## Evening Bublic Tedger THE EVENING TELEGRAPH

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Philadelphia, Wednesday, March 19, 1919

#### PEACE GARDENS

ON THOSE trains that run to the placid suburbs of the Main Line and in the smokers on the Reading seed catalogues are being more generally read nowadays than the covenant of the league of nations.

War gardens were a revelation to millions. They took the poker-kink out of many a wrist. They were found to provide better exercise than tennis and soberer recreation than golf. The home gardener has been developing his enthusiasm largely under the stimulus of war for four years or more. He started a new American habit.

The coming spring will show whether be is to continue as a national symbol and sign of an improved acquaintance with the great outdoors. Many Americans learned through war gardens that fresh vegetables are worth a prolonged tussle with the earth that gives them up.

Now that war is past there will be a temptation to fall back to less systematic exercise and the garden stuff that comes in hucksters' wagons. Watch the peace gardens for a test of national consis-

### FERRY DAYS ARE NUMBERED

THE ultimate disposition of the German ships may be in doubt, but it is highly likely that the fate of a different fleet was sealed by a measure which Senator Vare introduced into the Legislature yesterday. If it goes through, the Delaware bridge bill which he thus sponsors will extinguish the archaism of ferry service between this city and Cam-

There should be no regrets save only in reference to the fact that the needed undertaking has been so long delayed. Inertia and a characteristically Philadelphian acceptance of remediable handicaps have held up for years a perfectly feasible project.

The bridge to Camden will neither be the longest, the costliest nor the most wonderful in the world, but it will be one the functions of which will be of signal ment of two deep-water port cities can hardly be overestimated.

There will be obstructionary tactics. of course, discussions over plans and termini, wrangles over property seizures, snarls about appropriations.

Improvements in Philadelphia always go through those afflicting stages. Witness the Parkway. Yet this boulevard is taking satisfactory shape at last and the bridge must follow suit. Moreover, there are hopeful indications of speeding up. Popular sentiment is strong for the project and the political machinery is sympathetic.

The appearance of the bill is a cheering step forward. Perhaps we can begin numbering the ferries' days.

## POLITICS IN SPRING

DO THE cosmic moods precedent to spring affect the sensitive balances of great minds?

We have been passing through alternating days of gloom and glorious light. Almost invariably, when a day is wintry and cold, Colonel Harvey and Medill Mc-Cormick find new horrors in the covenant of the league of nations and deliver themselves dispiritingly in print.

If you look up the most important pronouncements of Senator Lodge you will find that his changes of mind and his consciousness of a desire for a league of nations have always been registered on bright and sunny days that gave promise of a warm and early spring!

# THE VETERAN ARMY

THE veterans are organizing. With the honorable example of the G. A. R. before them, it was inevitable that America's overseas forces should seek to establish enduring social bonds in memory of freedom's victory.

But the new organization will necessarily be on a far larger scale than was even the Grand Army of the Republic in the days of its greatest membership, and hence the representatives of our troops who are now meeting in Paris have acted wisely in adopting merely a tentative constitution which will hold until a national convention of the A. E. F. men is held next fall.

November 11 is the appropriate date suggested. By that time it is hoped that agreement will have been reached on the mportant matter of a name and that definition will be made of the general inciples and object of the vast society. Wilson men and Roosevelt men, Taft men and Bryan men fought side by side

in France for the clear-cut cause of liberty. Americanism in the noblest and broadest sense can thus become the ideal of the millions of warriors who will band together in recognition of Homeric days.

As to the distinguishing name, it can wait until taste and discrimination have found the right one. "Grand Army of the Republic" was an inspiration. The United States army of the universal conflict should be characterized with equal dignity and equally accurate verbal splendor. "Legion of the Great War," "Veterans of the Great War" and "The Liberty League," which have been already proposed, hardly fill the bill if only because such names are also applicable to armies of other nations. The composition of a onc-line poem is in order in honor of the fast disbanding, yet immortal, A. E. F.

