince Alexander successfully marched the Bulgarian troops against the Serbians and whipped them to the tune of "Daddy Wouldn't Buy Me a Bowwow"—the only one the band knew. That tune was at the time a prime favorite at Tony Pastor's theatre in New York. And now Bulgaria wants to break with the U. S. What ingratitude!

Guards have been placed about the pumping plants and reservoirs of the Philadelphia water supply system to protect them from the attack of German sympathizers. The New York water supply system is similarly guarded. Watchers have been placed in the subway in New York to protect the rapid transit system. The railroad companies throughout the eastern United States are taking great pains to protect their bridges from dynamite. Sentinels are watching the plants of the great industrial corporations lest they be damaged. All this is happening in spite of the attempts of civilized nations for generations to engage war to the actual combatants. People and property away from the battlefields were safe in the great wars of recent years. Unfortified cities were immune to attack by armed forces. Merchant ships on the high seas were searched for contraband, but even when contraband was found on board the lives of passengers and crews were protected. Nothing more humane practices have been observed in the war of British-

of noncombatants who... The United States is protesting against this policy of... It must join with the other nations in formulating rules of war which will prevent a recurrence of anything of the kind in the future and will effectively protect from destruction all lives and property outside of the war area.

CONVENTION HALL
THE city is confronted by architectural, engineering and financial problems arising out of the Convention Hall project. Plans were made for a structure to cost \$3,000,000, but the Supreme Court has held that as only \$1,843,000 has been voted by the people, the city may not start the larger structure as originally planned until sufficient money has been appropriated.

The Mayor has suggested that a small hall to accommodate 6000 people be erected with the money in hand; that the exhibition building of the Commercial Museum be used for gatherings that need more room, and that for such an assembly as a national nominating convention a temporary structure be put up.

There are thousands of business men here who would be pleased if the Mayor and his advisers could find a way within the restrictions of the Supreme Court decision to revise the plans for the great hall to cost \$3,000,000 in such a way that it could be built in sections, each section complete within itself, but capable of being connected with those built in the future.

AUSTRIA TRIES TO DODGE
AUSTRIA'S purpose is so beclouded in the mesh of subtleties in its submarine note that that document must be considered rather as an attempted opening for further negotiations than as an answer to the American question.

The note tries to establish an infinite number of distinct principles of action between the two extremes of sinking with warning and sinking without warning. The conduct of the submarine commander would all depend on the kind of vessel attacked, what it was carrying, its obvious or probable intentions, and so on.

The Administration took three days to consider the German note of January 31 before breaking off relations, and will doubtless take an even longer time to unravel the Austrian tangle of contradictory tentacles.

The decision will be of extraordinary importance. It is conceivable that upon it will ultimately depend the question of peace or war, for a break with Austria would probably be followed by breaks with Turkey and Bulgaria. If we were at odds with all four Central Powers the chances of our being drawn into the conflict would be increased fourfold.

U-BOATS NOT ON THE JOB
THE splendid work of the British navy in the last few days in trapping or intimidating U-boats and their commanders is the one bright ray of hope in a depressing situation. It would not restore American prestige if the British exterminated them while Congress split hairs, month after month, over our manifest duty to defy these pirates with armed force, but it would remove the peril to civilization which a German victory gained through intolerable barbarity would visit upon the world.

The first five days of February saw 31 ships sunk, 41,887 tons; the last five days, 33 ships, 109,165 tons. But in the first five days of March only three ships, a total of 6376 tons, are reported sunk. No doubt there were other sinkings, still to be reported, but if there had been anything like the February records accomplished by the Germans, it is likely that through reports of ships overdue the hidden truth could not be so long concealed.

In the past the submarine campaigns have come "in waves," the undersea nations making a raid simultaneously so as to keep the British destroyers busy in several places at once, thus dividing their strength. Possibly this strategy is again resorted to and the German fleet is home getting supplies for a new raid. But this was not the theory of the new campaign as announced. There were declared to be many new U-boats that there would be no cessation of activities. England will do no act of self-defense if there are to be

FILIBUSTERS IN THE SENATE

Why Rules That Make Them Possible Are Defended—Unsuccessful Attempts to Stop Debate

By GEORGE W. DOUGLAS
SENATOR BACON, of Georgia, Democrat, now dead, said some years ago that the House of Representatives does not legislate.

