

Illustrated Evening Ledger PUBLIC LEDGER COMPANY. Includes names of staff members like Curtis H. Curtis, President, and editorial board members.

sturdy rivalry between the express companies and the parcel post. "Socialism pure and simple" has infinite room for growth.

RELENTLESS ATTRITION

PUTTING it crudely, but with necessary realism, we have started to kill Germans. One of the factors of the situation is attrition. It is never desirable to make it the chief factor.

This may be what the Italian situation has brought us to. It is not correct to say "The Germans outnumber the Allies on the Italian front, having inexhaustible reserves."

"THE SCOURGE OF GOD"

THE stupid attempt of the associated politicians to deprive citizens of the right to vote next Tuesday has properly been nailed by the courts.

The petty annoyances to which decent citizens are being subjected are simply indicative of the gang state of mind. It has thrived on intimidation.

YOU'D KNOW WHAT HE MEANT

THE President has naturally refused to state his preference for Mayor of New York. There would be as little reason for him to declare himself on the situation in Philadelphia.

NO FOOD PRIVILEGES

THERE is a boulevard restaurant which has always been very dear to Parisian sports because during the siege of Paris the good "spenders" got their meals there.

Dirty Streets Greeted Joffre

As an instance of the apathy and cupidity of the officials, contractors note the disregard of opportunity on the special occasion of the distinguished French and British representatives last spring to give Philadelphia a public house-cleaning.

Victories for the Germans; Victory for the Allies.

Let's follow "Whatless Wednesday" by having a "Gangless Government."

SOCIALISM

THE United States may be "moving" toward complete public ownership and operation of public utilities, especially telephones, telegraphs and telegrams.

"NELLY'S ALLEY," REFORM SLOGAN

It Means That "Contract Government of Public Works" Must End

By HOWARD S. ANDERS, M.D.

WHETHER this be the psychological misnomer or not to recur to the ever-present mess and menace of our dirty, dusty highways and "Nelly's Alley," the recent concurrence of political aggression with violence and murder and official indifference would seem at least to confirm the justice and fitness of many years of individual and recent representative complaints and protests against the City Hall regime so patently responsible for the filthy conditions.

It is manifestly and startlingly self-evident in this present crisis in Philadelphia's rapidly "making" history that we need here a revolution in the political, bureaucratic, local politicians as did Russia against autocratic and Tsarist rule.

In Philadelphia (or "Filtadelphia," as an up-to-the-minute Italian gives it to the "farsang" word, the "Nelly" really awakening, then? Is there immediate hope of an arousing, activating, dynamic political spirit; a real ethic of social and political consciousness? If so, to have time and misdirection of effort, the attack be central and root out the foundational and vital cause of the misgovernment, namely, contract government of public works and allied departments of official control.

Control of government by contractors means a camouflage control of contractors. Contractors who are surreptitiously interested in screening this manipulation of the specifications and deterioration of street-cleaning contracts are continuously and financially interested, perforce, in gaining and maintaining, as ruthlessly and perpetually as public apathy and acquiescence will allow, their leadership and license of ambition and avarice.

We may be temporarily subdued and stifled, shaken and shattered. Nevertheless, we must get together and go on in the quiet and strenuous manner of a collective individuality that is becoming increasingly stimulated and emphasized in the progress of a social consciousness and solidarity upon which the substance and stability of our future democracy depend for assurance and permanence.

The "Nelly's Alley" agitation inaugurated last summer has not received the extension and repetition its significance demanded; for "Nelly's Alley" is not a mere local symptom of a serious disease in our body politic.

"Nelly's Alley" a Slogan

By this time the constant, or even the casual, readers of the enterprising EVENING LEDGER know that "Nelly's Alley" is not an empty phrase; that it is an actual, publicly and the red-handed corruptionist contractors and politicians who put wealth before health; political security against sanitary safety; private profit before public benefit.

HALLOWEEN

Oh dem was happy Halloweena-we had in ole Virginia, We'n me an' Chloe vos co'tain' long ago; We'n chery one among us toed de smallest pickaninny; Would huddle in de chimney cohnah's glow.

HARRY LAUDER at noon today will be talking to the Poor Richarders in their Camac street clubhouse upon "The Religion of Great Britain and the United States."

"Travelin' by rail from Glasgow to Stirling," said he, "I was in a compartment with some Englishmen and a dear old bird of a farmer, a true Scotsman. It was a raw day and the English were very bitter against the climate. 'No Englishman,' said one of them, 'could ever settle down in such a region.' At that the old lad looked up his ears, and said he: 'Nae Englishman settle down in this region? Toos, man, ye're halverin' nonsense. I'll let ye see a pair along the side-line a bit here, whaur a gey whener o' yer countrymen cam' mair than five hunder year aene, and they're no thinkin' o' leavin', though they're well settled doon by this time.' 'Where is that?' asked several of the Englishmen. 'Bannockburn,' said the old lad."

