

Evening Public Ledger

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KEEPING IT UP

THE registration yesterday was undoubtedly a partial index of the enterprise of Philadelphians a week ago. The turnout on the first of the three days was so extraordinary that some falling off on the middle date was to have been expected.

But only the most optimistic anticipated any such unprecedented second day turnout as occurred. More than 97,000 citizens qualified to vote yesterday. This is 20,000 more than registered on the second day preceding the last majority election, and it raises the total for the two days to 280,000.

The voters are evidently awake and giving heed to what is going on. And the unprecedentedly large number of them registering indicates, beyond question, that the men who have stayed at home in previous elections are planning to go to the polls this year. The rule is that when this sort of thing happens the political machine in power is doomed. We shall soon know whether the rule is working or not in this city this year.

WORSE AND MORE OF IT

THE second arrest of Charles A. Ambler is on charges of a much more serious offense than the first. He was first accused of conspiracy and misdemeanor in public office. Now he is accused of embezzling public moneys while a public official. He may be able to explain the transactions which have a bad look. All those interested in the good name of the state hope he will be. But, as was said on this page the other day, this is the kind of thing that must be expected when men are appointed to office because the politicians think they must be taken care of.

WHO'S MAYOR ANYHOW?

ACCORDING to last Thomas B. Smith is Mayor until next January, charged with the duty of making recommendations to Councils. Yet Judge Patterson is going about the city announcing that he is in correspondence with the leaders of Councils about public business and that he intends, as soon as he gets the information he seeks, to secure such legislation as will bring about needed reforms in the conduct of public business and the inauguration of such public work as has been delayed for one reason or another. He is not waiting even until he is nominated, but is apparently assuming that he is already Mayor of the city. It really looks as if the amiable judge were taking too much for granted.

STILL ON THE JOB

THE old firm of Supply and Demand is on the job in Chicago taking charge of the prices of meat, in spite of the fact that we have been told it had been liquidated long ago and had gone out of business. The people are buying less meat because the prices are too high, and the cattle raisers are shipping their cattle to market in order to sell them before the price goes down any lower. The increase in the supply and the falling off in the demand produced the inevitable result. Prices went down. It always happens. The packers cannot prevent it, neither can Congress permanently interfere with it by any law which it can pass.

"A PERFECT ORGANIZATION"

THEY are telling us that Judge Patterson will be nominated by a handsome majority because he has a perfect organization behind him. And then Coroner Knight gets up on the platform and denounces the new charter which the judge helped to draft. The judge was on the committee which prepared the bill that the Legislature passed. And when the coroner has finished talking the judge gets up in the same meeting and says that he shared in the work of making the charter and that he will enforce its provisions in letter and in spirit. If this be the way a perfect organization runs its speakers' bureau when the judge must be wishing he were backed by one not quite so perfect.

BETTER BURY IT

IF ANY old-time prohibitionists are alive who used to look forward with hope to the prospect of their party repudiating the success of the Republican party they cannot be contemplating with satisfaction the spectacle of the national committee considering the dissolution of the party organization. The old-timers thought that the rejection of the sale of liquor was as much a moral and political issue as the sale of human slavery. The false prophecy has been on for years, but the

party has never polled votes enough to have any effect on a presidential election. Its first candidate was named in 1872 and 5600 earnest citizens voted for him. It reached high-water mark in 1904 when Silas C. Swallow, of this state, received 258,500 votes. The party cannot even claim credit for the passage of the prohibition constitutional amendment, for that was supported in Congress by Republicans and Democrats and was ratified by Democratic and Republican state Legislatures containing men who never voted the prohibition ticket in their lives. Of course, it may be said that the agitation of the question for nearly two generations by the prohibitionists may have educated public sentiment, but it is doubtful if the political prohibitionists had so much to do with the matter as the people who believed that the best way to bring about reforms was through the existing parties. Whether the party lives or dies is of little consequence. It has never been alive enough to convince even its members of its vitality.

PLAIN SPEECH CAN WIN WILSON'S LOST GROUND

The President on His Tour Should Rid Himself of the Habit of Reticence Acquired at Paris

CAN Mr. Wilson reconquer America? That he should consider it necessary to make the attempt is a sure indication of a sort of change in the national temper that he himself would be the first to perceive.

A year ago the President would not have had to tour the country. He owned the world. It would have followed him anywhere—in a straight line. He reclaimed something priceless from a ruin that seemed complete. Heard suddenly in the heat and flame of war, he roused all sorts of people to new and magnificent resolves. Now he is going out to be judged according to standards that are largely of his own creation, to meet a challenge that he himself first put into words, because he lagged either through sheer weariness or before insurmountable obstacles in the service of a great cause. Such is the fate of prophets and the way of Providence.