"In its haste it does no more than to suggest legislation. The Senate puts the legislation into proper form." This is a notoriously correct description of what takes place in Washington. The House has been known to pass a tariff bill with virtually no discussion of its provisions. All debates have been shut off and the bill has been jammed through to the orders of the caucus agreed to by a majority of the party in power, though not necessarily a majority of the members of the House. Then the Senate, acting under its rules which permit unlimited debate, has whipped the bill into shape and sent it back to the House. Conference committees have adjusted the differences between the two bodies and from critics on the outside. But this is not the case with the bill to amend the rules of the Senate. The rules of the Senate have been subjected to frequent attack from members within the body and from critics on the outside. But this is not the case with the bill to amend the rules of the Senate.

The Foreign Practice
The Senate rules have been in force since 1809. The Irish House of Commons has unlimited debate and always has. The House of Commons ordinarily permitted it until 1832, when the obstructive tactics adopted by the Irish members led the party in power to make an effort to restrict a bill to a vote on a definite date regardless of the wish of obstructionists to speak upon it.

Justification for the present rules is found by their defenders in what they assert is the fact that they have rarely if ever prevented the passage of a bill which was sincerely supported by a majority of the Senators. It has happened on more than one occasion that the Senate has consented that a bill should be talked to death when it did not seem to be in any way important. This happened in the closing days of the session in 1901, when Senator Carter, of Montana, held the floor for thirteen hours and prevented the passage of a bill which President McKinley would have vetoed the measure if it had been passed, and a large number of Senators who did not care to go on record as voting against it.

Filibusters Don't Always Succeed
The passage of the force bill authorizing the stationing of Federal troops at polling places in the harbors of New York and New York City was prevented by a filibuster led by Senator Gorman. After a continuous session of twenty-four hours the Democrats succeeded by a parliamentary device in starting a discussion of free trade with Germany, and the filibuster was ended. This sidetracked the force bill and killed it.

That a filibuster, using the opportunity for unlimited debate, cannot succeed is an undoubted fact. The majority in the Senate has proved in the extraordinary session of Congress called by President Cleveland in 1893 to repeal the Sherman silver purchase law. Senator Butler, of South Carolina, roared off at independence at the demand for White House.

The session began in August. The fight continued week after week until it reached a climax in the middle of October, when the Senate was kept in continuous session for thirty-five hours and forty minutes. The session adjourned through the exhaustion of the members. The Sherman law, however, was repealed.

EDMUND H. CIENKOWSKI
Philadelphia, March 2.
PUBLIC SERVICE
To the Editor of the Evening Ledger:
Sir—The Evening Ledger has certainly provided a public benefactor in breaking up the camps of the gypsy swindlers who, under the pretense of telling fortunes, preyed on a too credulous public.

RAILROAD PRECAUTIONS
To the Editor of the Evening Ledger:
Sir—Referring to the recent accident on the Pennsylvania Railroad at Mount Union Station, in which twenty lives were lost, the thought has occurred to me that an added precaution on the part of the railroad might possibly minimize the danger to passengers. At Mount Union, and also in the wreck of the Bar Harbor express on the New Haven Railroad some two years ago, nearly all the fatalities were among the occupants of the rear-end sleeping cars.

Most of the through trains carry baggage cars, and without exception these cars are placed next to the locomotive. Why would it not be better and far safer to put the baggage cars on the rear end of the train? It seems to me that had this been done in both cases referred to the loss of life would have been very small, and unless there is some very good reason for the present arrangement of trains, I believe this suggestion worthy of consideration.
JOSEPH R. CARPENTER, JR.
Philadelphia, March 5.

PETROLEUM V. NASBY'S STYLE
To the Editor of the Evening Ledger:
Sir—It may be interesting to know how David R. Locke found the cue for his style of writing, and the peculiar system of spelling in his "Petroleum V. Nasby" satire.
After the war had been in progress some months the body of a young soldier who had been killed in battle or died of sickness was brought home for burial. His father lived near Winger's Corners.

AUSTRIA'S ATTITUDE



THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Value of the Classics—Suggestion of Way to Prevent Loss of Life in Railroad Accidents

STUDY OF THE CLASSICS
To the Editor of the Evening Ledger:
Sir—Considerable discussion has been stimulated in Philadelphia by the advocates of the classical and utilitarian methods of education. Both sides have argued their cases to a full, yet neither has convinced the other. It is only too apparent that repeated attacks on the classics will not only depreciate their value from an educational standpoint, but will eventually oust them from their time-honored place in the secondary school curriculum.

TOGETHER
Together we'll laugh at the dawn of the sun;
Together we'll smile till the evening is done;
Together, together, the day and the weather,
Are evermore fair when we two are together.

