

Evening Public Ledger and THE EVENING TELEGRAPH... PUBLISHED DAILY AT SEVEN O'CLOCK... MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS...

SELECTIVE DRAFT ON WEALTH It Should Be Made so Equitable That No Group of Taxpayers Can Complain of Unjust Treatment... WE ARE raising revenues for the war by the volunteer and by the draft systems.

We have consented to the selective draft system for raising armies because we believe that under it the burden of contributing the fighting men will be fairly apportioned among the States and among the different groups of population, and that no men needed for essential industries will be diverted to the business of carrying a rifle.

The nation has subscribed to the Liberty Loans—that is, it has volunteered its money in the fight for liberty—and it has paid the war taxes—that is, it has submitted to the draft on its financial resources—in the same spirit that it has contributed its man-power.

We are ready to supply all the money that is needed, but we want to be assured that when our money is drafted the draft is based on a fair and impartial rule.

The suspicion that Chairman Kitchin, of the House Ways and Means Committee, does not intend to be fair is at the bottom of all the criticism that has been leveled at the revenue bill which his committee is framing.

No argument should be necessary to prove that the present excess-profits tax should be readjusted in such a way that it will bear equitably upon small and large enterprises, upon enterprises under-capitalized as well as on those over-capitalized.

Secretary McAdoo stands on firm ground when he demands this, and when he insists that a war-profits tax should be provided which will displace for certain industries the excess-profits tax.

The excess-profits tax is merely a tax on the profits in excess of a fair return on capital and it does not reach war profits as they should be reached.

Mr. McAdoo justly assumes that no patriotic American wishes to grow rich out of the war. He also assumes that a fair return on the capital invested should be assured to business men in order that the wealth of the country may not be destroyed.

soft nurse" were not thus assiduous, who would be? The vast army of human knitters faces an involuntary retirement. The manufacture of all woolen or worsted hand-knitting yarns has been banned until further notice by the war industries board.

Man will miss the fascination of watching an apparently inchoate mass of fuzz turn into a sock foot or a sweater sleeve. He will miss the stimulus derived from such a spectacle when the play was dull or the music heavy.

It will seem strange to return to the old days—to be, as it were, unhypnotized, to remember the railway station at which one must alight or to follow the course of footlight traffic, to be no longer under the spell of that quickly shrinking yarn ball.

THE DAY OF THE LITTLE NATIONS ONE thing is morally certain, and that is that there will be an independent Poland when the war ends.

THE ex-captive adds, however, that he only stayed at home ten days and then rejoined the army. The farm was not a safe place for him on account of the bushwhackers or guerrilla fighters who were harrying that country.

MR. BELL is spending part of the summer in a cottage at Long Branch to be near his son, who is a lieutenant of artillery.

While we are talking about prisoners of war we might mention Lieutenant Henry Carville Lewis, of this city.

EDWARD, whose marks in algebra had long been the family shame, showed a report card that would have been a credit to a Prussian professor's son.

THE "movies" knew him no more. At Sunday school he was a glad participant, where before he had been wont to disappear just as friends and family were emerging from church.

MONDAY had always been nothing in the weekly calendar but the ghastly day when Edward went to dancing school. Now all that was changed.

GOING AND COMING

Can the Teens Fight? EVEN though he isn't a smoker himself, Mr. Charles C. Bell, of Boonville, Mo., watched us generally while we puffed at our Boonville corn-cob.

MR. BELL was captured at the time of Price's Confederate raid through Missouri in the autumn of '64, and he and the other prisoners were corralled in the yard of the old courthouse of Cooper County.

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Edward and the Boy Scouts

THE Boy Scout craze has been a serious affair in our family. For a long time Edward had held that Boy Scouts were an inferior sort of business, fit only for weaklings and babes.

WHEN the excitement about the uniform had subsided and we had grown accustomed to seeing Edward tread the floors with the look of one uplifted from the common herd, there came more surprises.

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The Reader's Viewpoint

American Bluff To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—The Paris Figaro of July 22 prints in the column under the heading ECHOES a translation of an article from the Berlin Kreuz Zeitung, and adds a delicious comment.

AMERICAN BLUFF (Extract from Kreuz Zeitung of July 13.) "In times of peace a current formula was, 'America is trumps.' At present America is bluff, the cat-in-paw of the people of the Entente, calculated to produce its effect on the Allies, on the neutrals, and on us.

The Rookies Liked It To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—It was our pleasure to receive in our mail recently a clipping from your paper of "Movie of a Rookie on His Day Off."

What Women Are Doing "Women are today working as longshoremen, as navvies barrowing coke, as railway porters and conductors and ticket takers, as postal employes and elevator operators, as brick setters' laborers, attenders in roller mills, workers in seventy-eight processes in grain milling, in fifty-three processes in paper making, in twenty-four processes in furniture making, in boiler making, laboratory work, optical work, airplane building, in dyeing, biochemistry, and printing cotton, in woolen and velvet goods, in making brick, glazed and unglazed ware, stoneware, tiles, glass, leather goods and linoleum," says Isabel Foster Daggatt, author of "Women Wanted." She continues:

Quiz 1. Who is the only Car left in the world? 2. How many feet make a rod? 3. What planet is nearest the sun? 4. In what city did Columbus die? 5. What character in fiction was always waiting for something to turn up? 6. What is the correct pronunciation of the word "caterpillar"?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz 1. Chile is the basis of chewing gum and is a fusible substance obtained from the bulky tree, the naseberry and the sapodilla.

HUN LIES AND SUSCEPTIBLE EARS SALES, unauthorized by Washington, of "stikening losses" to American troops abroad are lies. They are invented by German propagandists. They are circulated by gullible fools.

ROLLING CHAIRS AND WAR CONGRESSMAN J. M. BAER, of North Dakota, has been taking the cure at Atlantic City. He is weeping in print because of the sights his eyes behold.

AN ECHO OF FROG HOLLOW IN THE Fifth Ward trial shrewd men were convicted of systematic efforts to circumvent the laws and processes of free government.

TABULATING GERMAN FAILURE IN WAR the burden of explanation seldom falls on the victor. The facts speak for themselves. They do so most lucidly in the latest monthly report on the growing failure of the U-boat campaign.

BOOMERANG EVIDENCE OR we are told, signifies as a suffix "one who," and a contractor is therefore "one who contracts" or agrees to do a certain thing.

THE NEEDLE ARMISTICE "SLEEP" asserts a well-known poet, whose nationality Germany has struggled to alter, "knits up the raveled sleeve of care." The assertion is particularly cheering just now, for if "nature's

President Wilson can find time between his manifold duties to attend a House party now and then.

Public speakers nowadays substitute Lenine and Trotsky for the classic Scylla and Charybdis.

The Minneopolis Tribune has been reprinting some of our stuff, calling us "an anonymous poet." We are not anonymous at all. Our name is SOCRATES.

There are contributors to the press who still speak of "the mistress and servant of servants" but every one who is an employer of servants knows who his mistress now—Louisville Courier-Journal.

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