

Evening Public Ledger and the Evening Telegraph PUBLIC LEDGER COMPANY

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THE LAST LEGISLATIVE LAP

THE Legislature faces four busy days this week, but the stimulus of state pride should be a significant compensation for the labor involved.

Much of the sanity displayed has been directly due to influence of an able and clear-sighted Governor. A special ceremony has been planned for his signing of the Philadelphia charter bill.

On the last-lap calendar are the suffrage amendment, which will almost assuredly be sanctioned; the teachers' salary bill, for which passage seems likely; consideration of the prohibition regulations and the workmen's compensation law changes.

PERPETUAL MOTION

THE Patent Office seems to be pessimistic about the possibility of the invention of perpetual motion. It has recently announced that it will consider no application for a patent on a perpetual-motion device unless it is accompanied by a working model.

SOUTHERN EXPOSURE

INTELLIGENT advantage of the fact that Philadelphia outgoing shipping routes point south is taken in the allocation of the freighter Nedmae—launched at Hog Island on Decoration Day—to a Buenos Aires and River Plate service.

In the lively clipper days of the early nineteenth century geographical position logically stimulated the port's South American and West Indian trade.

It is to be hoped that the voyage of the Nedmae, which is scheduled for the latter part of July, may be a prelude to a re-routing of shipping lanes based upon a perception of geography.

THE NATION IS BEHIND IT

THE prudent senators who wish to carry out the will of the nation will undoubtedly give serious thought to the attitude of the American Federation of Labor on the league of nations.

That federation is composed of men of all political parties. Its membership is made up of the skilled workmen of the country, well paid and intelligent and deeply interested in the preservation of the peace of the world.

made up of the skilled workmen of the country, well paid and intelligent and deeply interested in the preservation of the peace of the world. There are between three and four million men in the organization and each one has a vote.

The delegates at the convention of the federation voted almost unanimously in support of the league-of-nations plan. They represent their unions and express the sentiment of those whom they represent.

A NATION CAN'T DISOWN THE ACTS OF ITS AGENTS

Whatever German Statesmen Sign the Treaty Will Sign It for the German People

THE cables have been telling us for weeks that Germany was likely to create a dummy government to sign the peace treaty and then would set up another government to disown the acts of the dummy.

Internal political conditions explain the unsettled state of affairs. The task of signing the treaty does not appeal to any German statesman. Every man with political ambitions is anxious that some one else should undertake the disagreeable duty.

It may be that there are Germans so ill informed as to believe that when their government has signed the treaty the German people can repudiate it. But if so they are ignorant of the fundamental principles on which all international agreements rest.

This question was raised early in the history of the United States when the government of Louis XVI of France was overturned. We made treaties with him in 1778, a treaty of alliance and a commercial treaty.

Hamilton, who was usually able to think straight on big questions, fatally misconceived the nature and functions of treaties when he advised Washington that, as the government of Louis, with which we had made the treaties, was no longer in existence, we were under no obligations to respect them and had a perfect right to renounce all obligations under them.

Jefferson, however, sound democrat that he was, insisted that the treaties were made with the French nation and that they were binding upon whatever government the French chose to set up. The principle which he laid down is now admitted to be one of the fundamental principles of international law.

This is the application to international relations of the well-established rule governing the relations of principal and agent. The principal is responsible for the acts of his authorized agent and he cannot escape responsibility by changing agents.

The application of this principle to conditions in Europe will clarify the situation for those who have been floundering in confusion. Russia, for example, still exists as a nation and the international obligation of the Russian people incurred by the government of the deposed czar did not cease when the revolution began.

The government of the Kaiser in Germany was the agent of the German people and the German people were and are responsible for its acts. They backed their government with their money and their lives and they must share in whatever penalties are to be inflicted upon them for their crimes.

Their new agents, Herr Bauer and his party, set up in charge of their new government, will act not on their own responsibility but as the men chosen to carry out the national will. It will not be particular German political personalities who will sign the treaty. It will be the German people acting through

SUNDAY IN THE PARK

Family Picnic Parties on Strawberry Hill and Young People on the Tennis Courts

PERICARP usually stays pretty closely at home, where he busies himself with his investigations into extraneous but not always important matters. I was surprised, therefore, when I discovered him seated on a bench near the tennis courts in Fairmount Park Sunday afternoon.

I approached him, Pericarp made room for me on the bench. He offered me a cigar as soon as I was seated, an unusual act for he is ordinarily so absorbed in his own meditations that he forgets the duties of a host even in his own home.

"I have just been reading the preface to a book of cigarette papers, and a sentence or two from it has been running in my mind ever since I left home. It popped up again with peculiar force just as you arrived. The author says that he never smoked cigarettes, but when he gets to be an angel he expects to be devilish nice and then, and this remark provokes him to say that he wishes some one would develop the idea of hell as a place of reward for Puritans."

"I could not help thinking of this delightful suggestion as I sat here watching these young people enjoying themselves in the spite of the urgent protest of some good people who say that it is wicked. The protesters are not all like some Puritans I have known, who have denied themselves the pleasures of life, yet longing for them with a night-long longing. Nothing would please them better than the opportunity to have a devilish good time after death. Oh, don't look so shocked, I am only playing with the thought."