If the people up and down the country could explain in a sentence some of the doubts that come unbidden when the President's policies are considered they might say that Mr. Wilson created much—and destroyed nothing. There is a growing fear that the league of nations is being built on shaky foundations and that the old order of statesmanship has a new and gorgeous sanctuary in a temple that was intended to celebrate its end. This isn't true, of course. But the design of the treaty isn't all that it ought to be or what it may be. There are some dangerous weaknesses in the general foundation. The Shantung settlement gives to Japan not only a part of China, it gives to the Japanese the means they would require for an industrial and military conquest of China. It gives the Japanese the resources necessary to an aggressive policy in the Pacific. There are other details of the treaty and the league covenant which Mr. Wilson has never explicitly explained. His tour will be a culminating test of his versatility.

The very breadth and inclusiveness of the President's reasoning, his habit of dealing with fundamentals that may be discussed only in general terms, has often kept him from that close community of understanding with plain men which he himself seems most to desire. At a time like this there ought to be plain speech. The peace treaty and the scheme for a league of nations touches human life everywhere more closely than anything else in the world. It is the one great hope of civilization. It ought to be made understandable. Mr. Wilson can find the nation solidly behind him if the habitual restraint of meticulous good manners doesn't make it impossible for him to put his whole case in simple terms. If there has been treason to the cause of the league of nations it ought to be exposed. If queer compromises were found advisable we should know why. There is enough courage and fortitude still in the world to make all of the President's hopes yet certain of realization. The Paris conference was a bit too restrained and correct. What the world needed was a robust hater, a John the Baptist with a tongue of fire, who feared nothing—not even the judgments of history. It still has use for such a man. In his absence Mr. Wilson has an opportunity to play the part as he didn't, or couldn't, play it at Paris.

Sensible men will not expect revelations of perfection either in statesmen or in a new system of international relations, because perfection is not attainable this side of heaven. Yet they do expect the President to clear some of the fogs of mystification that have been permitted to rise out of Washington, to give them back their full faith in him and to make more definite answers to the Senate than he has yet made. Meanwhile it is idle to throw verbal bricks at Congress as a whole. Mr. Lodge is not the Senate, nor is Sherman, nor Borah, nor Johnson, nor any other man of the willful group. The important element in the Senate, which Mr. Wilson may easily win to his side, is composed of about twenty-five conservative-liberals on the Republican side who have been keeping their peace and doing some watchful waiting on their own account. The men who do the most talking do not greatly matter. And a wrong-headed minority is not by any means a bad thing to have around. It keeps good men in training and on the alert. There are men of a sort who would oppose the Ten Commandments for the satisfaction of making a fight or view even the Beatitudes as an ominous departure from precedent and a certain cause of disaster. They harassed Washington, Lincoln and Roosevelt. They were present in the wilderness to scoff at Moses, to plot and whisper and make high signs and portents in the back-

ground. Doubtless they gave the great man some concern. But the laws remain. Life wouldn't be complete without a hard-boiled minority with stimulating suspicions and a talent for noise.

What we ought to admit is what history will say in many volumes—that Mr. Wilson is a very great man, with a magnificent purpose that he is trying to serve against overwhelming odds. His own expressed aims were so high that they were almost beyond the scope of possible things. Yet it is for his failure to achieve the ultimate that he is now being criticized. Had he made no promises, expressed no hope, described no plans, he might have been applauded for achieving as much as he achieved at Paris. He himself sharpened the critical faculties of the country and he is to put his cause at last in the hands of a jury which has been trained in discernment by following him in the past. He has to win back a vast mass of dissatisfied opinion before he can be sure of the reaction that will force favorable action on the league covenant and the treaty of peace in the Senate. But he will have to get a little closer to the ground. He will have to analyze and describe and expose and explain, in detail, the processes by which he was seemingly diverted at right angles from some of the purposes that took him to Paris. It will be said that the President's tour is intended to serve a political purpose. It is, if we consider the term in its larger meaning. Mr. Wilson has a right to tour the country and to seek such support as he may need, whether it be expressed at the polls or more subtly in what we know as public sentiment. Any man has that privilege. We are governed, fortunately, not by men, but by popular opinion. An intelligent appeal to that opinion is a method of procedure without which free government could not last. It is the very basis of the democratic theory.

