

Evening Public Ledger and THE EVENING TELEGRAPH PUBLIC LEDGER COMPANY

Published daily at Public Ledger Building, Independence Square, Philadelphia.

Subscription Terms: The Evening Public Ledger is served to subscribers in Philadelphia and surrounding towns at the rate of twelve cents per week, payable to the carrier.

Member of the Associated Press THE ASSOCIATED PRESS is exclusively entitled to the use for republication of all news dispatches credited to it or not otherwise credited in this paper, and also the local news published therein.

"NOT GUILTY" The Mayor of Philadelphia does not have to go to jail with Ike Deutsch, Police Lieutenant Bennett and the other little fellows who did the dirty political work in the Fifth Ward scandal, because the Philadelphia Jury in his case was not of the same mind as the West Chester Jury in theirs.

Although the case required ten days for presentation, the testimony covering 200 pages, or 75,000 words each day, the twelve jurors did not deliberate long over it, acquitting as soon as they could take their first ballot. As one of them put it, they had talked it over as the trial proceeded and were in agreement from the first. So it is clear that they were not very deeply impressed with the charges against the Mayor.

But there were many things brought to light at the trial which require explanation by the Mayor to the public. What does he think of those higher officers of the Police Department in whom he placed such childlike trust that after he told them the police must be kept out of politics in the Fifth Ward he dismissed the subject from his thoughts, despite the fact that every newspaper reader in this part of the State knew how flagrantly the law was being violated?

The Mayor heard every word of the damning evidence against these officials. They convicted themselves out of their own mouths. What verdict will be found as their official chief? We venture in all probability to answer, but we venture the opinion that the people of Philadelphia, while they have spared the humiliation of seeing their chief municipal magistrate go to a prison cell along with his guilty subordinates, are decidedly unsatisfied with the unmanly dodging in which his principal police officers indulged on the witness stand. It was convincing evidence of official incompetence and a thorough housecleaning of the Department of Public Safety is immediately in order.

GOVERNOR SPROULS OPPORTUNITY THERE is too much talk about unemployment in the United States and too little action. Pennsylvania so far has a cheering record in the statistics of the present labor situation. There is no enforced idleness in this State, though unemployment is becoming something of a problem elsewhere. The situation is not such as to warrant the somber warnings which Secretary Wilson, of the Federal Department of Labor, has just coupled with a request for a \$100,000,000 fund for emergency work. Mr. Wilson is merely beginning now a constructive scheme which he might better have started a year ago.

The industrial and financial and natural resources of this State are perfectly adequate to provide plenty of employment at decent wages. If they are wisely and promptly utilized and adjusted. The national government is in a mood to do all that is possible to help in stabilizing the prices of raw materials in order that manufacturers may proceed as usual without danger of loss.

Now the City Played Host The hospitality which blows its own horn of insincerity, and this imputation would be cast on the numerous Philadelphia households of private in-

dividuals who sought to make life pleasant in Philadelphia for service men on leave at various times during the exciting year of 1918. Patriotism and humanity spontaneously prompted the admirable work accomplished. Necessarily the record of that achievement is imperfect, but the War Camp Community Service has none the less set its statisticians and estimators to work, and its approximations need no florid commentary to heighten their meaning.

THE WASHINGTON MYSTERY GROWS GREATER EACH DAY

One Corner of the World Where Every One Sternly Refuses to Agree With Any One Else

YESTERDAY, while President Wilson was talking of endless peace at Paris, Secretary Daniels talked at Annapolis of a dominant navy. Before any one can tell whether we are drifting into times of enduring quietude or to years of overwhelming armaments and new and mighty enemies the House Committee on Military Affairs is placidly approving plans for a standing army of 500,000.

It is commonly said in Washington that the President is to blame because he didn't take the country—or its Senators and Representatives—into his confidence before he went abroad. Does the skipper of a ship tell his owners just how he is to make his course daily and hourly upon strange seas?

