# EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER-PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, OCTOBER

### Jublic Tedaer EVENING TELEGRAPH UBLIC LEDGER COMPANY R. Ludington, Vice Presidenti John C. Williams, John J. Spurgeon, Directora, Williams, John J. Spurgeon, Directora

POLITICS IS RECONVENED!

The President's Statement Unbridles th

Mouth of Partisan Rancor at the Most-

Dangerous Time for the Nation REGARDLESS of party lines, every

ought to mourn the blunder of judgment

which led him to issue his amazing

appeal to the public for the election of

Democratic Congress. We say "regard-

less of party lines" advisedly and with

purpose of accent because until yester-

day there were hundreds of thousands-

yes millions-of Republicans as well as

Democrats who had been schooling them-

selves to think constantly of the nation's

Chief Executive as the first citizen of

America and not as the first Democrat.

But in the face of this bitterly partisan,

perilously close to demagogic, denuncia-

tion of those representatives sent to Con-

gress by Republican majorities, they

must now perforce accept the President

in the light he pictures himself as the

leader of the Democratic party commis-

sioned to be the chief factionalist office-

holder of the nation. It is not a becom-

If there was one act more calculated

to open the Pandora's box of factional-

ism at this critical time in the affairs

of the country and the world, it is hard

to conceive it. Politics, which the Presi-

dent himself solemnly adjourned for the

duration of the war last spring, is now

reconvened with all the folly and bias

that must follow in its train, and the

presiding politician is none other than

Mr. Wilson, whose every sentence in

yesterday's deplorable statement seemed

jealously intended to preserve his

right to wield the gavel. Henceforth,

even against the better counsels of

patriotic moderation and prudence, the

pettiest political huckster in the ranks

of either major party will feel licensed

to blate and blow his rancor, no longer

afraid of that decent sense of restraint

which the gravity of the larger national

and international crises has heretofore

invoked. He will be unafraid because

the President himself has indulged in

Admitting that Mr. Wilson has had

some provocation; admitting that Colonel

Roosevelt and others have perhaps

flagrantly disregarded time, taste and

occasion, and that recently there has

been a growing tendency on the Repub-

lican side to criticize the Administration

more sharply than last May when poli-

tics was adjourned in that memorable

address to Congress, there surely should

have been nothing serious enough to dis-

turb his serenity. He has suffered not a

hundredth part of the harassing to which

the Democratic party subjected President

Lincoln during the Civil War, when as a

body it declared the effort to preserve

the Union by force of arms a failure

and demanded peace at any price. More-

over, not all of the criticism has been

Republican. It seems as if. Mr. Wilson

is impatient and intolerant of criticism.

Especially is this true if it comes from

anybody unfortunate enough in his eyes

Not long ago the President called it

'the people's war." but his statement

gives it the aspect of an exclusive, per-

sonally conducted Democratic party en-

terprise, thereby challenging Republican

hostility and attack. Already the Re-

to be a Republican.

and invited partisan controversy.

ing or gracious posture.

true admirer of President Wilson

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Philadelphia, Saturday, October 26, 1918

END OF DAYLIGHT SAVING

DAYLIGHT saving will end for the present tonight. Turn your watch and the clocks back one hour when you retire. Tomorrow morning you will find them in step with all other timepieces and with no railway trains and the working schedule of the rest of the country. The official adjustment of the nation's clocks will take place at 2 a. m., when the hands will be moved back to 1 o'clock.

None of the experiments instituted in this country since the war began has been more successful, more popular or, on the ie, more generally beneficial than that which actually added an hour of sunlight to everybody's working day. The wonder is that such an arrangement was so long delayed and that the pressure of war was ssary to force humanity generally to an arrangement so logical and so happy.