EASY MONEY

IT MAY be that the plan of awarding war contracts on the basis of cost plus a profit of 10 per cent for the contractor was the best that could be devised under the circumstances, but it was certainly not economical. It gave to every contractor an inducement to make the work cost as much as possible, in order to get a profit of ten cents on every dollar that he spent. How it worked is illustrated in the case of the shell-loading plant at Fort Delaware, which is still incomplete. It was estimated that the plant would cost \$1,500,000 at the outside. Already \$14,000,000 has been spent on it. It is assumed that this money was used in building a larger plant than was contemplated in the original estimate, for with all the waste no one supposes that there can be so great a difference between estimates and expenditures. The salaries of the officers of the company building the plant were reckoned as part of the cost. So the company set about raising salaries. Its manager had been receiving \$10,000 a year. This was made \$15,000, which carried with it a profit for the company of 10 per cent, or an extra \$500 on this item. Other lesser increases were made for other officers, each carrying the 10 per cent of profit named in the contract.

There was no inducement to seek labor in the lowest market, for the higher the wages the bigger the profit. If carpenters could be hired for \$7.50 a day and the contractor paid them \$10 he would make twenty-five cents more a day on every man hired. And the same rule applied to all material bought. If the government had tried to devise a plan to make the work cost as much as possible it could not have developed a more perfect one. When Congress gets through exhibiting how the plan worked it will be a long time before any public official will again indorse any such scheme for putting easy money in the pockets of contractors.

Mr. Hoover's explanation of the high prices in the United States describes neutral markets. Europe being with stored food shipped in by speculators in this country and elsewhere who hoped to get famine prices from Russia and Germany when the allied blockades were removed. But it appears that the hungry people in the east of Europe cannot pay and the food is going to waste. It has always appeared that a restriction in the home countries to limit exports and prevent just this condition would have been wiser and more humane than the blockade maintained against Germany and Russia.

A woman's foot caught God-Given impulses in a frog on a railroad track in Chicago as a train here down upon her. Her husband vainly tried to free her and then, "I'll stay with you, Mary," he said. Both were killed and their three children are orphans. Now, some will say he should have saved himself for the sake of his children. It may have been that had he had time to think he would have taken the common sense course. But he acted on impulse—and it may be he has left his children a greater legacy than if he had lived and worked for them!

It used to be said in the United States was administered through three Houses—Congress, White and Colonel. Since the President's chief aide drifted into trouble in Europe it may be said that the government now consists of two Houses and a half.

Every man alive has all the time in the world. He is wise who spends it wisely. He often wastes it who tries to save it. A Paterson, N. J., teacher tried to save it by crossing the tracks in front of a locomotive. He lost it entirely and found eternity.

"Oust Bureaucracy!" cry the letter carriers. Is that their motto? They're Busy Men would do to him?

Uncle Sam is doing his best to give old H. C. of L. beans.

The wind still blows through the Carranza whiskers.

CONGRESSMAN MOORE'S LETTER

Gossip About William Rowen, Colonel Nicholson, Joseph R. Grundy, Peter Costello and Others

APPLE culture is now an organized business in the United States, a large proportion of the apple growers having come together in an association which is headed by Charles J. Brand, former chief of the Bureau of Plant Industry in the Department of Agriculture. It is not generally known that Pennsylvania is rapidly developing as an apple-growing state. Adams county, according to William C. Tyson, of Flora Dale, is now the banner apple-raising county of the state. The apple growers who are making this particular business their specialty here and in New England are beginning to treat their trees almost as they would livestock, seeing that it costs less for feed and brings in larger returns. The apple specialist no longer plows between the trees to plant other crops. He gives the tree and its roots free play in the soil.

WILLIAM ROWEN'S pride is the Kensington High School for Girls. For a long time it was a question whether "Kensington" should be adopted as a name for the new school, but William believes in the old landmarks. He is not ashamed to be known as a "Fish-towner." The record of that interesting school, which dates back to the settlement of Philadelphia and the treaty of William Penn with the Indians, has been a source of delight to the Kensington member of the Board of Education. There is one thing about Kensington which the old-timers of the Rowen type do not fail to harp upon. It's snapper soap. The Kensingtonians were great fishermen in the olden days, especially when the shad and cutties were running good.

DR. HENRY BEATES, Jr., who has done as much as any one to uphold the medical standards of Philadelphia, includes Washington, New York, Lancaster and points in New Jersey among his "ports of call." Doctor Beates is thoroughly familiar with the unfair practices that have grown up in certain alleged medical institutions that have turned out "half-baked" doctors on an unsuspecting world. Through his state and national connections he has helped to destroy a number of these. Like all other good Philadelphians, he puts in a good word for the medical institutions of Philadelphia and says he has been particularly pleased with the progress made by the medical school up at Dr. Russell H. Conwell's Temple University.