Mr. Wilson appears to have known before he started for Europe what every one who reads has since been able to perceive—that he was to be opposed by forces as formless and as dangerous as a tempest and as difficult to grapple with. It is apparent that he has had to steer, as any good navigator steers, not in accordance with previously determined forms and formulas, but according to the drift of tides and wind and weather.

Washington is making a noise to show that it is busy, whistling to keep its courage up and waiting for some real news by which it may form solid judgments and be its old self again. Foreign parliaments and kings and chancellors and prime ministers are doing precisely the same thing. The whole world is whistling to hide its weariness and its concern. Every one is trying to feel matter-to ease the stress of waiting.

Those who are actually interested in America will do well to remember in these days that talk is easy and achievement difficult. The critic has no responsibilities. Those whom he criticizes have great and heavy ones. Washington is killing time. A part of it is getting into mischief for the want of better things to do. Mr. Burleson, with his wires, and Secretary Wilson, of the Department of Labor, when he talks of Bolshevism in America, are running rather wild. They show the absence of a guiding hand. They, too, are symptoms of a general affliction. Washington is like a man in an empty house, who feels suddenly anxious and forlorn and wishes the family were home, without knowing what to do meanwhile.

Definite criticism, definite plans, schemes for the future will be impossible until the President returns and makes his report to the nation. We shall have to know the nature of the future world before we can know the terms upon which we can deal with it.

For the present the world is in flux. There is no precedent to guide America, nothing in history which might guide a man in dealing with the situation which confronts the American delegates at Paris. We shall have to trust for the present in the astuteness and devotion of the President. There are men in Washington with reputations for sagacity to maintain and others who haven't outlived the pleasure which they derive from seeing their names in print, if only in the Record. When we know how far the nations of Europe are willing to go to avoid the sickening menace of future wars and the almost equally ruinous burden of armaments we shall be able to make plans and talk intelligently of the future.

pean peace that vast investments, commercial interests, enormous loans, flying ships and wireless and all the rest of the war's aftermath have involved American interests deeply with those of Europe. Anything that helps to the peace and comfort of Europe will help to the peace and comfort of America.

CONGRESSMAN MOORE'S LETTER

Primary Systems, Old and New. Souvenir Cannon Wanted—Spontaneous Origin of a Local Political Ditty

Washington, Feb. 1. THE suggestion attributed to Larry Eyre, the debonair Senator from Chester County, that Pennsylvania shall abandon the expensive primary election system and return to the nominating conventions would have interested me among the interesting experiences of my busy life the appearance he once made at the Walnut Street Theatre as spokesman for Tom Dugan, the Republican nominee for Coroner. The delegates from the various wards were duly assembled and the organization preliminaries were all over when the noted surgeon was pushed out, actor-like, from behind the flies. He quickly told about Tom Dugan's virtues—there is an affinity between the Coroner's office and the medical world—and as quickly made his bow and backed off the stage. "It was a pleasure to do that little thing for Tom and the party," the doctor used to say, "but I would have been just as comfortable in the operating room." And that old convention system, while it was abused, generally compelled the parties to put up good men, or at least forced their sponsors in the open where the voters could see what was going on.

MILTON SHAPTO, who keeps in touch with Uncle Davy Baird and the big fellows on the New Jersey side of the Delaware, used to be one of the top lights at the Builders' Exchange. He was "almost" a member of the celebrated "Skidmore Guards," of which Franklin M. Harris, the late Bert Hoover, Cyrus Borner and Charley Westor were charter members. In recent years his activities have been transferred to New York, although he keeps an eye on the Washington situation, having a son in the navy. The members of the Builders' Exchange, when the record is written, will show up strong in their personal and financial contributions to the war.

CHANGES of personnel at Frankford Arsenal and the recent laying off of many of the war workers remind us of the home-coming of Colonel George Montgomery, who worked so long and industriously to force the arsenal to the front as the biggest small-arms ammunition plant of the country. While the Colonel was at the head of the institution Rock Island, Springfield and the others were kept awake and watching. The commandant believed in Philadelphia and kept everlastingly at it.

