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Evening Public Ledger
THE EVENING TELEGRAPH
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Philadelphia, Friday, November 22, 1918

CRIMSON EMBROIDERIES FOR INAUGURAL NIGHT

Among the good lives of the eighteenth century two-bottle men were common, much more common than four-quart men are likely to be among the local politicians.

The Senator is wise to make this rule. If he had not made it there would be countrymen watching the inaugural parade who would not think that the Union League had moved to Harrisburg in a body to do honor to Governor Shrewb.

The frock coat, commonly called a Prince Eddie for the occasion, is the badge of conservatism. It is assumed that it is to be worn beneath the four-quart hat as an indication that the capacity of the stomach beneath it. Comes are to be carried, also. With a crook in the handle, too, to tuck the crook in the elbow which must accompany the consumption of the four-quarts.

Everything indicates, as Oscar Wilde would have said, that brilliant crimson embroideries will be hung on the curtains of the inaugural night in Harrisburg.

REJECT THE BIDS

The demand of the Chamber of Commerce's committee of representative citizens that the street-cleaning bids be rejected is not one which can be disregarded with impunity.

The bids are too high. In the first place, instead of being less than those of this year they are about a third of a million dollars higher. The specifications, in the next place, are fatally defective.

What is needed, if any change is to be made in the specifications of the Blankenship administration, is some provision which would make it cheaper for the contractor to do his work than to skip it.

Those of them represented on the Chamber of Commerce special committee have displayed an admirable purpose to assert their mastery, and to demand an accounting from their servants.

SQUEALS AND TORTURES

LARGENESS of mercy accompanied the end of the Civil War, but Henry Wirz, prison superintendent of Andersonville, had no share in it.

But Germany, brazenly lawless for food from compartments of prisoners whom she has persecuted with infamous cruelty, is a nation of Wirzes.

The true test of government efficiency in the immediate future will be in our ability to retain all that is creative and restless and pioneering and constructive in the American system of industry and at the same time submit it to wise and helpful regulation.

It is amazing to observe the hold that the theory of public ownership has upon the Washington mind. Mr. Lewis, Mr. Burleson, Mr. McAdoo, in some of his moods, and a great many men in Congress and the Senate appear to believe that governmental control of all utilities

port, without fit clothing is one of almost indescribable distress.
Repatriation rules were categorically set forth in addenda to the tenth clause of the armistice. They have been cynically violated. At the prison camps, beyond the present jurisdiction of the Allies, the opportunity for repatriation was immediately grasped.

Great Britain, burning with a sense of outrage, addresses the nobly organized German Government in a note which clearly makes the chance of receiving food contingent on instant reform in arrangements made for the discharge, equipment and transport of prisoners. The mist of feeble sentimentalism promptly vanishes before such wholesome plain speaking.

SHALL WE MARCH BACKWARD WITH FEDERAL OWNERSHIP?

There Room in America for Imagination and Constructive Genius or Must We Call These Things Evil?

IF OUR Government were organized like most of those in Europe Senator J. Ham Lewis would be adorned with a title far more resonant than the one he is soon to lose.

The resolution for governmental control of all public utilities which Mr. Lewis offered yesterday in the Senate reveals him in the familiar role. It was long expected. The Senator from Illinois even now has a passionate thumb at your wrist.

For the prospect suggested in the movement for government ownership in America is bleak indeed. The theory proclaimed by Senator Lewis makes for evolution—backward. It would put all the unrealized purposes of American industry, all the unfulfilled hopes of American constructive genius and all the forces of individual talent, enterprise and vision under the control of Congress.

Even under the existing arrangement we have had definite and sinister evidence to prove the dangers of government ownership in America.

Mr. Burleson and his subordinates did not hesitate to use their control of telegraph wires to intimidate newspapers dependent upon the telegraph system for their very existence. It is not difficult to imagine the endless evil uses to which unscrupulous men in either party could put the power that would fall to them with control of the wires and the railroads or the inevitable decadence of a system of utilities rotted out in contact with the feudal factionalism of community politics.

But it is at the top that government ownership would be most certainly disastrous. Sectionalism is still the curse of Congress. Whatever may be charged against the industrial captains of the past—and they were robust and persistent sinners often enough—it must be admitted that they developed the great utilities from a national viewpoint.

The industrial pioneers in this country represent almost all that we have of creative genius. They did great good and great evil. They were beneficent and they were ruthless. Their offenses and their achievements were alike great.

Congress has its virtues, of course. But it was Congress that rolled in pork and laughed at army officers when they begged in vain for funds with which to carry on aviation experiments before the war.

The mystery of Von Tiritz's which is a horror of war which had disappeared when the Hun admiral appeared yesterday from a long retirement, has already yielded the whole world to feverish speculation.

