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HARMONIZING THE TAX BILL

Task of Congressional Conferees Is an Honorable but Onerous One

Special Correspondence of the Evening Ledger. WASHINGTON, Sept. 18. LONG service in Congress carries with it certain honors, but with these honors come increased responsibility and hard work.

Tom Daly's Column

PROF. DRYDUST ON SEPTEMBER

Always did disturb Old Drydust's equanimity. It somehow sorter seemed to curb His reaching for sublimity.

Month of grass and trees, With singing bugs pediculous, Of logs and storms upon the seas.

There is in your mind A quality chrysalis. It cuts the song-bird's throat, we find.

When your raptus transpire, The roads grow so lustrous I crych before my study fire.

Who had been soaking yourself in idleness for two weeks and were just back on the job once more, cleaning up the accumulations on the old desk.

At the nineteenth hole at Whitehorse they are still talking about it, although it happened three weeks ago.

John Brown's body lies a-mouldering in the grave, but here's the opening paragraph of a letter he wrote to his wife in 1857:

I have only to say as regards the resolution of the boys to "learn 'no practice war no more, that it was not at my solicitation that they engaged in it at first.

Though we stum our lyre and sing the charms of Ocean City we'd like to see Lake Chateaugay, as described by the Plattburg Press.

On Indian Point two cabins stood away in the dim and distant past, windowless of logs unheaved, but of course they were too crude to last.

One thing that wasn't cleared up before we left went upon vacation and that we find loafing around our desk upon our return is a matter with which we are concerned only in so far as we keep our promise to give the bellfingers a square deal.

Dear Sir—Mr. Aaron E. Brandt, of the Christian Science Publication Committee, writes you a column in answer to the question as to why Archibald McLellan, late editor of the Christian Science Monitor, died.

There was an argument on the Baltimore boat, so Bob Dawson reports, and a man whose skin was white announced that "drafty or no draft, Uncle Sam couldn't make him fight."

Carl Shanfeiter writes from somewhere: Dear Boss—Here's a French back-to-native note: Salle 1 in a certain hospital contains a number of Americans and this is the only one of the kind.

So many things happen when one is away, Arthur Crab, one of our charter contributors, who used to sign himself plain Crab, has had two stories published in the S. E. P., a head writer on a morn. contemp, has created the Forty-ninth Ward, a popular cigar has been offering itself (see advertising columns) for "Ten cents straight, or two for a quarter."

As to the work of the conferees, there is a certain public misconception. Being the chosen representatives of the two houses, the conferees cannot introduce into a bill entrusted to their harmonizing influences material that was not introduced by one of the other of the two houses.

JUDAS



THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Americanization of Immigrants. Campaign Issues—Colored Workers' Union

This Department is free to all readers who wish to express their opinions on subjects of current interest. It is an open forum for the views of its correspondents.

THE REAL ISSUES

Sir—Five men who seek election as Common Councilmen have sent a joint circular to the Republicans of the Forty-sixth Ward, in which they say:

These men and women speak for a group of immigrants of whom America may well be proud. A SOCIAL WORKER.

AMERICANIZED IMMIGRANTS

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: Sir—One of the bringing out in clearly defined outlines just how far our immigrant people have become Americanized.

It has been made quite apparent that to many of our foreign citizens the idea of the war has been clear. It would be well to remember, though, that for most of them our language is a strange tongue.

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ASSOCIATED COLORED EMPLOYEES

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: Sir—Your publication is most certainly doing its share in aiding the United States in its present war with Germany.

Our object is to bring about a more equitable and harmonious relation between the races. Especially is this desirable in view of the present crisis which confronts the country.

The Associated Colored Employees of America are endeavoring to help the nation by increasing the efficiency of negro labor and by distributing such labor where it can be most effectively employed.

Although the survey is yet far from completed, the association has found an amazing number of instances of mistreatment.

What shall we do to the spirit? asks a newspaper headline. There is no answer given, but most of the people could supply it if they were called upon.

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What Do You Know? QUIZ

- 1. Who is Cadogan? 2. In what part of Germany and in what German State is Stuttgart? 3. Name three of those plays. What was the name of the first?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

- 1. "Yank" has been used to mean (1) an inhabitant of New York (2) a Federal soldier or inhabitant of Northern States (3) a member of the British Army, and (4) an inhabitant of the United States.

MORE ABOUT THE LIBERTY BELL

IN SADNESS and in joy the voice of the Liberty Bell has been equally significant. In its tones, heard when the news of the closing of the port of Boston reached Philadelphia on June 1, 1774, it was easy to interpret the solemn toll of grief.