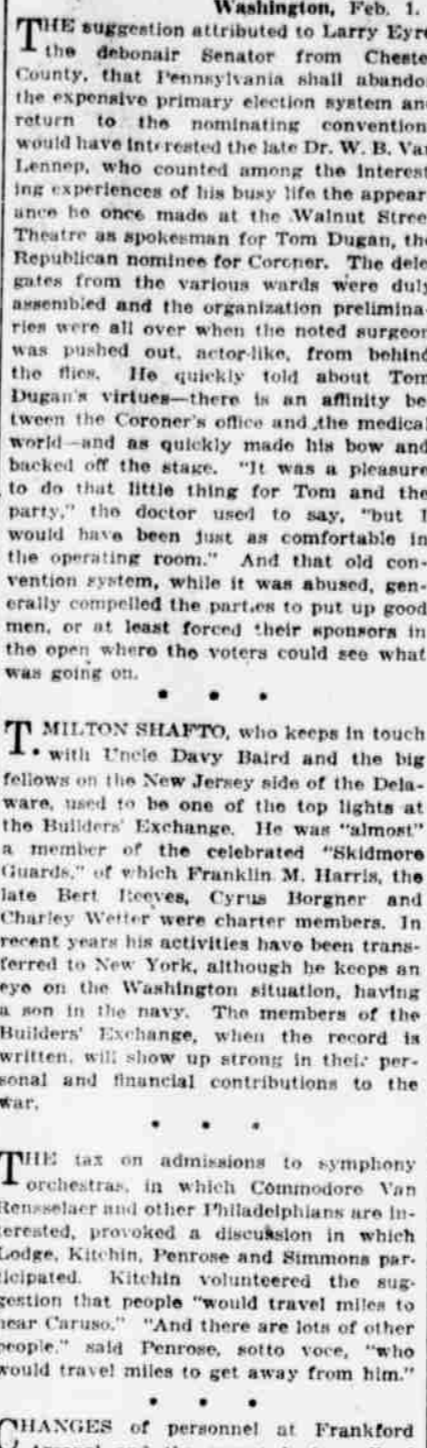
MAJOR A. J. DREXEL BIDDLE, who stands very close to General Barnett, the head of the marine corps, is giving Bible class talks in Washington churches. Tony is generally announced as carrying "a burning message from the front." He is just as good-natured and popular in Washington as he is in Philadelphia, and as the "devil dogs" know that he can set up his fists and make a good fight, a la Jack O'Brien, they respect his appeals to the nobler side of life. And so long as we have Tony on the mat why not recall that early temperance movement of his about the time his active mind took up the Bible class idea? Disposed of all the wines in his Walnut street home and proclaimed milk his favorite beverage forevermore! That was beating the thirty-six States to it.

HERE'S one that helps to clear up the story of the origin of the South Philadelphia marching song that greeted President Wilson on his arrival in France. Congressman Vane, who is an authority on downtown products, vouches for it. During the fight of the Leaders' League to wrest control from the old Martin-Porter combination, Harvey K. Newitt, who had been started in politics by Senator Porter, was selected to run for Receiver of Taxes against William J. Roney, who was very close to Senator Martin. The Vane brothers were getting the First Ward delegates in readiness for the convention at the old Quay Club at Seventh and Mifflin, but just before the boys were ordered to move to Charley Fowler, a local celebrity, who had been reading about "the gang," which was a familiar political term in those days, began to sing out after the manner of the camp-meeting enthusiast, "Hail! Hail! the gang's all here." To which the come-back was "What the hell do we care?" And thus, according to the Congressman, was planted the germ from which has sprung the rival of "Tipperary" and "Marching Through Georgia."

