

Evening Public Ledger THE EVENING TELEGRAPH PUBLIC LEDGER COMPANY... EDITORIAL BOARD: CHAS. H. K. CURTIS, Chairman... JOHN C. MARTIN, General Business Manager...

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS... THE ASSOCIATED PRESS is a specialty entitled to the use for reproduction of all news dispatches credited to it or not otherwise credited in this paper, and also the local news published therein.

THE SOLDIER'S JOB IT HAS been apparent from the first that there was a tinge of hysteria in the prophesies of extensive unemployment in the United States.

Soldiers it appears, aren't satisfied always to return to their old jobs, for the simple reason that the discipline and training of the army has given them new ambitions and new desires.

There is a likelihood that the quickening industry of the United States will find places for all these men before long. We shall have need of skill and ambition and intelligence for the great tasks that are now opening up before the business men of the country.

OUR GOVERNMENT ABROAD CONGRESS were in session now there would be ominous rumblings because in April virtually all the active heads of the American Government will be in Europe.

Washington will be vacant. And yet, as matters are developing in Europe, it must appear to every thoughtful person that we cannot have too many representatives there to keep an eye on the situation.

It is rather comforting to feel that we are not to be left in ignorance of these things. Knowledge must be the first essential of our own future preparedness.

YOU CAN'T EAT PAPER BECAUSE some retailers compel the purchaser to pay from forty to sixty cents a pound for certain prepared meats, including the paper wrapped around them by the packers, the consumer pays the price of meat for paper which he cannot eat.

When the purchaser protests the retailer says that he has to pay for the wrappings at the price of meat and must sell them or lose money. If the Bureau of Weights and Measures can persuade the Legislature to pass a bill which it has drafted making it an offense to include the wrappings in the weight of the meat the householder will rise up and call it blessed.

WAGES THAT SELDOM RISE THE intention of the Presbyterians in America to use \$1,000,000 of a fund now being sought to increase the salaries of ministers reflects an interesting side of the general wage question.

Workers of all sorts have had a share in what is usually called war prosperity. Professional men earn and spend more than they used to. Clergymen and school teachers have had most difficulty meeting the pressure of high prices.

employments in a time when the value of a man's services was measured by the extent of his contribution to the destructive work of war. Teachers and ministers have a merely constructive mission in life, and for that reason they now range among the lowest-paid workers.

Those who direct the public education system say with truth that they haven't money to raise teachers' salaries. But the statement has a ring of complacency.

WHAT CAN BE DONE WHEN YOU WANT TO DO IT Detroit Has Shown the Way in Which We Can Follow if We Have the Nerve to Scrap Outworn Things.

ONCE more we commend to the attention of every one interested in the betterment of Philadelphia the series of articles appearing on this page in which Mayor Couzens, of Detroit, describes the successful housecleaning methods of that city.

It took Detroit only three years to wipe out the old abuses and make a new start. It reformed the election laws under which the corrupt politicians had been defeating the will of the majority.

The new charter provides for a City Council of nine members, not elected by wards nor by districts, but on a general ticket. This Council takes the place of the old Board of Aldermen of forty-two members, chosen two from each ward.

A complete revolution in the management of the affairs of the city has taken place in an incredibly short time. The city is alert and facing the future. It has nearly doubled in size in the last eight years and now has an estimated population of 850,000.

This is what happens in a young and growing city facing the future. The attention of Detroit is concentrated on the great things that it is to do instead of on the great things which it has done.

Philadelphia has for years been in the state of the old man proud of his past. There are encouraging symptoms now manifest that it is renewing its youth. The leaven of a wholesome discontent is at work.

It has taken twenty years or more to bring Fairmount Park by way of the Parkway into the heart of the city, and because of the delay the cost has been more than doubled. But within the last two or three years the enterprise has been pushed, until the roadway is nearly completed.

and we all know it, but we have hesitated for years to take advantage of the facilities with which nature has generously supplied us.

Some day we shall have a great union railroad station, which will bring the through trains into the heart of the city and disclose to the traveler from the West and the East something more than a passing glimpse of the outskirts of the town.

And some day, too, our subway system, now woefully inadequate to accommodate the people who use it, will be expanded, and developed until all parts of the city are linked with all other parts by rapidly moving trains acting as shuttles to weave the fabric of civic unity.

SPRING AND GASOLINE AUTOMOBILE saloons such as that which is revealing its glimmers in Philadelphia this week are usually timed to the advent of spring, the season of hope.

