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RENT AND WAGES IN THE news columns yesterday the real basis of the rent controversy and the harsh injustice which circumstances conspire to inflict on many families were revealed.

At the same hour twenty-two families in a little street uptown banded for self-protection against their landlord and refused to meet an increase in their rent.

Some landlords have been tempted to gouge by reports of high wages in many industries as much as by increased taxes and cost of upkeep.

Down among the Kaisers, hear that earnest sound. QUENTIN ROOSEVELT THE death of Quentin Roosevelt in action in the air attracts attention because of the accident of his birth.

THE youth entered the service as a private and by sheer merit he rose to the rank of lieutenant in the aviation corps.

THE nation will sympathize with Colonel Roosevelt in his bereavement even though we know he had discounted its possibility when his sons entered the army.

THE German spirit was whipped and dragged along the latest drive which carried the armies of the Mad Emperor to confusion, slaughter and defeat.

THE Americans are putting the "off" in "offensive." MISERED PATRIOTISM NOTHING but praise should be meted out to the miners and mine workers in the anthracite region for their splendid patriotic spirit.

THE contagion of a good example does not always spread as far as it should. The matter of bequests to universities for example.

THE friends of the University may be reading of the will of the late John D. Rockefeller of New York.

THE PLEASURE OF THE MAYOR He Finds it in Rewarding the Friends of His Friends and Punishing Those Who Object

THE act creating the Board of Recreation provides that the members of the board "may be removed by the Mayor at his pleasure."

We gather from the attendant circumstances that nothing which the Mayor has done since he entered office has given him greater joy than the exercise of the power conferred on him by this act.

He has summarily asked two members of the board to resign. To the third, a lady, he wrote apologetically explaining that he wanted her place because "it must be apparent to you that if the board as a whole is to be a success its members should be in sympathy and friendship with the power that appoints them."

The heinous offense of the members who have been ousted is that they are unwilling to take care of the friends of the friends of the Mayor.

The board wished the examination to be postponed till the autumn, when the attendance of experienced men could be expected.

Now, because the Recreation Board has asked that a new examination be held, in order that "a legal list of eligibles" may be secured, the Mayor takes "pleasure" in ousting the three persons who have been more loyal to the city than to the obligations for "sympathy and friendship with the power that appoints them."

It was Tammany Congressman "Tim" Campbell who told President Cleveland that the Constitution should not stand in the way when a question of doing a favor to a friend was involved.

The law says the Mayor may act "at his pleasure." If it gives him joy to reward his friends, he has legal justification. No one will be so presumptuous as to suggest that the power of removal was conferred in order to enable the Mayor to get rid of dishonest or inefficient members of the recreation board.

The Mayor takes his pleasure where he can find it, and the rest of us are supposed to look on with appreciation at his enjoyment of the high privileges of his position.

Atlantic City's police believe that when it comes to bathing suits even conservation may be carried too far.

THE papers continue to regale us with accounts of "unique" marriages, conducted by telegraph or cable.

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RUBBER HEELS Safety Matches MATCH after match I struck— Held them vertical, moothered them, Watched them spit, glow, flutter, And fizzle out.

It is about time that Washington assumed the responsibility which belongs to it and applied the selective principle rigidly in the coal regions regardless of any feared complications in other industries; and it is about time that a deliberate and organized campaign was begun to impress on the mine workers the importance of their work.

When the war is over and the Kaiser's six stalwart sons are looking around for jobs on an efficiency basis they will find their chances far better at a bone works, sausage factory or concrete mixer than in the intelligence department.

BECAUSE one of the new yeogirls was seen to powder her nose adroitly at an outside mirror on Chestnut street, and because she was seen later carrying an umbrella in a shower, somebody flew walling into print to ask what the navy is coming to.

A shiny nose is an affliction that no girl could endure even in the hell of battle. Because a girl enlists and is ready to die for her country she should not be asked to walk about before the world with her beauty marred.

Burian says the war is senseless and purposeless. If only Austria had been in that frame of mind four years ago today!

THE FLAG WENT BACK "We regret being unable on this occasion to follow the counsels of our masters, the French. But the American flag has been forced to retire. This is unendurable, and none of our soldiers would understand their not being asked to do whatever is necessary to re-establish a situation which is humiliating to us and unacceptable to our country's honor.