FORMER GOVERNOR EDWIN S. STUART, who is now at the head of the Board of City Trusts, which looks after Girard College and the Girard Estate generally, has started something in the war office. They are all enthusiastic Americans in the Girard Estate, and acting for his fellows, the former Governor is seeking to obtain one or more of the cannon captured from the Germans to be placed on the grounds of Girard College. The Governor is in early, but the War Department has been receiving so many requests for captured war material or for unused material desired by various institutions for memorial purposes that nothing has been done thus far except to make record of the requests. As in most European war matters the department has put the requests up to General Pershing, around whom, personal and official, all American war matters in Europe seem to center. The department seems unable to tell just how much captured cannon and other war material will be available. Some of it has been shipped over for exposition purposes in connection with the Liberty Loan drives, but it will be some time yet before any general distribution is made.

Secretary of Labor Wilson tells us, in effect, that we should take our dose of "hysteria" calmly. The 19th Artillery, the old Second Regiment, is going to sail as a unit. And that's the way we'll welcome it. With the lifting of restrictions on the construction of steel ships a possibility in the near future, Uncle Sam's merchant navy will get a big boost. France has proposed to the Powers that Finland be recognized as an independent nation. Her sister nations have, so far, considered her merely a "flapper." The announcement that the New York Shipyards will employ from 3000 to 8000 additional men is a fine optimistic note among altogether too many "blue" ones. The National Association of Merchant Tailors has ordained that man shall wear "shapely, form-fitting raiment in 1919." Back to the paint and feathers! Word comes from Paris that the Czechs and Poles are willing to accept the decisions of the Peace Congress. Already we begin to see the effect of the self-denial of the big powers in the matter of the Hun colonies. The President's victory on that one point will have far-reaching results.

SPEAKING OF THE CONTINUOUS FLIGHT RECORD



ELBOW ROOM Tomorrow HOW sweet a consolation there is in that little word "tomorrow." The poets have given it an unduly melancholy tang—probably because "sorrow" and "horror" are the only ready rhymes for it. You can never trust a poet to tell the truth when he is pinched for rhymes.

Yes, We Bit It is sad to have to confess that the following was pulled on us by a caller from Brooklyn. "Why is it," he asked, "that when you're looking for something you always find it in the very last place you think of?" "Why, indeed?" we murmured placidly. "Because after you've found it you don't look anywhere else."

As to Cartoonists We missed Irvin Cobb's "Eating in Two or Three Languages" when it appeared in the Saturday Evening Post, but we were lucky enough yesterday to run into it in book form. We think Herb Johnson's pictures, which are reproduced in the little book, are about the best amusement we have chuckled over in a long time. Particularly the one that shows Irvin falling to on a plump chicken leg with plenty of gravy, and Mr. Hoover, with tears in his eyes, is begging him to stand. "Herb!" cries Irvin, "stand back! Stand well back, to avoid being splashed!"

Fixed Ideas SOCRATES, long have I loved and admired you; Fertile your brain, lad, and fervid your pen. With no "Fixed Idea" how was it they hired you? Oh, Soc, if you love me, don't say it again. For where were the fun in the day's dizzy battle; The scratching for shekels, the looking for loot; Had we no "Fixed Idea" to din on and prattle. Had we nothing, me darlint, to argue about?

What Do You Know? QUIZ 1. How many United States army camps were maintained in the country during the war? 2. What long popular American comedian died yesterday? 3. What are the ailerons of airplanes? 4. How many Palmars are there in the Bible? 5. When did President Wilson deliver his "Fourteen Points" speech? 6. When did George V ascend the throne? 7. Who discovered the Virgin Islands in the West Indies? 8. Who said "After me, the deluge"? 9. Who invented smokeless powder? 10. What is the meaning of "fortissimo"?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz 1. The capital of the Australian Commonwealth, pending the transfer to Canberra in Melbourne, in the State of Victoria. 2. The word "saute" means jumped. 3. Iowa is the "Hawkeye State." 4. Lake Erie is the shallowest of the five great lakes of America. 5. Bart is the abbreviation for baronet. 6. The United States pays the Panama Republic \$250,000 annually for occupation of the Canal Zone. 7. Guglielmo Marconi invented wireless telegraphy in 1909. 8. The majority of the Presidents of the United States were lawyers by profession. 9. Sixty minutes make a degree in circular measure. 10. Anthony Trollope wrote the novel, "Bartholomew Rector."