The word is still mightler than the

#### COLONEL HOUSE ABROAD

TO MOST of the country Colonel E M. House is a hazy and somewhat romantic figure of mystery who is preuned to be constantly busy with secret and extraordinary services for the President and the country at large. There are times when it must seem that he belongs in a book rather than in real life. The extent of the Colonel's achievements, like he nature of his service, is not generally mown. His presence in France at this ime would indicate that he is accustomed to a silent place of immeasurable importoo in the actual work of government. Colonel House has appeared suddenly Europe as the veritable other self of the President at a time when trying differences remain to be settled among the os themselves. Has he been sent as personal ambassador-extraordinary of the President to impress upon Allied men the need for a united policy for peace as well as for war? Is he to be the President's voice in Europe, saying things that may not be trusted even to the cables or the wireless-appealing for unity of lomatic aim as well as for unity on the battlefront?

If Colonel House has been dispatched or the President in the endeavor to

have been "pro-war," but the admission is grudging when it is followed by the rebuke that they have been "anti-MR. WILSON IN THE CHAIR

Administration." Have they? Last August the National Security League prepared a chart showing how the members of the Senate and House had voted on the eight principal war bills

or motions leading up to the declaration of war, all of them impliedly involved in the "acid test" which the President himself laid down in his letter opposing the re-election of Representative Blayden, of Texas. It established beyond shadow of doubt that the Democrata voting wrong-or disloyal-outnumbered the Republicans several to one. Indeed that has been something like the proportion prevailing throughout the legislation since. The most persistent opponents of

of the various selective draft bills-the

most dangerous legislation from the poli-

ticians' point of view-to Representative

Kahn, a Republican, rather than to the

chairman of the House Military Affairs

Committee, Dent? Yet the stigma of

important war measures could not have

been passed but for the Republicans.

Yet the President wants to make believe

that the Democrats are his only hope of

salvation. Is it fair? He wants to con-

be entirely amenable to his desires.

Worse things might happen to the coun-

try. The public has generously approved

the President's course in foreign rela-

tions. But if he is so sure that he is

right and that the public believes he is

right, what should there be to fear in

submitting his program for real examina-

tion to the body constituted by law to

pass upon it? Would any Senate, Re-

publican or Democratic, have the

temerity to oppose a just peace, even

though it might indulge its prerogative

of talking about it a while, holding it up

to the light and examining it from all

sides? What harm would come from

that? Wouldn't it rather be beneficial?

The peace treaty will be the most impor-

tant in history. It will bind this nation

a long time after Woodrow Wilson has

ceased to be President. Has he so much

confidence in his own judgment that he

will not brook advice and consent even

We are sorry the President has made

this step. It will hurt his prestige with

a multitude of persons who believed that

from the time when he got rid of the

man who more largely than any other

single individual made him President he

had slowly been eliminating from his

mind the idea that only "deserving

Democrats" could be trusted in patriot-

ism. It will stir up bad temper and

jealousy that will not disappear after the

election. But, above all, it will give the

Huns the pretext to say-which they could

not truthfully say before yesterday-

that if by chance the people elect a Re-

from the Senate?

Is it sincere?

And follow all the little paths That lead to Arcady the war and of the Administration's policies were among the members of the President's own party. Did not the Ad-Never insist upon a thing until you ministration have to intrust the passage have it.

History Confused

BEATRICE WASHBURN.

PRUNES AND PRISMS

Roads

Through meadows purple with the sun

Folt we have walked the wide white way where all the passersby

And hold their straight heads high.

WE HAD fergot the fairy folk. And, when we heard them tease,

We only thought the wind ..... high

Now let us leave the lonely road That stretches endlessly

Trudge soberly with Christian feet

WE HAD forgot the little roads

And silver 1. the shade.

Out in the forest trees.

Events are moving so rap dly these days that we wonder whether the megaphone lecturers on the sight-seeing cars ma, not get their history a little tangled? For instance:

"anti-Administration" is the Republican "This is Independence Hall, where the reward. How about the chairman of the Finnish delegates signed the Declaration of Finndependence"; or "This is Mount Vernon, where Dr. Thomas Masaryk said most important committee in the Senate-Foreign Relations-the late Sena-Sure I cut down the cherry tree; I did tor Stone, of Missouri, who even voted it with my Slovaks."" against the declaration of war? Many

Or even, "This is Plymouth Rock, thrown by Oyster Bay at the White House."

