

Evening Ledger PUBLIC LEDGER COMPANY. Includes contact information for the Philadelphia office and various bureaus.

THE AVERAGE NET PAID DAILY CIRCULATION OF THE EVENING LEDGER FOR FEBRUARY WAS 98,322



To war is human; to battle for the right, divine. Gerard to give Wilson inside tip on Berlin. Events seem to show he did it months ago.

As a country like Russia abolished the death penalty years ago, it seems like an anachronism that it should be a matter for debate at this late date in Pennsylvania.

Now that the Chinese Parliament has approved the break with Berlin, who will deny that the Colonel was right when he declared we were in danger of being Chinafied?

There are conditions under which the new transit system could cost twice ninety millions, but not without the reputation, we suspect, of certain historical events attendant not many years ago on an attempt to sell out the community's rights.

Scott Nearing's latest utterances, advocating that summit of impossibility, a peace-or-war referendum, and arguing to the effect that a man cannot express a reasonable opinion about the American people if he belongs to the Racquet Club, are not calculated to increase the regret that he is no longer at the University of Pennsylvania.

The President, though said to have recovered from his cold, remains in bed. It was probably not his cold that sent him there, but a fatigue and strain such as few Executives have had to endure.

On the first of January next the U. G. I. under its contract will charge but twenty-five cents per thousand cubic feet for gas. Apparently it is the purpose of municipal financiers to put the extra nickel in the city treasury and give the public no share in the reduction.

State Government reformers everywhere will be encouraged by the example of Illinois, which has just passed a bill consolidating more than 100 administrative agencies into nine departments.

With the notice sent to foreign legations in Washington that ships are to be armed goes the first official challenge to Germany since February 3, when Von Bernstorff was dismissed, for the Swiss Government, which has charge of German interests here, will at once forward it to Berlin as a matter of routine business.

THE dedication of the new railroad bridge across the East River connecting Long Island with the mainland marks the completion of the railroad link between Philadelphia and New England that makes New York but a way station in the line of through traffic.

the President's policy. The situation which the new House will have to meet will not permit slow action in organizing. The sooner it is ready for business the greater will be the confidence of the country in its new Congress.

CLEANLINESS OR DEATH?

DEATH last summer stalked through this section of the country. No man could stop its ravages, for no man knew its cause. It fastened itself on the young, leaving limping wrecks of those it spared from the grave.

No man, we say, could stop the ravages of this disease, but all men knew and know that its sources lie in dust and dirt. Strong men cannot breathe into their lungs and blood filth-laden atmosphere without undermining their strength; for babes and those who are weak it means death sure and certain.

In the face of the horrible experiences of last summer, with the threat of their repetition this summer ever present, men talk and think of the dirty streets of Philadelphia merely as a nuisance; something undesirable. They even tolerantly pass sweepers who are filling the air with the dirt that cannot lawfully lie on the ground.

Let the mothers whose offspring live under this sword of Damocles demand relief. Let the fathers who lived last summer in a reign of terror insist that something be done. We may not be able to stamp the disease out entirely; but we can administer mighty blows against its progress and hamper its advance by simply being clean.

AN ANT HOUSE FOR A GIANT

AS EXCELLENT a method of squandering public funds as has yet come to our notice is involved in the proposal to spend \$1,500,000 for the erection of a convention hall to seat 6,000 persons.

We can imagine the laughter which will greet Philadelphia's invitation for either of the great political conventions in 1920 if it is related that we propose to house the gathering in a building which will accommodate so vast a throng as 6,000.

Apologies and explanations will consume most of our time if in celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence we invite the representatives of the nations of the world to convene in a closet.

MAKING NEW YORK A WAY STATION

THE dedication of the new railroad bridge across the East River connecting Long Island with the mainland marks the completion of the railroad link between Philadelphia and New England that makes New York but a way station in the line of through traffic.

THE ROMANCE OF BAGDAD

What the Loss of the City of the Caliphs Means to Turks and Germans

SO GREAT was Bagdad that to this day Turkish official documents still speak of it, out of habit, as "the glorious city." But what many of the old Turks may have lost of reverence for the former capital of Islam, the new Turks, whose tottering empire stretched from Antwerp north to the Persian Gulf until the new crusaders found their strength, have more than made up for by the great dream, "Berlin to Bagdad."