The motorcar industry is not troubled by the stresses and confusions precedent to peace. It is transcendent. And that is because it gives a man an amazing lot of happiness and satisfaction for his money and contributes vastly to the health of his spirit.

Airplanes will never displace motorcars, because an air machine is tricky and treacherous, while a motor on wheels is the embodiment of gracious obedience. And it is more faithful than a dog. Most drivers wonder why their machines go at all.

Any old devil-wagon gives stimulus to the imagination of the man who drives it because there isn't one driver in a thousand who can sit down and tell you why the thing goes. Most of the persons who ride in automobiles have, therefore, the happy sense of moving always in the arms of mystery.

The mascot of the Idaho will, of course, be Daily Daydreams.

If a small Council is a good idea, why not a small Congress?

A meeting of "Ham" Lewis and Piez ought to provide food for thought.

Even with increased rates water will remain the cheapest and best beverage.

Food prices and taxes are alike suffering from bad attacks of the "jumps."

Much of the reconstruction and readjustment necessary these days is in the mind.

Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Idaho may now "point with pride" to the new battleship.

If we really need the 14,000 volunteer police now being commissioned ours is indeed a parlous state.

The governments of the world after squandering their dollars will by and by get down to counting their pennies again.

One thing that makes Bolshevism impossible in this country is that bondholders are too common to be rallied against.

There are some things the war has not changed. Handkerchiefs are smaller, but noses remain the same size as formerly.

It will now be the dream of inventors to build a battleship that can sink the Idaho without giving her a chance to use her guns.

Hearing on the Rorke bill in City Hall today. It may be accepted as read that the white light of truth will be turned on the blue laws. Three cheers, etc.

One thing the war proved: Wealth or lack of it had nothing to do with patriotism. Rich and poor alike were for the most part 100 per cent American.

If Silas Wegg's taxidermist friend chance to be a member of the Town Meeting party he would doubtless describe conditions in Philadelphia as "Politics, Vicious."

The coming generation will probably see the extremes met in the development of the fastest method of transportation and the slowest—the airship and the inland waterway.

REFORM IN DETROIT The Election Laws Had to Be Revised Before It Was Possible to Get the Right Kind of a Charter By JAMES COUZENS Mayor of Detroit

Major Couzens, of Detroit, explains today for the benefit of the Evening Public Ledger readers how the city secured a new charter which made it possible to get rid of the abuses which had grown up under the old-fashioned partisan political system.

DETROIT'S first step toward a better government was made when the Detroit Citizens' League and other nonpartisan elements undertook to have the election laws revised. This was in 1915 and Detroit at that time knew the "controlled precinct" so prevalent in other municipalities.

An amendment was secured to the state election law permitting volunteer organizations to place challenges in the booths. Thereupon ensued a bitter struggle and the volunteers had to keep their places in the booths with the aid of their fists.

One of the last acts of the old boards was to pad the registration rolls at the general registration in the fall of 1916. It was the intention of the unscrupulous ones to mark ballots for the thousands of fraudulent names.

DETROIT'S conscience was beginning to awaken. Men who had never voted before began to do so, whereupon there arose a demand for a new city charter, concise and simple, to replace the old one of 866 odd pages, grown contradictory because of its many and varied amendments.

IN NOVEMBER, 1917, the proposal to revise the charter was passed and a commission of nine nonpartisans set to work to write the new instrument. It was completed and submitted to the people on June 25, 1918. The newspapers were unanimous in its support and the only opposition came from the members of the forty-two-man Council which its provisions would reduce to nine men, elected at large.

This charter provides for a nonpartisan government of ten men, nine Councilmen and the Mayor. Such a government was elected on November 5, 1918. No faction or district obtained a preponderance of representation. The members were fairly divided between the east and west sides of the city and the men elected are for the most part business men.

While exulting over the presence of Woodrow's grandson in this city, let's not forget that Mr. Wilson's grandfather was a citizen of this town for some years. James Wilson, who thought so well of all his seven sons as printers, came over from the north of Ireland in 1807 and got a job on the well-known Philadelphia paper of that time, "The Aurora."

The voters picked these men from sixty odd candidates. My own campaign was conducted without the use of campaign cards or banners and the expenditure was less than \$2000. I did use newspaper advertisements.