It is amazing to observe the hold that the theory of public ownership has upon the Washington mind. Mr. Lewis, Mr. Burleson, Mr. McAdoo, in some of his moods, and a great many men in Congress and the Senate appear to believe that governmental control of all utilities

represents the ultimate jewel of modern economic thought. No greater delusion ever flared from a soap box.

Government ownership as it is contemplated in Mr. Lewis's resolution of yesterday represents a theory contrived to protect peoples who have admitted in desperation that they are unable to protect themselves. It is a doctrine suitable only for the backward peoples of Europe, for those who cannot or will not think for themselves, for tired millions and burnt-out races who prefer a paternal government and an existence of slack indolence rather than independence and responsibility.

THE CHAFFING DISH

TO JUDGE by some of the soft soprano helps we hear from Germany about the armistice terms, it seems that she thinks the truce was arranged simply to please her errand fairy.

Will government ownership of "means of communication" imply that not answering letters will be treason? Firing squads will be busy, we fear.

THE OPERATOR SPEAKS

With all its worry and haste, the cries of "Booy! Booy!" "Shoot this to the copy desk!" "Watch that A. P. bulletin wire, kid!" "On the Jigger!" "I" office clamoring: "WIKES-Barre has 500 for you."

THE HOSPITALS' SHARE IN VICTORY

THE superb efficiency of the Pennsylvania Hospital's overseas unit is more eloquently expressed in figures than by any marshaling of glowing epithets.

THE PATRIOT ON THE HEARTH

He's got out more'n a hundred flags. Draped his whole house with bunting. Chants praises to the grand old rag's Achievements at Hun hunting; Then—hollers home each night on Jags Like a pickled Fritz grunting.

WILSON THE HUMANITARIAN

Now that a complete victory has been achieved by America and her noble Allies, our hearts naturally turn to the principal causes for this brilliant success.

THE PRESIDENT SHOULD ATTEND THE PEACE CONFERENCE

Since you have started this interrogation about the personnel of the peace commission, let me say as for one reader that I am not in favor of sending any one unless the President goes at the head of the American delegation.

WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

- 1. Where is Harwich, when twenty German submarines have been surrendered to the British?
2. How many Germans are said to have been killed in the war?
3. Why is the capital of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg?
4. What State does Senator Borah represent in the United States?
5. What is the name of the general who was called the Great Duke?
6. What is the origin of the word potato?
7. Who was Alessandro Manzoni?
8. What are the two largest cities of Japan?
9. What is the meaning of nepotism?
10. What are comets made of?

SOMETHING ACCOMPLISHED, SOMETHING DONE

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THE READER'S VIEWPOINT

Tribute to Mothers, Wives and Sisters

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—I would appreciate it very much if your paper would publish this open letter of thanks to Messrs. Gimbel Brothers for the wonderful tribute paid by those gentlemen to the mothers, wives and sisters of the boys in their employ who responded to the country's call, some never to return.

Nobody Home

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—Last Monday morning, November 11, I awoke at 4 o'clock, my wife and I were awakened by the peace whistles, and quickly arose, dressed and started for the Bulletin office to see the latest news. They called "Don't believe it unless we say it." Their office was deserted—no one home. We then went to the Ledger office, read the news—war over—and the boys were selling the Ledger telling the news. WILLIAM J. SCHNEER, 356 Spring Garden street, November 20, Philadelphia, November 18.

Wilson the Humanitarian

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—Now that a complete victory has been achieved by America and her noble Allies, our hearts naturally turn to the principal causes for this brilliant success.

Don't Forget Von Bernstorff

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—The Kaiser and his rat-faced son have fled to Holland, Von Tiritz to Switzerland, Hindenburg at Cassel. What has become of that arch platter and sneak, Von Bernstorff?

The President Should Attend the Peace Conference

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Thanksgiving Pumpkin Pie

Oh, the mellow days of autumn When the sun is hanging low; The harvesting is over And our hearts are all aglow; The proclamation's sounded, Thanksgiving's drawing nigh, And already comes the longing For the old-time pumpkin pie.

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Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

- 1. General Petain is in command of the French troops in the Balkans.
2. Charles E. Keese is a member of the House of Representatives.
3. King George broke precedent this week by signing a bill into law.
4. The invention of "static" with the result that wireless communication will not be hampered by atmospheric conditions, is the latest accomplishment in radio science.
5. Wedgwood is a kind of semivitrified pottery named after its English inventor, Josiah Wedgwood, who lived during the eighteenth century.
6. Joseph F. Smith, head of the Mormon Church, has just died in Salt Lake City.
7. Woodworth, Colbridge and Swisher are ranked as the Lake Poets.
8. George Meredith, in the Grand of Richard, is the author of "The Sign of the Cross."
9. The "Great" was the name of the Mountain.
10. Louis McKinley was elected President from Ohio.