Prince Max says the new system in Germany "involves a new mode of government in Alsace-Lorraine." Exactly. Even Clemenceau will agree.

vince the voters-even those "credulous" ones, as he sneeringly calls them-that Quaint Quartets only a Democratic victory will hearten We bought last week a great big Bond our allies and distress Germany, when To knock the Kaiser silly-the truth is that Germany has had more

Now how about a few Thrift Stamps To finish Little Willie?

You know it, our Triangle Huts Music's what HE enjoys: Come then across with mandolins And records for the boys!

The Red Cross we must all support-But how my money goes! I wish that I were rich enough To wear my oldest "cloes!"

Though some war work is rathin hard I like it. I declare-At last l've got a really good

. . We used to end up our invites With neat R. S. V. P.'s-Now in the corner we engrave

> More Thoughts on a Bitter Theme

Gilbert Chesterton remarked once that many forerunners would have felt rather ill if they had seen the thing they foreran. Sir Walter Raleigh, we feel, sure, would never have invented smoking if he had foreseen Swedish matches.

. . It is a curious phenomenon that Scandinavian safety matches will peek a boo your rousers with burnt holes, though they will set fire to nothing else. It is well to keep your garments as far away :; possible while engaged in the gymnastic of

rubbing tandstickers upon their box. We call this a "gymnastic" advisedly, for many people believe in removing their clothing while spending the eveniry lighting a safety Swede.

Speaking of Sir Walter Raleigh, the Pobacco World (Philadelphia's smokiest magazine) reminds us that next Tuesday is the 300th anniversary of the death of that noble knight. He was beheaded at the command of King James in 1618, ostensibly for having frisked the Spaniards of some bullion, but probably because of his love of tobacco, which James detested. Every well-nurtured smoker will blow a lew reverent whills on Tuesday in honor of the shade of Sir Walter. According to our way of thinking, no democracy can long endure which is not based upon a faithful use of the corncol pipe. If the Czecho-Slav and Polish and Ruthenian and other statesmen now in session at Independence Hall will teach their future subjects to smoke the sooth ing cob they will have comparatively few ructions. The corncob is nature's great sedative, composer of peevish minds and antidote for hasty passion... If only we had sent a shipload of corncob pipes to Russia the Bolshevik uproar would have



# WHAT A CONGRESSMAN SEES

Semiweekly Letter Touching on the Washington Doings of Personalities Familiar to Philadelphians

#### By J. Hampton Moore

NTEREST in the improvement of Darby Creek is revived by petitions to Congress for a survey of that stream. The Yocum & Powers Company, George Grayson, C. L. Serrill, George Kyle, William P. Taylor, the H. K. Mulford Company and

Washington, D. C., Oct. 26. | sailed on all kinds of ships in all the seas of the world and sometimes happened to be the only American of. board. When the war broke out he registered in the Eleventh Ward and being a seaman was put in the fourth class. Then he went to sea again and after three months landed in San Francisco. Going ashore without

## **READER'S VIEWPOINT**

The Sacrilége of Closing

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger. Sir—"And David built there an altar unto the Lord and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings, so the Lord was entreated for the land, and the plague was stayed from

Israel."-II Samuel, xxiv, 25. The State Commissioner of Health inhibits any semblance of the above action. He arro-gates to himself the prerogative of infallible censor against the ordinance of Aimighty God.

First. This'is eacrilege ; it is also against public pelicy, for it means a serious loss to the people of moral and spiritual convic-tion in the promises of God. Second. It is a fearful thing in a time of

trial and affliction to deprive the people of the needed support and reliance upon the

friends on the Democratic side of the House and Senate than the Republican. The President speaks of divided leadership. Here his fears are better grounded. This must mean that he does . . not wish to share leadership, such as peacemaking, with the Senate, which by the Constitution holds the treaty-making power. He wants a Senate which will

. .

Excuse to bob my hair!

"Do come-if you don't sneeze! ARSINOE.

unify national aims and to arrange for their open publication to the world he is charged with one of the weightiest misns ever laid upon an American-espedally one holding no official position of direct responsibility to the people.