IF EVER you should have trouble with the big traffic cop who hasn't anything at all to do, day after day, but to stand at the corner of Broad street and Lehigh avenue, telling horses and things which way to go, ask him to let you see his whistle. That'll fluster him, for he doesn't carry one like most traffic cops.

Tom Daly's Column

GENERAL HELL. Ladies an' Gintlemen: Let me present to ye General Hell; An' a few facts in the life o' this gint, to ye.

Ladies an' Gintlemen, harkato the same av him: General Hell; Fittin' the scheme an' the blame an' the shame av him. Wonderful well. Long may he wave in the land o' the Hun, Long may he hold there a place in the sun.

Ladies an' Gintlemen, bid a good-bye to this General Hell. None o' ye, sure, are deservin' so nigh to this creature to duel. But when the Kotter is safe in a cell, After the end o' this war has defied, He is the lad that will have for a spell, Just fur his bunkie as' all to himsel', General Hell.

SOME months ago a large and ugly sign grew overnight upon the front lawn of a fine house on Wistar street, in Germantown. The sign announced that the property was for sale, but the remarkable thing about it was this line in large letters:

SUITE FOR MANUFACTURING SITE

The neighbors began at once to talk, and out of the talk grew the story that the gentleman who owned the property had offered it for sale to his next-door neighbors at what he considered a very reasonable price, and got mad when they refused to buy. "All right," said he, according to the gossip, "I'll offer it for a manufacturing site and we'll see how you like that."

Now it happened that the folks he was dealing with were the Allens, and the Allens looked at him in an amused sort of way and said in effect: "You can't scare us by shaking a mill at us. Here's our own mill right back of us here on Sheldon street, where it's been since 1844, and here are three Allen households very comfortably fixed within sound of our looms. So go up as you like."

The sign went up, as we said before, and the neighbors smiled and talked, and presently the sign came down again, although the property is still for sale.

That's a characteristic of Germantown, not to be noted elsewhere in this old town. We think—the old-fashioned habit among long-established manufacturers of welding their homes to their mills. It's no little part of the charm of the place.

COAL EXCHANGE'S WORK FOR PUBLIC

Its President Defends It Against Recent Criticisms

By JOHN E. LLOYD

THE Philadelphia Coal Exchange, which has been the subject of a good deal of criticism lately, being accused of fixing prices and other charges just as unreasonable, and no doubt a majority of the Philadelphia public believe the facts are as stated. This most certainly is not the case, and never has been.

The exchange was organized in the interests, naturally, of the retail coal dealers, but their interests were in many ways the interests of the consuming public. A few years ago it was not an unusual thing for the public to be called upon to buy from some of the retail yards to deliver a short ton; in other words, instead of delivering a ton of 2240 pounds, as little as 1700 to 1800 pounds would be sold as a ton, and yet the public continued to buy from these dealers and could not understand why they could sell coal for so much less than their competitors.

The Philadelphia Coal Exchange has put a stop to this, at least among its own members, as it employs a weighmaster whose business it is to do nothing but weigh the wagons of the members of the exchange. He is continually on the street and no dealer knows when he may have his wagon weighed. The exchange has employed this man since October, 1912, long before the Department of Weights and Measures was authorized. The reports of the weighmaster are made in writing to the executive committee of the Coal Exchange. The penalty imposed is optional with the executive committee; on the first offense a member is written by the secretary of the exchange to the member at fault. If the fault should continue the member is fined, and if this does not remedy the evil the executive committee reports the case to the board of directors, which has the power to expel the offending member.

Has Rendered a Service

During the present, excessive consumption of coal the exchange has been working for the best interests of Philadelphia, trying to get a fair proportion of the coal that is mined to Philadelphia. Officers and committees of the exchange have made numerous trips to Washington and to the heads of the railroads, with the one object in view to get a fair share of coal to Philadelphia.

I believe the Philadelphia Coal Exchange has rendered and is today rendering a great service to the city by obtaining a normal but an extra supply of coal. The consumer, whether a householder or the owner of a factory, must recognize the fact that more coal of all kinds has been shipped to Philadelphia since January 1, 1917, than in any previous year. Most of this increase has been in steam sizes and not in coke, nut and pea, the sizes used for domestic fuel.

From this it can readily be seen the Philadelphia Coal Exchange has been and is working in the interests of the public. To a great deal of criticism lately, and very unfairly so. If this continues it will do a great injustice to a body of business men who in the great majority of cases, are doing their best to give and are giving the public a square deal.