PATRIOTIC REPUBLICANISM

THAT the peace treaty, in all its provisions, is not a partisan question is the direct and forceful appeal for ratification which a group of eminent New York Republicans made to the senators from their state.

The influential standing of these signatories, their acknowledged keen mental caliber and their long association with the best phases of patriotic Republicanism contribute to their petition a striking and valid potency.

Among the twenty-eight subscribers are former Attorney General Wickham, Henry W. Taft, president of the New York State Bar Association and brother of the ex-President; Charles D. Hilles, president of the New York Republican Club and chairman of the Republican national committee during the Taft campaign; Herbert Parsons, former Republican congressman, and Oscar S. Straus, former ambassador to Turkey and a member of Roosevelt's cabinet.

Hesitancy need not handicap comparison of these names with those attached to the reckless senatorial "round robin" or those associated with Mr. Knox's recent ill-considered maneuvering. The quiet intendment that is now forecast for the Pennsylvania senator's obstructive resolution is by no means a triumph for partisan democracy. It is clear-headed, common-sense Americanism which is prevailing, a quality in which the Republican party has long been conspicuously strong.

Manifestation of this virtue in New York has undoubtedly been effective in swinging that state definitely into the Republican column, a position which it maintained even in 1916. Something more, however, than skillful party tactics was visible in the impressive plea for fair play to the treaty and the league-of-nations covenant. Firm and intelligent regard for fateful obligations both to the nation and to civilization was apparent. The effect of this step cannot fail to be profound. Best of all was its heartening implication that narrow and spiteful partisanship is doomed when it conflicts with patriotic responsibilities of the highest moment.

It is the knowledge that such leavening is bound to ensue that inspires confidence in our system of party government, despite such stage-red-fire and the rattling of the thunder-machine.

Victims of Hun Cruelty Pacifists and sentimentalists might have a little of their foolishness knocked out of them if they were permitted to visit the Y. W. C. A. camp at Boulogne, France, where French girls, returned from captivity in Germany, are being housed.

Wish Father to Thought The Ribulous One looks with modified hope on the recent publication of the fact that Philadelphia is threatened with a water famine. He thinks it may mean a stay in proceedings in the matter of that other famine scheduled for July 1.

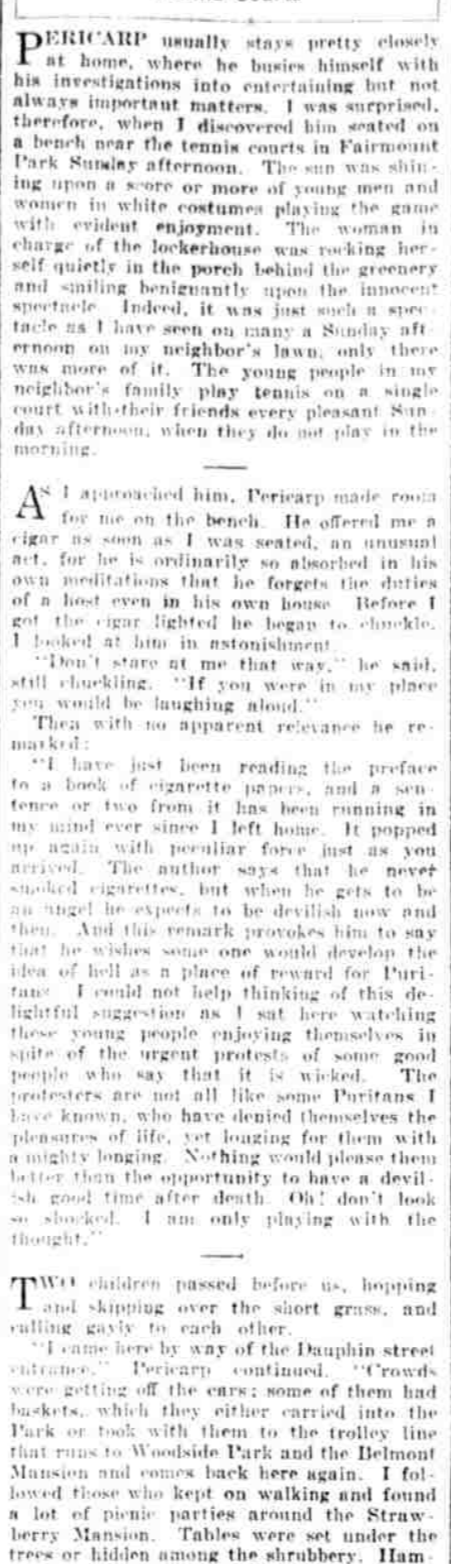
Foot Rest as Uplifter When the Salvation Army takes over as many of the city saloons as it is able to purchase it proposes to preserve in them not only the mirrors and the polished brasses but the armchairs and footrests. This shows commendable appreciation of kinks in human nature. First thing we know some of our best-known bar-fies will acquire a taste for the new-fangled drinks served and will never miss the "kick."