Mr. Wilson wants a Democratic House and so do all the Democratic Congressmen

#### SOFT-PEDALING THE WOODEN-SHIP PROGRAM

**QINCE** the early outbursts of enthusiasm over the prospect of transforming American virgin forests into "sub"-defying vessels have been lately followed with coniderable soft-pedaling of that alluring theme, officials of the Emergency Fleet House the people of Europe, which is all Corporation are said to be considering general readjustment of the wooden-ship rogram "with a view to limit the produc little harbingers of Democratic campaign funds have been saying recently-less

The 3500-ton wooden commerce carrier frendy finished, or soon to be completed I. moreover, probably not be used in the stlantic trade. Chairman Hurley cests that some be placed in the oil between Mexico and the United thus releasing steel tankers for an service, and that others he subituted for coal coast barges, whose fleet to have been augmented with twenty million dollars' worth of new craft. contract for their construction has wisely canceled.

sel is prosaic, but it is thoroughly The idea of winning the war wooden ships was a characteristic of our native romanticism, which a typically has a way of yielding to use when all the conditions of emergency are fully appraised.

you don't watch out the, anti-splitting will get you.

AUSTRIA ON THE SLIDING BOARD IN the House of Usher, the cracks the House of Hapsburg are, though not surprising. The crash now fully under way. Fiume, the sole of Hungary, is seething with rebellion. Budapest reports nation of the badgered Burian Hungarian Premier, flounders and is said also to have quit. iments in Karolivicz have over-

selve the present dramatic exhausted Austria-Hungary g active troops are stagger impact of a terrific new Ital-to be hypercautious. That having of Emperor Kari's

publican congressional leaders and Mr Taft have made sharp but dignified rejoinder, conveying thoroughly wellmerited rebuke.

Examination of yesterday's statement must be discouraging to those Americans-not primarily either Republicans or Democrats-who are proud of the heights to which the President has lifted the aims of this war and who are not blinded by prejudice to the very many virtues and superb abilities which he

inclusive, will believe that his leadership

has been repudiated. That is what the

boldly and more evasively than he-

against the indignant protest of hun-

dreds of thousands of Republican buyers

of Liberty Bonds and devoted Republi-

can workers in the cause of the war. We

have ignored such cant and hypocrisy

among these professional jobhunters and

jobholders because they did not seem

worthy of refutation. But it is amazing

to find Mr. Wilson echoing and enlarg

ing upon their babble in a formal pronun-

ciamento to the nation. The only possi-

ble explanation must be that in an un-

guarded or irritated moment he has been

misled into adopting this falsehood by

certain of those self-seeking counselors

who are ever at the elbow of a great

How could Europe believe that the

election of a Republican majority in the

House or Senate would weaken the de-

termination of the American people to

see the President through the war to a

victory and a just peace, when the leading

Republicans in and out of Congress were

in favor of defeating Germany before he

had made up his mind even to the needs

of preparedness or to alignment on the

side of the Entente Allies or to demand-

ing redress for the horrors inflicted upon

humanity in the guise of Belgium? It

was these same Republicans who were

denouncing with righteous indignation

the rape of Belgium when Mr. Wilson

was still urging the nation to be neutral

in thought as well as in action. The

public has not forgotten the Democratic

refrain in 1916-"He kept us out of war"

ther have the Allies nor Ger-

tie is what he i

man.

publican Congress he has been rebuked for his war policies. They will condemn him out of his own mouth. We are truly sorry. has brought to bear upon the problems of American diplomacy. In substance England, France he says that unless Democratic majori-This Unruly Italy, Portugal, Serbia ties are preserved in the Senate and

World! the Slavs-Jugo and Czecho-as well Spain and Scandinavia officially volced their approval of President Wilson's manner of handling the German situation just after Colonel Roosevelt announced his bitter dissatisfaction in a torrential telegram to the Senate. We have money to bet that Europe now wishes it had waited a while and

avoided the weight of august displeasure certain to fall upon it. Telephone service in What Else approaching a normal Could They Do? condition. And we suppose the telephone ompany has rigged up a lot of extra dynamos to carry the pent-up conversation of the cossipers who usually camp on one side of a party wire for an hour at a time

The pay of a pres Why There agent in one of the Are Scandals good suppress agent of the sort that the

a great deal more than that. It may be said, with Home to Reest out exaggeration, that

the legendary Furies odiments of great sins that return inevitably to destroy their perpetrators, are having a sort of old home week in Berlin.