#### ROGUES ARE TOLERATED: HONEST MEN ARE TRUSTED

This Is What Cleveland Proved by His Work as a Municipal Reform Pioneer

WHEN the importance of what Grover Cleveland did for municipal reform is fully appreciated the anniversary of his birth is likely to be celebrated more widely than is the present custom.

It was observed at the Cleveland School, at Nineteenth and Butler streets, yesterday and a company of Democrats get together in New York and in some other cities and did honor to the memory of the man as a sturdy Democrat.

But it was as a municipal reformer that Mr. Cleveland first dawned upon the consciousness of the nation. He was elected Mayor of Buffalo in 1881 on the Democratic ticket, it is true, but he assumed office not as a Democrat, but as a citizen of Buffalo determined to administer its affairs on business principles. There was neither Republicanism nor Democracy, according to his view, in the laying of pavements or in the building of sewers or in the cleaning of the In his inaugural address he laid down

the principles which he intended to apply when he said, "We hold the money of the people in our hands, to be used for their purposes and to further their interests as members of the municipality, and it is quite apparent that when any part of the funds which the taxpayers have thus intrusted to us are diverted to other purposes, or when by design or neglect we allow a greater sum to be applied to any municipal purpose than is necessary. we have to that extent violated our duty. There surely is no difference in his duties and obligations whether a person is intrusted with the money of one or many."

Mr. Cleveland was a reform Mayor compelled to work through a City Council controlled by the politicians, who were interested in personal profit rather than in economy and efficiency. He scrutinized with care every appropriation that was made and vetoed those which were extravagant or without warrant of law. For example, the Council tried to divert \$500 from a legal fund for the public celebration of the Fourth of July to a company of citizens for the celebration of Decoration Day. He vetoed the appropriation on the ground that the Council had no power to make it and said: "I cannot rid myself of the idea that this city government in its relation to the taxpayers is a business establishment and that it is put in our hands to be importance. Its influence on the develop- | conducted on business principles. This theory does not permit of our donating public funds in the manner contemplated by your honorable body."

> The press of the city, without regard to party, commended this action, which a less courageous man would have been afraid to take for fear of offending the soldier vote.

Again when the Council authorized a contract for public work at an excessive figure he blocked the project by his veto. "This is a time for plain speech," he wrote, "and my objection to the action of your honorable body, now under consideration, shall be plainly stated. I withhold my assent from the same because I regard it as the culmination of a most barefaced, impudent and shameless scheme to betray the interests of the people, and worse than to squander the public money."

And when it was necessary to build a new main sewer he secured, against the opposition of the Council, the passage of a law authorizing him to appoint a commission to make contracts and issue bonds. He appointed the commission. but the Council refused to confirm it The next week he sent a message to the Council calling its attention to the character and fitness of the men he had selected and to the importance of the work and to the needless delay if the Council should adjourn for the summer without action. "I am convinced," said he, "that your honorable body do not care to be chargeable with this result." He put the responsibility where it belonged and the Councilmen were forced to confirm his appointees.

Here was a man who, was not afraid of the political organization of his party. but was afraid of betraying the inter ests of the people of the city of Buffalo. It was a novel and inspiring spectacle. He took office on January 1, 1882, and by the middle of the summer he had a national reputation. The plain people of other cities began to wish that a Cleveland would arise where they lived and take the lead in rescuing them from the political groups which throve on municipal patronage and cared little or nothing for the efficient conduct of public business. They felt instinctively that an honest man had emerged from comparative obscurity.

No rogue can fool the people. They may tolerate him when no better alternative is offered. But they know all the time that he is a rogue.

The record which this honest and sturdy lawyer made as Mayor led to his

nomination and election as Governor of New York, and the record he made in Albany as Governor led to his nomination and election as President of the United States. And all this happened within three years.