COMMENT ON REFORM METHODS

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: Sir—The methods of reformers in Philadelphia for the last fifteen or twenty years have been honorably conceived and some-what excellently handled with brief results.

EASY TO SUPPLY

"What shall we do to the spirit?" asks a newspaper headline. There is no answer given, but most of the people could supply it if they were called upon.

A LETTER FROM MR. LEWIS

DEPARTMENT OF CITY TRANSIT PHILADELPHIA, September 17, 1917. Mr. P. H. Whaley, Editor, The Evening Ledger, Philadelphia.

Dear Sir—Your letter of September 12 was forwarded to me at Northeast Harbor, Me. As on its receipt I was leaving for Philadelphia, I delayed my answer until my arrival this afternoon.

In the first place, I desire to thank you for your courtesy in offering me the use of your columns to discuss the lease which has been submitted to Councils by Director Twining and which I assisted in preparing.

The lease is now before a joint committee of both branches of Councils. The committee has announced its determination to give every citizen who desires to do so an opportunity at the public hearings now being held to ask questions concerning the lease, make criticisms and submit suggestions.

The chairman, Mr. Gaffney, has informed me that you have been sent a special invitation to be present at these hearings and submit questions, criticisms and suggestions. Assuming that you are sincere in your desire to promote a full and fair discussion of the proposed lease, instead of answering your questions in a letter to you, which would confine the discussion to the columns of your paper, I suggest that you attend the public hearing next Friday and ask the questions which you have asked me in your letter.

Director Twining or I will submit for publication in all newspapers a written reply. By this method, which is the same as that which has been accepted by the ex-Director, public attention will be kept centered on the discussion at the public hearings before the councilmanic committee, while at the same time your questions and objections, as well as my answers, will be given the widest possible publicity.

I think on consideration you will agree with me that it is important that the attention of the public be focused on the discussions taking place before the committee of Councils and not dissipated by a separate discussion in any one newspaper.

Yours very truly, WM. DRAPER LEWIS.

MELANCHOLIA

CULLED from a day's output of fact and comment are these illuminating verbal gestures:

General Alexieff's suicide is another melancholy proof of Russian demoralization.—New York Tribune.

The most encouraging feature of the Russian situation is the news that the military situation has been greatly strengthened by steps taken by General Alexieff, the new commander-in-chief.

The Russian forces have advanced seven miles on a rather wide front in the direction of Riga.—Russian embassy's account of official dispatches.

Russia, according to an official report, is not unlikely to conclude a separate peace with Germany and quit the war, selling to Germany all military supplies as well as foodstuffs and raw materials.

The report that Alexieff has committed suicide is discredited.—Russian embassy announcement.

In the eastern theatre there were no essential events.—German General Staff official statement.

"No essential events," remarks the German staff, and for one day we prefer to take Berlin's view of the Russian situation as the right one.

At any rate, the "Bloody Fifth" is thoroughly policed.

A SUBSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC LAW

IT IS true, as stated by President Rihett, of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, that "business has been groping in the dark because it finds the very foundations of commerce have been upturned, and demand and supply can no longer be permitted to control prices, because the extraordinary demands of the Government have completely unbalanced the scales."

With the ordinary laws of commerce suspended, the search for a substitute has necessarily been difficult. Such price fixing as had occurred is largely experimental. The great meeting of farmers in Chicago avers that the price fixed for wheat is so low as to discourage production, although a few years ago half the price would have meant an era of abnormal prosperity.

The buying power of a dollar changes rapidly in these days. There is a readjustment in terms rather than in the exchange value of commodities. If six pounds of cotton still buy a bushel of wheat, there is little change in basic relations so far as the cotton-producer and the wheat-grower are concerned. But it takes time for the readjustment to spread through the whole industrial establishment of the nation, and in the meantime many suffer. The Government is attempting to equalize conditions as fast as possible. Too much should not be expected. It is right and proper, however, to expect from leaders of business help and guidance, and the Government is getting both.

We are living indeed in an age of American miracles, the half of which have not been told; and not the least of these miracles will be the employment of fair and equitable artificial administration as a substitute for natural laws which have been shaken into numbness by the world catastrophe.

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Kornilov's Fate Hangs in Balance.—Headline.

Something like Russia's.

The report of Kerenky's marriage was greatly exaggerated. He might have been, but he wasn't.

We do not know when the world is coming to an end, but we can tell with fair accuracy when Kaiserism is.

It is peculiar that Germany never thought of expressing regrets to either Sweden or Argentina until caught with the goods. Kultur only makes apologies when found out.

We suspect that the Government will solve the strike problem and get ships into the water. The only way Americans ought to strike is to strike Kaiserism and strike it hard.