All Points of the Compass
Casuals of the Day's Work
XXIV
IN THE study of psychology, coupled with a knowledge of logic, and further advanced by some knowledge of therapeutics, we have been taught that cure may be achieved by the elimination of the cause of disease, whether this be mental or physical.

PARADISE LOST
E. S. K.—John Milton (1608-74), the English poet, wrote "Paradise Lost."

SAM LOYD'S PUZZLE
AT THE feline show we put four cats and three kittens on the big scale, and they tipped the beam at thirty-seven pounds. Then we weighed another lot of three cats and four kittens, which totaled thirty-three pounds. Now, if cats weigh alike and kittens weigh alike, what are the respective weights of cat and kitten?

ANSWER TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE
THE sentence is made complete by inserting the words: Solstice, avarice, and the other official, makes a...

What Do You Know?
Quizzes of general interest will be answered in this column. For questions, the answers to which every well-informed person should know, are asked daily.

Tom Daly's Column

McAroni Ballads
LXXVII
MARZO
Here ces come da time of year
Best of all!
Like trumpet and my ear
Eca et il.

Here ces come da time of year
I should seem;
Fa Etalian scenes so near
Eet can beeng.

Say, listen! Did you know that there was a vacant Massachusetts seat in the Senate almost exactly ninety years ago the friends of Daniel Webster feared that if he left the House of Representatives he would lose in prestige? "But," said Edward Everett at that time, "it is a comfort that the Senate can't fall lower than it is now."

One of Don Marquis's contributions to the speaking of a certain social worker, she always looks on the East Side things." And through a lognetta, Mr. Dooley so pithily put it.

How many sorts of patriotism there? More than all our enemies can shake a stick at; and let no one fancy that "the female of the species is more deadly than the male." When a pretty lady starts to screech, in the mistaken notion that she is poetically expressing intense feeling, she sometimes uses words unfit for the ears of the tired business man. Hence we have deleted one from this frivolous letter addressed to the Editor of "Poetry" and published in the March issue of that Magazine of Verse:

Dear Poetry: I really mean this!
PATRIOTISM
Poetry, I would die for you. If you were recruiting armies I should not need conscription, but gladly would go to your banners, and die by your side. I would be a soldier, and I would be a patriot. Any death, Poetry, for you—I will die. I would die for you. I would die for you. I would die for you. I would die for you.

But are the demands of service difficult after all? Pages 27 to 28 the March number carry eleven edited bearing the name of this same pretty lady, and here is a fair sample:

As I wandered through the eight hundred and eight streets of the city of the Green House, with their golden streets and golden houses, I saw a crowd of people, and I saw a crowd of people, and I saw a crowd of people, and I saw a crowd of people.

And in the same interesting issue Amy Lowell becomes an unconscious humorist. She "wishes to express indebtedness to Mr. Arthur Davidson for his prose translation of Street Yakuza Sanjin," and this is her version of it, except that in the margin the words are laid out in ten irregular lines:

SEVEN AGES OF DOG
Herit-age.
Append-age.
Cour-age.
Fill-age.
Wharf-age.
Pound-age.
Saus-age.

Frost in Ground
J. P.—The United States Weather Bureau has no record as to the depth of frost in the ground, but the climatologist of the bureau furnishes the result of investigations as to earth temperatures at various depths. Following is a table of temperatures of different types of soil at different depths, from "Soil Temperature," by George J. Bouyoucos, based on experiments made in January, 1912, at the Michigan Agricultural College experiment station, with a monthly average temperature of 11 degrees.

Victoria Crosses
K. L. J.—Information as to the number of Victoria Crosses that have been awarded on the western front in the present war is not available now. The "V. C." as it is called in England, was instituted as a military and naval decoration by Queen Victoria in 1856. The subject had been considered by the British War Office as early as the middle of the Crimean war. The decoration, which is awarded for bravery, regardless of rank, consists of a bronze maltese cross with the royal crest in the center; underneath is a scroll bearing the words, "For Valour."

Paradise Lost
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Sam Loyd's Puzzle
AT THE feline show we put four cats and three kittens on the big scale, and they tipped the beam at thirty-seven pounds. Then we weighed another lot of three cats and four kittens, which totaled thirty-three pounds. Now, if cats weigh alike and kittens weigh alike, what are the respective weights of cat and kitten?

Answer to Yesterday's Puzzle
THE sentence is made complete by inserting the words: Solstice, avarice, and the other official, makes a...

Judge Alton B. Parker
Isn't that a spectacle? Now, is one other thing we'd like to see? We have observed in our time much and overzealous men whose main aim in life seemed to be the plying of liquor with liquor to make poor weak men drink between drinks, as the...