COLONEL JOHN F. NICHOLSON, whose Civil War library is probably unexcelled, is residing temporarily at Gettysburg, where he heads the government commission in charge of the famous battleground. The colonel has taken a deep interest in the maintenance of this property and in the accurate location of the monuments and memorials celebrating the brave days of the participants in the great American struggle. The colonel also still keeps in touch with the Royal Legion through which in the earlier days he came in close contact with the great Union leaders in the War of the Rebellion—Grant, Sherman, Sheridan, Stocum and "the Christian soldier," Howard.

IT'S THE way you look at it. Warren G. Griffith, the Philadelphia lawyer, appeared at breakfast at the Union League the other morning rather late. Eugene Harvey and Harry McMahon were already on their way to look after the day's business. "Warren, my boy, remember the early bird catches the worm." "All right," said Mr. Griffith, "I don't like worms."

SAMMY CLEMENT, the public utilities commissioner, is said to be getting in some quiet licks for Patterson for Mayor. Sammy always had the happy faculty of getting close to the political leaders, but he has not always been free from "the taint" of reform. When Billy Knight, the coroner, and Jimmy Sheehan, the registrar of wills, were Union party reformers the present public utilities commissioner was very much in evidence with them. Later on he became a valued but highly confidential adviser of Senator Penrose and State Senator McNichol. He was with the Vares in the Supreme Court fight two years ago, now he and it is not unnatural that he should fall in for their candidate, the judge. In this he is not in accord with Harry S. McDevitt, the Governor's secretary. Mighty hard to tell which side of the fence to fall on these days.

JOSEPH R. GRUNDY has taken a vacation and it lasted three full weeks. This is one of the stirring news notes in Bristol, where Joseph enjoys the good will of the populace. The president of the Pennsylvania Manufacturers' Association was accompanied by his mother and sister, to whom he is devoted. They toured the White Mountains and drifted into Canada, where the hotels were crowded, thus neutralizing the delightful weather effects. Canada this year seems to be a favorite resort for those who have been touring Europe heretofore. But the idea of Grundy taking a vacation is the big news. Joseph's activities are not limited to his own business at Bristol nor to the work of the manufacturers of the state, who regard him as their leader. He is a farmer also, taking as keen an interest in Berkshire hogs and Leghorn chickens as the trained agricuturist. The hogs, we are told, pay better than chicken, because of the high feed costs for the latter.

G. C. RAMSDELL is taking more than a passing interest in the majority contest in Philadelphia. He is the son of J. G. Ramsdell, who came down from New England years ago and started a piano business in Philadelphia. The elder Ramsdell had a penchant for yachts and sailed in the same ward with Francis Shunk Brown, who afterward became attorney general. At one time the elder Ramsdell made a stab for Congress in the Third district against Congressman Moore.

HENRY B. BORNEMAN, of Frankford, has returned from his vacation. After the death of W. W. Foulkrod, who represented the Fifth district in Congress, the Republicans selected Borneman as their candidate. He made a fine showing, but was defeated, owing to factional differences in the district at the time. The Fifth district is now represented by Peter E. Costello, who was director of public works under Mayor John Weaver. And Peter is hustling some right now to hold the district in the majority contest.

September 17 will be "I-told-you-so Day." Sober second thought has it that a cost-plus basis is cost plus gouge. Governor Hobby, of Texas, doesn't intend to let anybody ride him. Coroner Knight would probably have a better opinion of the charter if it were a good one. Replying to your inquiry, C. H. A. F., the Diah's pet motto—henceforward we shall call it our pet motto—is this: Blessed are the Whitesalers; for they shall inherit the earth. H. G. COE.



THE CHAFFING DISH

WE OFTEN wonder whether Charley Chaplin bruises easily. One of the most congenial jobs we can think of just now would be that of dramatic critic.

Speaking of Charley Chaplin, there is one bit of low comedy stuff that he has neglected. We would like to see a film version of one of his more recent films. He really did. Now what I want to know is, is that Philadelphia's attitude toward the stranger within her gates? CASPER WINCH.

It is a dreadful thing to suppose—but, anyway, just suppose all those small boys should grow up without ever asking "Daddy, what did you do in the great war?"

When a Feiler Needs a Friend Scene: A hay fever sufferer, snoring his life away. To him, enter Mr. Kindly Well-meaning. MR. K. W.: So you have hay fever, have you? SUFFERER: mpm-p-gong-splshsh-snarrrrshoo!

MR. K. W.: It's a queer thing isn't it? Have you done anything for it? SUFFERER: fafaf-nfn-rrrr-whoo! MR. K. W.: It must be awfully annoying. SUFFERER: pfffsnzabgrh-sngqgrs-poo!