PRUSSIAN POISON

Today the German, who failed with his army and failed with his submarine, is in his last desperate offensive, striving to succeed with his propaganda and make the poisoned gases do what the poisoned gas failed to do. He is seeking to murder the very troops of the Allies by the use of the gas.

But She Didn't

She was a very newlywedged baroness or duchess or something like that, and, some how or other, she became thick with a professor, as the classical blokes would have it, and he invited her to come to his obituary to see the pelisse.

OUR PERPETUAL HALLOWEEN STUNT



What Do You Know?

QUIZ

- 1. One of the most famous dwarfs in history was Tom Thumb. How tall was he and what was his nationality?
2. For what is Stratford-upon-Avon famous?
3. What is an amphibious animal?
4. Trafalgar Square is perhaps the most important center of activity in London. A statue stands on a column in the center of the square. Whose statue is it and for what victory of his is the square named?
5. Who was Herbert Spencer?
6. The Austro-Germans have captured Eging. How far is that from the frontier?
7. What is meant by "hooking" a horse?
8. Where is the Harlem River?
9. Just what is meant by the phrase "over the top"?
10. Name the commander-in-chief of the Italian army.

Avoidable Expense

With the greatly increased cost of doing business and the uncertainty of coal, it is uncertain as they are today, this gross income does not permit a fair return on the capital invested.

Among the avoidable expenses for which the consumer is responsible are two important ones that can be mentioned. First, the habit of ordering from one or more yards at the same time. (I have known of cases where an order for one ton has been placed with five different yards for immediate delivery.) The different yards make the delivery first naturally puts in the ton and makes the delivery, while the others are put to the same expense. What a warm spell of weather sets in during the winter months, or even a few warm days, coal orders almost stop and our teams are left idle; but just as soon as a few snowflakes begin to fall or the temperature drops it seems as if one has any coal, and the poor dealer is at his wit's end to try to satisfy even half of his customers.

THE "FIRST-AID" PACKET

AMERICAN soldiers, especially the new ones, may be inclined to treat rather scornfully a small but valuable airtight metal box which will be handed to them with the extra equipment long before they are called upon to face the Germans in the trenches. Military authorities agree that since this small treasure chest was adopted by armies it has done more than anything else to save the lives of wounded. It is nothing other than the first-aid packet.

When these little packets first were used in the present world war some few men, with what has come to be known as the "safety" idea, suggested that if once hit in battle they would be perfectly willing to leave the care of their wounds to others more skilled in medical skill.

In the first place, the packet consists of two gauze compresses sewed to two cotton bandages. These are sterilized and sealed in wax paper. There also are two safety pins wrapped in the same paper and placed in the airtight metal box to prevent contamination. Like the first-aid kit, the box is to be used only when needed. When the call does come, it is prompt use by any soldier may save his own life, that of his "bunkie," or others, not to mention sorrow and suffering.

One thing is certain: wounds without prompt attention will heal rapidly as a general rule. They are the kind that the surgeon makes on the operating table. The patient suffers no great inconvenience. Wounds of this nature, those which become infected, tell an entirely different story. The great trouble is that nearly all them wounds become infected, many are saved through carelessness. The whole object of the packet is to prevent infection.

The prime object of the packet and its great advantage lie in the fact that it has been sterilized and can be placed on a wound immediately provided the wound has not been handled. The same applies to the gauze. It must be applied at once before it has been touched by any foreign matter, which surely will cause infection.

Therefore, soldiers should remember that if a bullet strikes a man direct the packet can be applied without even washing. If the bullet strikes something else first, it will be knocked into a useless shape, and therefore cause a ragged wound. Furthermore, such a bullet surely carries germs into the wound, so to speak, and the packet is designed to prevent such a result. In such cases soldiers are cautioned to use the packet as soon as possible.

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

- 1. "Death charges," in anti-submarine fighting is called upon to face the Germans in the trenches. Military authorities agree that since this small treasure chest was adopted by armies it has done more than anything else to save the lives of wounded. It is nothing other than the first-aid packet.
2. Prometheus; legendary hero who defied the gods by stealing fire from the gods and bringing it to man.
3. Virginia; named for Elizabeth, the Virgin Queen.
4. Tartan; a Scotch plaid with distinctive pattern of a clan.
5. Hooked; the line of the German in the trenches.
6. Telephone invented; 1876.
7. Unlike the American Government, foreign nations own a large percentage of the railway.
8. Three academic degrees; bachelor, master, doctor.
9. A "tramp" is a vessel operating over regular routes and having no regular cargo.
10. Niagara Falls is the name of a city in New York near the falls and of a town in Canada near the falls. The falls are named in American, partly in Canadian, dominion.