The charter adoption was assured by good sensible advertising copy, appealing to the pride of the electorate in good government. The advertisements were paid for by subscriptions of representative citizens. On election day the Detroit Citizens' League supplied tags reading: "I Voted—I Am an American—Did You?"



THE CHAFFING DISH

Poems on Ticker Tape Life doesn't give a chap a chance to relax: If it isn't the flu it's the income tax. If it isn't the tax it's the willful men who are trying to crab the L. of N. or maybe the rent or the doc to pay! But cheer up, hearties, for some fine day we'll be over the bills and far away.

Social Chat May we not say how delightful it is to find that there is at least one other fellow who doesn't answer letters any more promptly than we do? Doctor Krusen, step out and receive this respectful citation!

We know now why Mr. Wilson was so eager to seek the conclusion that a cabin grant. He wanted to be left alone with grants. He wanted to be left alone with grants. The complexities of the league covenant are child's play by comparison.

We sometimes wonder how many Presidents of the United States were able to sing the "Star Spangled Banner" and hit both the high and low notes without a vocal blow-out. According to one biographer, Thomas W. Wilson can do it admirably, and his associates on the University of Virginia Glee Club still remember "the thrilling effect with which he usually achieved the high note near the end of the 'Star Spangled Banner.'"

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It is always curious to find out just what aspect of Philadelphia has made an impression on those who have never visited here. We were privileged to give Mr. and Mrs. John Galsworthy a first glimpse of the city the other day, and we found that the thing that had been lurking in Mr. Galsworthy's mind was that Joe Hergeshelmer lives near here. "One of your best novelists," said Mr. Galsworthy, speaking of Hergeshelmer. We assent with great gusto to his regrets is that Joe lives far

THE COLOR SKETCH

DOWN through the mists from the azure blue Reached the Hand of God and a picture drew. It sketched the world in the grip of Thor And boldly pictured the hell of war—Heaps of dread in the captured trench, Yankee, Briton, Hun and French; Heroes gutted in ghastly grain, Men with their faces shot away; Fallen braves like the sickled grain, A harvest leveled by leaden rain; Shrapnel, canister, chain and grape, Wanton murder and fendish rape; Fatherless homes where grief and strife Dwarf the vision of future life. And over all a portentous cloud, The widow's mourning, the soldier's shroud.

Then with a brush of rainbow hair The Master Hand spread the color there—Breath of the gun, an opaque gray; Crimson glow of the dying day; Purple stains of pillage and pelf; Black, the blackness of death itself; Grass in the red of slaughtered man, Dried by the red of cowardly flight, Yellow streak of the cowardly flight, Bleaching carcass of sickening white; Tones discordant when seen too near, Composition all out of gear; Viewed carried away from present fears, But from a distance of fifty years, In perfect harmony, bright and fair, Will Liberty stand depicted there. —George Willard Bonte, in the New York Herald.

News of the riot of Canadian soldiers on Tuesday last at Rhyd, Wales, was suppressed until Saturday. The asininity of the censorship is here beautifully displayed. Suppression could serve no good purpose. As a matter of fact, if there had been no suppression of the news of the grievances that brought about the riot there would have been no riot.

What Do You Know?

- QUIZ 1. What was the republic of New Granada? 2. In what war was the battle of Lundy's Lane? 3. When did Ivan the Terrible live, and who was he? 4. In what play by Shakespeare does the character of Ariel occur? 5. What country was called Lusitania in Roman times? 6. How many square rods make an acre? 7. What is a samovar? 8. Why succeeds to the presidency if both the President and the Vice President die during the same administration? 9. What self-governing colonies compose the Union of South Africa? 10. "On les aura" was a French slogan, current during the war. What does it mean?

Answers to Saturday's Quiz 1. Thomas Collier Platt, long a Republican Senator, from New York, was known as "Me Too." 2. Irving L. Lenroot is a Senator from Wisconsin. 3. "Charivari" means medley of sounds, hubbub. 4. The chimera of Greek mythology was a monster with a lion's head, a goat's body and a serpent's tail. 5. Queen Victoria died in 1901. 6. The Yakon is the longest river on the Pacific side of the American continent. 7. "Hotspur" was Sir Henry Percy, a leader in the rebellion against King Henry IV of England. He was killed in the battle of Shrewsbury in 1403. 8. Louis Napoleon was Emperor of France for about nineteen years, from 1852 to 1870. 9. Cabotage is coasting trade. 10. A "mass" in billiards is a stroke made with the cue held perpendicular.