PRIDE is an essential of morality. It exalts men and maintains their purposes at levels higher than anything dictated by the frank self-interest and the bread-and-butter philosophies of your modern liberal.

THIS is no time for sleep. Nor trysts with worms to keep Nor into heaven to creep— Debut, les morts!

THIS is no time to die! Death is the Hun's ally, Who in pretensions spy— Debut, les morts!

LET earth her old pod break And out of their slumbers shake Those who their siestas take— Debut, les morts!

FOR France, that we all adore, For Liberty and the Tri-Color; Dead heroes, Encore! Encore!— Debut, les morts!

THEY Do Tasting Instead About once a week some one writes to ask us if the yeogirls tattoo themselves. We have no information.

THE Colonel Would Bite 'Em Captain Archie Roosevelt was given a re-sounding knock on each cheek by the French officer who decorated him.

WAR Saving While conserving, why not leave out the "a" in "cocoonant"—Portland Oregonian.

THE New Version It's about time the weather took a change. We were just going to remark that it wasn't so much the heat as it was the frigidity—Syracuse Herald.

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GOOD ROADS AND BAD GERMANS

Readers Give Their Views Upon Two Subjects of Recent Editorial Discussion

How the Grange Wants Roads to Be Built

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—in your issue of July 9 you published an editorial on the subject of bonds for roads in which you credit the State Grange with defeating the amendment to the State Constitution five years ago, when the \$50,000,000 bond issue was submitted to the vote of the people.

It is true that a central department cannot build roads economically, even if honestly administered. The Highway Department should be reorganized into an advisory department, the same as our State Department of Education is. The thing that will use the money for roads economically is to lay down specifications for roads of different kinds and then let the appropriation be graduated and paid only if the road comes up to that specification.

The great and abiding reason for the opposition that was developed five years ago, and which is as potent today as then, is that there are billions of dollars worth of valuable property in Pennsylvania that is not paying its share of taxes, and it is that class of property that will be relieved all the more if bonds are used to pay for public improvements.

Years ago we exempted manufacturing from taxation on their capital stock and have thus shifted taxes that should have been paid by such organizations as the Standard Oil, Steel companies, power companies, express companies and even landladies got under the manufacturing exemption.

What is meant by the Washington C. B.? What are the colors of Columbia University? Who was Omar Khayyam?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz 1. The colors of Princeton University are orange and black.

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The Boche Outlaws

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—Editorials such as "Handing It to the Germans," which appeared in your paper on July 14, are needed. Germany is not yet whipped, but as sure as there is a just God she will be.

Do not compare them with beasts. It is unjust to the beasts, for it cannot be proved that any creature, except those of the German military system, inflicts torture for the avowed purpose of creating misery, and that other more terrible things which the ordinary human being shrinks to even think of, let alone mention.

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THE ENEMY

WE WERE so certain, a few years ago, There was no evil, only lack of good. Now we are not so sure of what we know There is a thing we have not understood, That even now we cannot understand.

These horrors on mankind, Nor haggard zealous, to life's beauty blind, Nor the dark growths of centuries untaught.

What Apollon's mind Could bring to such incalculable wreck The spirit of a kindly, simple mind Whose life in peace and honesty began.

And took its course the placid years along, Happy in simple pleasures, flowers and song, Whose toil was spent For thrifty comfort and well-earned content.

A man who wears today about his neck A locket with his children's pictured faces, While he . . .

He and his brothers have left desolate There is no ruin so great as this: A shrike Holler than Rheims—a soul—is desolate; The filth of lust, the poison-gas of hate, What devil set them in the place divine? Here is the cause in which our all we spend.

To shield him, as the Belgians' bullets tore Through their own kin to check the advancing foe! Not against flesh and blood do we contend—

Against invisible and awful powers The battle that is ours, The rules of the darkness, and the might Of evil in high places. God, send light Upon our spirits—make us brave and wise. Give us throughout Thy hard-pressed world to know The Enemy, whatever his disguise— And knowing thus, to fight.

—Amelia Josephine Burr, in "The Silver Trumpet."

No Christian Significance The Turks accused of sacking hospitals may accept the Iron Cross without embarrassment.—Washington Star.

What Do You Know? QUIZ 1. What is the capital of Colorado?

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