Even though one of This Is the candidates for the governorship in Penn Inexcusable sylvania is a voluntee freman, it is by no means likely that he will so to victory in a blase of glory.

Our own notion, based He Wen't Care upon the aspect of affairs in Germany, is

that his real name is Prince Mix.

The Reichstag has given Prince Mazimillian a four-fifths vote of confidence, but what does the lacking fifth amount to so long on the Kalsor trung bins?

We are getting interested in these 'zecho-Slovaks. They are fine fellows, we have no doubt; but still we hope they are not entirely exempt from human failings We wonder, for instance, whether a Czecho Slovak husband and father ever forgets to mail a letter, or keep on talking because he doesn't know just how to break off a conversation that bores him. If so, we shall hall him as brother.

calmed down long ago.

Here's Dove Again The Kaiser cannot grind his teeth At the liberation of Liebknecht Because they have already been Set on edge By President Wilson's last note.

DOVE DULCET.

The League of Notions

Dear Socrates-Permit me to apply for nembership in your League of Notions. have invented a humor serum, by which people of light, waggish dispositions can be inoculated against excessive untimely laughter and all the jocose fevers that afflict the irresponsible. The treatment is implicity Itself: it consists of tieing the patient to a post and reading aloud to him half a dozen pages of the Congressions Record. After that he will never laugh again. The limitation upon this serum is triffing.

It will not work within ten milles of Oyster Bay.

We feel that there is still hope for th German people, for according to Clemen Shorter (who got it, from the Berlin Tage blatt) three of the plays now running in Berlin theatree are Hamlet, Charleys Tante (Charlie's Aunt) and Sherlesk Seince

other Philadelphians have written strong letters or, the subject. They claim that the whole of the Delaware River front between Chester and Philadelphia is now taken up and undergoing improvements, some of them of a national scope, and that the time has come for the Darby region to be considered. Following the cue, for which Theodore E. Burton, of Ohio, at one time chairman of the Rivers and Harbors Committee, is responsible, they have begut. to call their stream a river-Darby Riversince in Burton's day the charge, of "pork barrel" in connection with "creeks" was overcome by calling them "rivers." That is how Cooper River, once familiar to northern Camdenites as "Cooper's Creek." attained its present legislative distinction. . . .

RED tape continues to be one of the crueities of official life. The more departments, boards and commissioners we create, the more red tape we have to unwind before the plain citzen can get satisfaction. And we have never had more of those bureaus than now exist. They puzzle citizens, lawyers and members of Congress alike. . And sometimes the Government suffers even as the citizen does. Ir. the matter of war risk insurance the dependents of soldiers are now up against delays and confusion approaching the intelerable. The pension bureau, the quartermanter's bureau and the war risk bureau each must be consulted some time to ascertain why a dependent wife and children do not receive the soldier's allotment. We are doing many big things-some wonderful things-in this great war, but there are many small things, many essentials of a detailed nature, that shock and distress the individual. An avalanche.of grievances has been coming forward with respect to soldiers' mail. "Why is it not delivered more regularly?" is the query of a hundred anxious writers in a single constitues "I have received no allotment for three months," comes the lead pendil appeal, of many poor wives of soldlers fighting for their country in France. "Won't you ask the bureau to hurry it along?" Is a to these inquiries Congress is provid dditional \$7,500,000 for clerk h incidentals. The war risk bureau alone is said to employ 14,000 clerks, but the

. . .

his registration card he was picked up by the United States marshal and sent to an army camp. He managed to get the situation explained to City Solicitor Connelly, of Philadelphia, and then the Washington inquiry was started. Erbe's anxiety for sea service, for which he was fitted, was brought to the attention of the War Department and the United States shipping board. Mr. Hurley said the shipping board was in need of just such men. The War Department said they would give Erbe up if the merchane marine needed him. Much correspondence ensued and Erbe's becam a familiar case. Months elapsed, but the correspondence continued. The merchant marine demanded sailors qualified for the service, but Erbe remained in the army camp. One day it developed that the young sailor had been shipped to the embarkation point. Nearly six months passed. Mr.