MR. K. W.: Have you tried that vaccine treatment? SUFFERER: blaff-grzzzzzz-gdmhl-schnoo!

MR. K. W.: You know I've never seen any one in the actual spasm before. SUFFERER: (Comes to and glares dizzily at his interlocutor.) Umph! MR. K. W.: It's really very curious. Is there any scientific explanation? (Curtain)

Any Day You Want, H. G. Knoxville, Tennessee. Dear Socrates: Since all the boys in the office go in and make a (literary) meal out of The Chaffing Dish it is only fair for us to let you see what you may see in Tennessee. (Note: Blue-print plan of home-made still enclosed. Socrates). We have been dry for ten years, but in our mountains we still have places for many a still. I should love to be editor of the Dish for one day—and believe (as an old Philadelphian) we could draw on our memory for enough material. You would then see our idea of humor: "Everybody's Jester." The Chess-Player's Humor (I'd make Dave Mitchell sit up and take notice!) The Editor's Humor The Doctor's Humor The Conductor's Humor There we would ramble (Editors ramble) and we'd try Delaware county via Sfarthmore. What tales lurk in the confines of the Furness home! Agnes Reppier lost her pet cat and buried it there. As Mr. Furness said, "When in the future folks read the inscription on the stone— Agrippina aged two years and her son Nero they will exclaim 'What a race of women they had in those days.'" H. G. COE.

visitors what it looks like. Well, Socrates, what I want to say is I have been watching Philadelphians, and I don't believe they strut. More than that, I don't see why they should. Now in my home town of Casnovia, N. Y., we have far more reason for strutting. However, I did see one thing in your city that I have never observed elsewhere. I saw a very stout man sitting in the front window of a club, and as I went by he made a very supercilious gesture. He shrugged his stomach. He really did. Now what I want to know is, is that Philadelphia's attitude toward the stranger within her gates? CASPER WINCH.

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The Canoeist

UP SHINING rivers deep and wide, And shady silver creeks I glide; Across blue lakes, in which the high, White clouds like water lilies lie, My tireless paddles dip and drip, And through the crystal currents slip, Enchanted water vistas new, Unfold before my swift canoe.

When dropping down the saure arc The sun foretells the coming dark; I hug the shore to find a cove, A sandy beach or sheltering grove, Where I can make a little camp, All snug against the dew and damp, And in my blankets warmly robed Sleep till the morning's gray or gold.

Into the stream I cast a line And catch a string of fishes fine; I build a fire of broken sticks, My coffee boil, my corn cakes mix; Then fry the funny beauties brown, And (to a sumptuous meal sit down, While all around from bush and tree The feathered minstrels sing to me.

I laze along the Hudson's flow And up the winding Mohawk go; Lake Champlain calls across the walls, Up purple-peaks and waterfalls, Slaves off no timetable am I, My hostelry's the starry sky, And I am passenger and crew And captain of my light canoe. —Minna Irving, in the New York Herald.

Newspaper advertising increased the city's revenue from curb and shed markets \$100 a week during the last year, Director Datsman says. There is nothing surprising in this. The surprising thing is that the fact should occasion surprise.

What Do You Know?

- QUIZ
1. Who is the present Turkish sultan?
2. What is the original meaning of the word archipelago?
3. Who said "We easily forget crimes that are known only to ourselves"?
4. What is the second largest state in the Union?
5. What is the "Pater Noster"?
6. What town is said to bear the longest geographical name in the world?
7. What was the nationality of Queen Victoria's husband?
8. What is the pronunciation in England of the word clerk?
9. Where did Grover Cleveland live after his last Presidential term?
10. On what vessel is General Pershing returning to America?
Answers to Yesterday's Quiz
1. The Jolly Roger is the black flag of a pirate ship.
2. Rome became the capital of united Italy in 1870.
3. Hilo is the second largest city of the Hawaiian Islands.
4. "A Round for an Oliver" means tit for tat. Roland and Oliver were two paladins of Charlemagne whose exploits are so similar that it is difficult to keep them distinct.
5. A spaniel was originally a Spanish dog. The name comes through the French from the Spanish "Español," meaning "Spanish."
6. Legend and tradition assign the outlaw Robin Hood to the twelfth century, A. D.
7. The correct title of the Shakespearean comedy is "Love's Labour's Lost."
8. The two cities which figure most prominently in the tales of the "Arabian Nights" are Bagdad and Cairo.
9. Sir Anthony Van Dyck painted the famous portrait of Charles I of England.
10. The actors' strike has continued for twenty-seven days.