It is a healthy sign of the times that labor in London and labor in Atlantic City both registered disapproval of bolshevism. When our wandering President returns we can at least promise him that he will not suffer from ennui.

The Austrian reply to the peace terms is expected to be an evasive one. The one thing sure is that it will not be cast in the same mold as that of a certain note to Serbia.

It is happily the fact that the meanly defective enough to wish to use bombs are also inefficient enough to make a fizzle of them. Anarchist brains and bombs alike are duds.

BLOWING UP A NEW ONE



THE CHAFFING DISH

Thoughts on Setting an Alarm Clock

MARK the momentary dial, Set the hour for six, a. m.— Then, until the going of trial, Clock a little sleep, pro tem.

As I crank the dread alarm Stern resolve I try to fix: My ideals, shall I n'ar 'em When the awful moment ticks?

Heaven strengthen my intention, Grant no grace me now to keep; Would the law enforced Prevention Of such Cruelty to Sleep!

A Dispatch From Our Mediterranean Correspondent H. M. S. Kharaki, Smyrna, May 20, 1919.

I HAVE been intending to write for some time. I don't wait for people to write to me, for which great virtue I shall wear a brighter crown in Paradise. Goethe said we had better watch out what we desire in youth, for in our old age we get it—good and plenty. Well, in my youth I wanted to see the Isles of Greece and Asia Minor. In my old age I get it, any amount of Greece, and Asia Minors by the ton. So it goes. So it will continue to go until some one slips the Peace Congress a few depth charges and gets them moving. Of course, peace may have come, but we can't get anything here, our wireless is continually jammed by the big new warships at Constantinople. The message reads like this:—

—sident Wils—22222222—small notions 22222222 Dalmatia 22222222 of the same time 222 autonomy 22 Orlando 222 farious 22222222 ends 222222222222 pt. Hfff Very informing, but tending to monotony if continued seven days a week. Our Sparks has got tired of it and has taken to fishing. WILLIAM McFEEL.

This Dish is deeply moved to learn that it has a reader in Knoxville, Tenn., and accords it the much gratitude a dollar for the Child Federation from young Elizabeth Castle Coe of that generous city. Elizabeth also writes her own poem, thus:—

Southern Elizabeth Castle Coe Sends a dollar, and well you know The dollars come and dollars go, And Southern Elizabeth hopes to grow.

'Twas Ever Thus Oh, ever thus Fate deals her knocks, At her Exchange my wires are crossed; I never loved a pair of socks, But 'twas the one the laundry lost. I never hurried for a car, And neared the spot with hopeful eye, But when I was still just too far, To catch the thing, it rumbled by.

The Poetical Painter Jim Shields, the well-known bibliophilous knowledge with Knoxville, tells us that at 1007 North Second street he has seen the following sign, well-made and neatly painted:—

When Alliterations Are Completed, etc. A Wolf in Cheap Clothing Herr Wolf, of the famous German press bureau, is reported to have said that he had got so accustomed to paper clothes that he prefers them to regular cloth. This is a species of loyalty to the newspaper business that we feel we must commend.

A friend of ours said that John Barleycorn will meet his Waterloo on the First, and hardly realized the literal truth of the statement.

The trance mediums who advertise themselves as being able to get in touch with departed spirits ought to reap a brisk traffic after Tuesday week.

Prince Joachim Buys Villa, says a headline. Can't some one give a stop to that German propaganda in Mexico?

At any rate, the new president of Brazil

Answers to Saturday's Quiz

- 1. The South is the part of the United States which, in general, is most opposed to woman suffrage. 2. Premier Orlando, of Italy, has been deposed a vote of confidence. 3. Four bushels make a ccomb. 4. Of the three coasts of the United States—Atlantic, Gulf and Pacific—the last-named is the shortest. This ranking does not consider Alaska. 5. The French Revolutionary calendar's month consisted of thirty days. The five extra days were added at the end of September. 6. The quotation from Gray's "Elegy" should read, "The paths of glory lead but to the grave." 7. James Monroe was President of the United States 100 years ago. 8. Impinge means to strike on or upon, or to drive at a thing. 9. Epictetus was a celebrated Stoic Greek philosopher of the first century A. D. 10. John Dewey, professor of philosophy of Columbia University, is now in Peking planning a system of national education for China.

What Do You Know?

- 1. When does the prohibition constitutional amendment go into effect? 2. Who composed the "Unfinished Symphony"? 3. What kind of apparel is a soutane? 4. Where are the Jura mountains? 5. For what was John Fitch noted? 6. In what novel by Charles Dickens does the grotesque character of Quilp occur? 7. Who was Albert Cuyper? 8. How much money does the treaty now in the Senate provide shall be paid to Colombia in settlement of the Panama dispute? 9. What are the six classifications of conifers? 10. What is the most active volcano in United States territory?

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American Press Humorists

THE paragraph builder; the wiz. of the wheeze; The bard of the everyday dope; The artist whose comics your risibles tease; The hooster of ethics and soap;— They're with us today And our homage we pay To the fellows whose work has a punch. 'Tis their earnest intention To hold a convention— That's the only joke left in The Bunch!

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