Hurley was again calling for young Americans to go upon the ships. Erbe's application and indorsements were still pending.' Then the army order to move was giver. Erbe's furlough was granted, but the War Department replied laconically, "Too late." The young sallor is now with the army in France and the merchant marine is looking for men.

. . .

CHARLES R. HAMILTON has been mak-U ing some Washington inquiries con cerning his son, Ross, who is now in France. The boy volunteered in the First City Troop last year and when the troop was broken up he was assigned to the cavairy, United States Remount, 103d Engineers. For the last six months he has been connected with the 108d Mortar Trench Battery with the fighting Twenty-eighth Division. All reports concerning him have seen exceedingly favorable. ' Evidently the boy acquires his cavalry inclinations from his father, who is enough of a horselover to take an occasional blue ribbon. The Hamiltons, moreover, come from Revolutionary stock, because of which Charles R. keeps alive the family traditions through active membership in the New Jersey buclety of Pennsylvania. An appropriate thing for Colonel John C. Groome, who is now organizing the military policy of the American army in France, to do, would be to corral the gallant young City Trooperof Philadelphia under his wing and let them work together. It would be like an American homecoming to that strangely scattered band, but such things evidently are not possible under existing military arrangements. Of the City Troopers, ever, it is to be said that they went into

Mexico and stayed on their job like men;

nd when broken up and scattered to the

ir corners of the army, they dicine and performed their this do they had done is control

church's ordinance, Third. The danger from the opening of the church, if it exists at all, is infinitesimal in comparison with that which results from keeping open public offices, where accommo-dation is small and hours are long, and yet these cannot be closed. Fourth. If to close Government and other

departments of business would be out of the question, it is equally contrary to public policy to close the church and thereby slience God's witness, which speaks for Him and

His people in city and country. Fifth. General Pershing sent this mes-sage: "We rely on the churches at homs to keep the spirit of the people white-hot with patriotism and courage until victory has been

The man that cut off the limb he was sitting on came to grief; is this the accom-plishment which the State Health Commis-sioner is siming at?

SAMUEL UPJOHN. Rector St, Luke's Church. Germantown, October 25.

A Perfect Reply

To the Editor of the Rowing Public Ledger: Sir-1 want to congratulate you upon the spiendid editorial upon the Freakdent's note, which appeared today in the Evgening PUBLIC LADGER.

To its contents nothing can be properly added nor taken away. It is in itaelf a perfect reply to the German letter. JOSEPH MELLORS. Philadelphia, October 24.

One may say, if one is sufficiently reck-less, that the House-ing problem will be promptly put up to Germany. The colonal of the whole situation is unmistakalis.

Perhaps the Berlin stocks which went up yesterday are pertinently prophetic. In that case Germany itself will soon follow

What Do You Know?

OUIZ 1. What American statesman arrived in France 4. For what provide is the mod 1. What succe In Murane is the daughter of the

Bing of Masterster 8. What is a share? 6. What is a share? 8. What is Willigh 3. Beyan's names State? Answers to Yesterdey's Ouis

1. The Presets Partiquent is compared Rantis and a Chamber of Statistics 2. Carrier of the Unit of Vice President

And the second state the

the weiters, the colebrater Without Highganes Thacker

A 12 . .

#### work lags and correspondence is delayed. A consolidation of these war bureaus is being discussed. CALVERT CRAVAT. PPEALS for men to man the merch Aships sound strange to Louis Erbe formerly Coundilman from the Eleventh Ward, whose son, Louis J. Erbe, has to France. Since April, 1918, you has been the subject of an unu secondary dispersionling inquiry.

city departments is announced as \$25 a week. average municipal department requires costs

8.8