2,000,000 Once Dwelt There

Once it housed 2,000,000 souls. It is not without reason that a city grows to that magnificence. The region about this town of about 140,000 is largely desert today, except when the Tigris and Euphrates are in flood, when the whole land is inundated, and the waters press the dikes and threaten to engulf a city turned into an island.

Even the decayed city of today has had imports worth \$10,000,000 and exports worth \$4,000,000 a year. No wonder the Germans dreamed of making it their eastern Berlin. Their scheme of development included a vast and entirely new irrigation system on modern lines for the redemption of the whole Babylonian plain.

Not Simply a Trade Route

Thus it was not simply as a trade route to India that Bagdad and the region about it were desired—it was for its own sake and for a share in the wealth that would come to the many new millions of inhabitants that restoration would bring to it that the eyes of Middle Europe turned to Bagdad with so much longing.

Most of the work that has kept Bagdad from loss of importance has been due to the Jewish population. There are 24,000 Jews there, 6,000 Christians and about 100,000 Moslems. Only the Jews are provided with schools, and most of the industry and banking is in their hands.

The city, placed on the Tigris, where it most nearly approaches the Euphrates, commands through its port, Basra, the Persian Gulf terminal of the sea route to India, the caravan routes by Tadmor of the desert to Damascus, by Hamadan to Central Persia, by the Euphrates to Aleppo, and again by unfinished rail route by Mosul to Aleppo.

There was to be a new romance. The winding and intricate alleys through which the adventurous Haroun went upon his mysterious errands incognito were to be replaced with wide boulevards; the towering palaces of old, yellow and red and sparkling in the sun; the clamor of the banners, the pageantry and passion of luxury and commerce—all was to spring into life at the touch of German efficiency as swiftly as the visions of Aladdin were made real of yore and in the land that gave Aladdin to the world!

A SAD WAG

James Harper, one of the original members of the firm of Harper & Brothers, had the Mark Twain gift for humorous narrative. His favorite method was to foist his joke upon the person to whom he was speaking.

MOBILIZING FOR THE SPRING DRIVE



THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Women's Party Has the Same Right to Existence as Other Parties—American Honor

This Department is free to all readers who wish to express their views on any subject of current interest. It is an open forum, and the women's party has the same right to exist as other parties.

A SUFFRAGIST STATEMENT

As an active member of the National Woman's party (formerly the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage), I should like to say that our organization was designed for one specific purpose—the national enfranchisement of women.

"THE TRADE"—SUBMARINE SERVICE

They bear in place of classic names. Letters and numbers on their skin; They play their grisly blindfold games in little boxes made of tin.

All Points of the Compass

Rubaiyat of a Commuter. The Newshy, that enthusiastic light, Comes crying through the 5:18 each night. Calls out the names of 'Foolish Magazines'.

What Do You Know?

- Queries of general interest will be answered in this column. For questions the answers to which every well-informed person should know, are asked daily.

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

- 1. Champanette is a fortress and government military base, three miles southeast of Mexico City. It is the Mexican West Point.

"Moonshine" Whisky

KENTUCKIAN. The probabilities are that "moonshine" whisky is so called because its production and sale are conducted largely at night, although it would be difficult to prove your contention that it is so called because it is colorless and "clear as moonshine."

Sam Loyd's Puzzle

A CORRESPONDENT wishes to know if there is a law in any of our States which would have prohibited his grandfather from marrying his grand-uncle's sister.

Tom Daly's Column

McAroni Ballads. Deed you evra see Joy Gona told weeth delight, Jus' so lico small boy W'en saw brights new toy.

Wet Stuff

Representative J. W. Langley, of Kentucky, was discussing prohibition legislation with a group of House colleagues. He told of the manner in which whisky was carried into dry West Virginia from wet Kentucky.

Poetry in Prose

Barton Blake has made an admirable translation of Paul Gerdely's 'The War, Madame' (and Charles Scribner's Sons have published it) from which we lift these few pages of poetic prose describing a soldier's return to Paris.

Motion-Picture Actress

READER.—The name is Enid Markay, not Markley.

ONE DAY LAST WEEK

ONE day last week a member of our staff took a trip to New York. When he came back he wrote this paragraph: Philadelphia streets are bad enough, but one has only to go to New York to discover how much worse they might be.

WERE AWAKE TO THE FACT

And we're all wondering if the man saw our man navigating the Gulf Stream? It is quite possible, but if it was...