There is wide difference of opinion on the value of his work as President, for in that office he was a Democrat seeking to carry out partisan policies. His honesty and courage are admitted, but the Republicans do not and cannot agree that his Democratic theories were sound or that their application was good for

the country. But as Mayor of Buffalo, the only issue aised was that of honest and faithful execution of a business trust. Mr. Cleveland was one of the greatest modern municipal reformers. He applied in practice the sound theories which the academic reformers had been talking about for years. And he proved that they would work.

So we end as we began by hoping that in time the friends of good city government will gather in every great community on the return of March 18 each year and pay their respects to what this man did in the year that he was allowed to remain in the Mayor's office in Buffalo, The mere holding up to view of his achievements is a condemnation of the abhorrent practices prevalent in many cities today. Progress has been made since 1882, but we still have so far to go before we reach decent conditions that we should get all the inspiration possible from the pioneer work of such men as Grover Cleveland.

#### WHAT IS INTOXICATION?

MR. ROOT'S advice to his clients in the brewing business—his suggestion that they go on making beer with an alcoholic content slightly less than beer could boast in the old days-brings the whole question of national prohibition to a new phase.

The Legislature of New Jersey seems to have been letting its mind run in a channel paralleling Mr. Root's. It is friends suspect is not due so much to his hoping to use the co-ordinate power granted to states under the prohibition amendment to authorize beer with a 4 per cent content of alcohol, though Mr. Root stops modestly at 2% per cent

Plainly the people opposed to prohibiion are preparing to make a long and picturesque fight around the definition of one word that gives the new law all its strength and all its weakness. That word is "intoxication."

The statute is intended to outlaw "intoxicating beverages." It applies beyond all argument to whisky, gin and the like. But some doubts are developing in relation to beer. Can a beer made relatively gentle with Mr. Root's 2% per cent be called an intoxicant?

Before that question is decided it is necessary to define absolute and unmistakable symptoms of intoxication. That is a task that has worried mankind since grape juice first went wrong. Congress and the Legislatures of the various states will have to tackle it now. And the literature of government will be enriched and made luminous during the next twelve months by innumerable contributions to the age-long debate. Must a man stagger to be intoxicated? Is undue laughter a sign of the affliction? Or is a man drunk when he is happy at times when he really ought to be sad?

Congress must decide! Helgoland in to be Too Good for dismantled in the interest of there is a place suggested by the first syllable of the name of the island which will be allowed to retain its full equipment in order to deal properly with the

The more fact Sen-Words Already ator Lodge consents Replace Blows to debate tonight upon a subject about which he feels so strongly is tantamount to agreement in the basic principle of the league of nations.

If in your opinion any impediment Wanted exists why the na tions of the world should not be joined together in a peaceful teague, will you please tell the EVENING Purtic Ledger men about it today?

Root beer made after the Elihu recips will not be entirely "kickless

The weather man seems to have handed spring a powerful mandate.

The Medill pickle displayed at the din per of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick seems to have been anything but savory.

At any rate, the lawyer who compared leremiah O'Leary to Dreyfus and Joan of Are was tolerantly unafraid of religious

styles in men's straw hats, so that we may know what to expect when the sun gets a little higher. Whatever may be said in the progress

of the debate, purists will find some con-

solation that neither Lodge nor Lowell

And now they are telling us about the

will murder the king's English in Boston If the coal men are, as reported, ready to rescind the spring advance order, merely as the result of a threatened inves

tigation, the effect of a real probe might be even more beneficent. Not all of us may have remembered that Grover Cleveland was born eightytwo years ago yesterday, yet those who heed his dictum that a "public office is a

public trust" keep his memory green. begins to look as if the courts would have to decide what an intoxicant is. If they find it is as difficult as deciding when a man is intoxicated we are in for a at of confusing and contradictory rulings.

If it were not necessary for the chief of the Bureau of Housing and Sanitation to qualify by passing a civil service examination the thirty-one-hundred dollar-a-year job would have been filled long ago by a deserving political worker.