THE TRIOLET

Your triolet should glimmer Like a butterfly; In golden light or dimmer, Your triolet should glimmer, Tremble, turn and shimmer, Flash, and flutter by; Your triolet should glimmer Like a butterfly. —DON MARQUIS.

Maybe They Have Their Own Ideas Director General Ples, of the Emergency Fleet Corporation, in a recent interview, said, by implication, that striking shipworkers were unwitting benefactors and unconscious political economists. He declared that with increased wage there had come decreased efficiency, and that what the shipyards needed was a breathing spell to make the necessary readjustments. Which, of course, is not at all what the shipworkers are fighting for.

British Colonials have a grievance against the mother country because of the assent of the English delegates to President Wilson's plan for the government of the Hun colonies; but the grievance is one that is likely to disappear as events unfold.

There is a scramble among the "wats" in Harrisburg to get on the band wagon—which, in this case, is the water wagon. Man is a gregarious animal. And the man who dares to be a Daniel is only occasionally found.

The trouble with some of the laws for regulating the freem business is that guns are regulated out of the possession of law-abiding citizens, while crooks and thugs manage to get them. This is distinctively encouraging to a burglar in the wee sma' hours.

If one doubts the fact that German propaganda is still active, one has only to read the wireless dispatches of some American correspondents in Berlin. At this date one may find therein veiled defenses of submarine warfare, pitiful stories of German suffering and alleged fear of German Bolshevism; but not a word of regret for Hun rapine, nor a word of confession concerning German business's deliberate destruction of French prosperity.

Speaking of Fontaine Fox, the origin of the Toonerville Trolley is amusing. Fox was at one time a reporter on a paper in Louisville, Ky., and was sent out on an assignment to write a story about a ramshackle old street car line that was a disgrace to the town. Instead of writing his story he sat down on a convenient curbstone and drew sketches of the ancient vehicles as they rumbled by. The newspaper, seeing their comic value, printed a series of the pictures, and the public meriment was so great that the old cars were laughed out of existence. Subsequently, when Fox became a cartoonist, he took up the idea of the old trolley and developed it in the way all students of our comic page know.

We tell this from memory only, but Fox told us the tale himself and we think the facts are very much as we have stated them. We are not aware under what sign of the zodiac Mr. Wilson was born, but certainly he was not Capricorn. We have yet to hear of any one getting his goat. Compared to W. W. Job was hot-tempered and quick on the trigger.

Speaking of Unanswered Letters In human intercourse the tragedy begins, not when there is misunderstanding about words, but when silence is not understood. —Thoreau. We are more afraid of Tories than of Mandarins. SOCRATES.

CONGRATULATIONS

CONGRATULATIONS to the new President of the United States, Mr. Woodrow Wilson, on his inauguration. We wish him every success in his new office.

CONGRATULATIONS to the new Mayor of Philadelphia, Mr. Joseph S. Egan, on his inauguration. We wish him every success in his new office.

CONGRATULATIONS to the new Governor of Pennsylvania, Mr. Sproul, on his inauguration. We wish him every success in his new office.

CONGRATULATIONS to the new Secretary of Labor, Mr. Wilson, on his appointment. We wish him every success in his new office.

CONGRATULATIONS to the new Secretary of War, Mr. Dugan, on his appointment. We wish him every success in his new office.

CONGRATULATIONS to the new Secretary of the Navy, Mr. Daniels, on his appointment. We wish him every success in his new office.

CONGRATULATIONS to the new Secretary of the Interior, Mr. Clegg, on his appointment. We wish him every success in his new office.

CONGRATULATIONS to the new Secretary of the Agriculture, Mr. Clegg, on his appointment. We wish him every success in his new office.

CONGRATULATIONS to the new Secretary of the Commerce, Mr. Clegg, on his appointment. We wish him every success in his new office.