## CONGRESSMAN MOORE'S LETTER

Republican and Democratic Disagreements Discussed - Philadelphia Farmers Are Seeking Free Seeds

Washington, D. C., March 19. THAT the future may bring forth no one knows. There are certain signs of discord in both the Republican and Democratic parties, It is a part of the general spirit of unrest and uncertainty following the war. Over in the Senate the ees are buzzing around Senators Lodge and Penrose, who are hoping for unity when the time for organization comes. Two three Senators, notably Berah, Norris nd Kenyon, are still supposed to be off the reservation with respect to Senator Penrose's chairmanship of the Finance ommittee, but the "get-together" on the rugue of nations and the reasonable adatment of appointments on the House side are believed to operate favorably to the Pennsylvania Senator. Penrose is not unpopular with many of the leading Democrats, so there is very little opposition to him from that point of view.

In the House, the fight against Mann may have left some sores. It is hoped not, but when more than 230 men, many of them influenced by local newspaper sentiment, are looking forward to advancement In public life it is mighty difficult to satisfy So far as Mann and the new Speaker Gillett, are concerned, they will probably get along all right; but some of the ambitious spirits who turned in for Clinett have indicated an inclination to ask for more than they have received, which may lead to further trouble. In the event of trouble, Mann will probably be a leader with a vengeance. He will be in the same cosition on the floor that Champ Clark will be in, and as the two men are strong friends and expert parliamentarians they may help to make the new session the most interesting of modern times.

CLARK has been surprised to find oppogruff personality, as the Democratic insurgents allege, as it is intended to be a check to the ex-Speaker's presidential aspirations. It is something of a coincidence that "bad manners" should now be alleged against both Clark and Mann. Everybody con cedes the intellectual integrity and the legislative ability of the two men. They are held by their Washington friends to be incorruptible and therefore non persona grata with the lobbyists. Mann undoubtedly has offended many Republicans by sticking to his work when he could have been out making speeches or playing the game of good fellowship. He has hurt the feelings of many a man by short and sharp answers to injuiries propounded when his mind was filled with legislative detail. For this latter work he has been called "the great comma hunter."

Clark is as warm-hearted as any man in the House and can be brought to tears by mere reference in kindly terms to members of life family, but his handshake is like that of a pump handle and his monosyllable drawl is enough at times to freeze the blood of the warmest hearted commit tee that ever came to Washington. But Clark is a fighter and has the ear of the country. He quit the Speaker's chair with the hearty good wishes of Republicans and Democrats alike. If the thirty-odd Democrats who have signed up against his leadership expect to bowl him out of the presidential race because he is not particularly "sot" on President Wilson's views on certain public questions they are counting without their host. Champ and Claude Kitchin and others who have been upon the job during the war Congress will be as ready to take up the cudgels if the insurgent Democrats start something as Mann will be ready to take them up if he is crowded into a corner by insurgent Republicans. The situation is one that might well be considered by those distinguished harmonizers, the Honorable Br'er Hays, of Indiana, and the Honorable Brer Cummings, of Connecticut.

BUSY fellow is W. H. P. McCoy, who helped lots of the yoring chaps in the earlier war stages to get in line for officers' commissions. McCoy it a good mixer and generally finds plenty to do. He is now the Treasury Department's chairman of city activities for the Third Federal Reserve District, which is boosting war-say ings stamps. Along with N. Y. Worrall, another Philadelphia city chairman, McCoy can talk thrift to any who will buy, from Wanamaker and Stotesbury down to the boy in the street.

THE usual distribution of congressional seed is a sure harbinger of spring. And strange as it may seem, there are almost as many "garden-sass" growers in Philadelphia as there are in Texas or Oregon. Maybe not so many, but it seems so. One would not ascribe to Harry J. Tminer, of the Republican Alliance and the Third Ward, a special interest in literature on "How to Raise Alfalfa," and yet as a leader with his ear to the ground Trainer can see the poppies rise above the thin crust of earth as quickly as anybody. So can Isaac Heizel, who has a farm out along the Reading road, about which he keeps the Harmer Club posted. George Pierie used to say that his farm expert ments cost him the price of a couple of farms, but even so the "Darby Ram" must have its grass and garlie to browse upon and there are numerous farmers in the Twentieth Ward who are beginning to write that the planting season is upon

MANY Philadelphia boys are seeking dis-charge from the army hospital service. Most of their requests have been refused by the officers in command. While the feeling is general that discharges from the army should be hastened, the hospital ervice seems to be in a class by itself. The commanding officer at Fort McPheron, Georgia, explaining why the application of a Philadelphia private cannot be gra-

"As this hospital is full of wounded soldiers from the battlefields of France, many of them bedridden and helpless, it wil impossible to discharge any personnel nected with the hospital without rement. In this connection your atter is invited to Circular 77, a copy of wich is inclosed, which states very posi that men will not be discharged if it disrupt or cripple an existing orga tion." This is the "other side" of th charge problem.



Our Own League of Notions

WE DON'T know whether George Harvey is a father-in-law, but we imagine that if he has a daughter and some one wanted to marry her he might reply as

follows: "I have been studying the marriage covenant and am convinced that it is a makeshift document. Perhaps it will be amended in time, but the menace will still remain. I will not have my daughter led into a quagmire. I am opposed to the marriage covenant as it stands. I am opposed to it as it may be amended. I am opposed to it in principle. I am opposed to it in theory. I am opposed to it it practice. I regard this as the most un-American proposal ever submitted to an American father by an American young

"I am opposed to my daughter entering into any perpetual or permanent alliance with any man for any purpose-for war, for peace or for anything else. I am opposed to her yielding so much as a shadow or a suggestion of her sovereignty. I am opposed to any proposal that might by the remotest chance impair her absolute independence. I will make no concession to any man who, in the name of affection, would crucify her liberty.

"I pronounce it a crime that any redblooded American girl should be taken from her home and assigned to police duty in a far-off bungalow. I denounce this scheme as the absolute denial of democ-

Troubles in Missouri

"The back of this woman's gown was completely cut away to a point that reached about two inches below the belt line. I saw a respectable man of only middle age greatly embarrassed while dancing because he could find no covering of her back on which to rest his hand."-Central Missouri Republican.

We shall be sorry to lose Miss Liberty rom South Benn square. She carried on brough a perplexing year and had become a familiar and friendly companion. We believe that Joseph Pennell has called her an outrage, but then life is just one outrage after another for Mr. Pennell.

A Night in March MY PIPE was out. Against my heel I knocked the bowl, and stopped to feel The rush of wind that filled the night. braced my legs to meet its might.

Behind the rich man's garden wall Were cedars black and birches tall; And sycamores, bone-white and stark, Thrashed giant arms across the dark.

Above them in the windy vast, I saw the driven clouds go past; And in some sudden rift of sky The flash of planets burning high.

A breath of gusty joy I drew And wondered if the rich man knew What magic moved in such a night Outside his windows-shuttered tight. STEPHEN WARREN MEADER.

Root Beer

Elihu Root has advised the brewers of New York that they may continue to vend beer containing 2% per cent alcohol, on their assurance that it is not intoxicating. The question of the beverage's toxic qualities, says Mr. Root, "can be established

by the evidence of experts and other com petent witnesses."

We foresee an exhilarating career for

OR DO YOU WANT HIM FREE?

many of our friends who will immediately apply for positions as "competent witnesser. Funning and Perfuming

A returned Canadian colonel decsn't like he present military governor of Cologne, and declares that he will make him "stink

in the nostrils of all honest men." As Steve Meader pointed out to us among the spaghetti the other day, it is lucky for the said governor that he reantiseptic perfumery.

Washington is strangely peaceful these days, exempt from what Walt Whitman called "the never-ending audacity of elected

"No man, however strong, can serve ten ears as schoolmaster, priest or Senator and remain fit for anything else. All the dogmatic stations in life have the effect of fixing a certain stiffness of attitude forever, as though they mesmerized the subect."-"The Education of Henry Adams."

The Kaiser has sawed 1000 logs at Amerongen and ought to know a Hoch from a handsaw by this time.

"He came, he saw, he cankers," remarked ount Bentinck bitterly as he watched Wilhelm moiling in the courtyard.

Prep school students in New York for the Easter holidays, whose social obligations may require at a moment's notice a complete outfit for evening dress, sports rear, formal or informal day dress, may upon our organization .--- Advertis ment of a New York tailor

Some one is always taking the joy out of life for those poor prep school boys. Term time full of study and holidays full of "social obligations." How easy existence will seem when they face the trifling task of carning a living.

Suggested Epitaph for Wilhelm (Number 15 or so) A citizen of no mean atrocity.

Suggestions for Wilhelm

(From a Help Wanted column) LUMBER MAN to help in small lumber yard; steady employment. MAN WANTED, must understand thoroughly manufacturing of sheet metal novelties; high wages to right man. MAN to set up pins in bowling alley; \$14 per week. MAN to carry signs.

PRESSMAN, middle-aged man, reliable; must be willing to feed.

COMPLAINT CLERKS, permanent position for man experienced in tactful handling of complaints.
PIANOS—Grand bellyman, grand action finishers and coarse rubbers; steady

Is Boston troubled with insomnia? Thirty thousand Bostonians are said to have applied for tickets to the Henry Cabot Lodge-A. Lawrence Lowell debate on the league of nations. Or perhaps it was because the debate may be a triangular affair. You remember the old saw: Here's to good old Boston.

The home of the bean and the cod. Where the Lowells speak only to Cabots, And the Cabots speak only to God.

And think what a crisp retort will be received by the reporter who happens to ask Mr. Pepper what he thinks about I SOCRATES.

### SUN OF MARCH

WITH fanfare and with tantivy
The chasing winds swept past; The night was wild as night could be But fell in hush at last.

Dawn! And the Sun of March began To pace across the sky; No longer by the shortened span

Of wintry days gone by. The journeying orb was clothed upon With subtile-spun array;

t was, of light, the eidolon Amid a doubtful day. Now, like the thinnest wafer shong,

Behind a cloud-film gray;

And now, it seemed the moon, all wan, In heaven gone astray! But, swimming up the heightened arch, It pierced the veiling mist-

Lo, how the Silver Sun of March With silver all things kissed! Silver upon the waking streams

And dipping willow-spray; Old stubble-fields caught silver gleame-Old farm-roofs far away! And there was no obscurest spot

But had its magic gleam. .

The Silver Sun of March-it shot A white ray on my dream! Edith M. Thomas, in the New York

Spring seems to be really here. The frogs have begun to sing in the suburbs

Now that Senator Vare has introduced his bridge bill, which will be scrapped first, the Derfflinger or the Wenonah?

## What Do You Know?

What is the shortest route from conti-nent to continent across the Atlantic Ocean? What is General Pershing's middle name?

3. On what date last year did the great German offensive begin?

4. What is the meaning of "cap-a-ple"? 5. What is counterpoint

6. Who was Rembrandt Peale?

Why did a group of nineteenth century French posts describe themselves as Parnassians?

8. What kind of government is a pantisoc-

9. In what century was the Children's Cru-10. What is a cedilla and what is its use?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

Vermont was the first state after the original thirteen to be admitted to the Euphemism is the substitution of a mild or vague expression for a harsh or blunt one, as, for instance, "queer," for "mad." Euphuism is an artificial or

"mad." Euphuism is an artificial or affected style of writing. The baptismal name of St. Patrick was

Nacre is mother-of-pearl.

Washington is the "City of Magnificent Distances."

The nine Chief Justices of the United States were Jay, Rutledge, Ellsworth, Marshall, Taney, Chase, Waite, Fuller and White. An ingle is the fire burning on the hearth.

8. Oliver Goldsmith was described by Hor-ace Walpole as "An inspired idiot." King Midas in Greek mythology was en-

dowed with the power of turning every-

bear is personified under the name