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Evening Public Tedger PUBLIC LEDGER COMPANY

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NEWS BUREAUS)

Washingorov Dungat. New York Burney Vanla Ave, and 14th St. New York Burney The Sus Building London Burney.

their own.

ground.

ion.

Themselves Bigger Than

the Country

and his disciples on the other.

vited a situation that may involve dis-

tress and loss and Suffering for millions.

Yet each presumes to exist above the

government and to have rights superior

to common rights. Neither is in any

way directly answerable to public opin-

The avowed intention of the miners'

leaders to tie up the country by stopping

the output of soft coal is lawless. It is

almost an act of war. It is a return to

the blockade and to the harsh theory of

There may be some ground for the as-

ers of its own? The right to dictate to

a free country? The elimination of all

private industry and all private initiative

by cumulative and impossible demands

pressed and enforced under the privilege

of collective bargaining? These seem to

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Philadelphia, Saturday, October 25, 1919

FREEDOM OF THE TAXIS

THE purpose of the ordinance which City Solicitor Connelly has drawn is to break up the taxleab monopoly. Certain taxicab companies profess to have the exclusive right to occupy certain stands and they drive off every taxicab and every private automobile that "trespasses" on their preserves.

The cab stands are arranged by the city for the convenience of the public. Mr. Connelly's ordinance would open every stand to every taxicab, whether operated by a company or by an individual owner. Its passage would increase the convenience of the public.

It is proposed also to require every operator of a motorcar for hire to secure a certificate of public convenience, not with the purpose of restricting the number of such operators, but to prevent the operation of cars by untrustworthy persons. Then if the Department of Public Safety makes a recommendation that the certificate granted to an operator whose conduct has been detrimental to public safety or to public decency be rescinded the Public Service Commission will give the man a hearing and act on the evidence. The necessity for such a regulation is understood by every one familiar with existing conditions.

BLATHER AND BUNCOMBE

THE Senate is one-half of the treatymaking power of one of the twenty or more nations that drafted the peace treaty.

It is attempting to rewrite the treaty to suit itself, regardless of the views of the other half of the treaty-making power.

It may make as many changes or reservations as it pleases, but if they do not please the President its work will amount to nothing. The treaty cannot be ratified by the United States without the concurfence of both the President and the Senate.

The Senate knows this, and has known it from the beginning. It knows, too, that when its committee on foreign rela-

be assured anew to all men, whether they been wearing old clothes for a year or two, and our stock of apparel fit to be are capitalists or laborers. seen is getting low.

It is idle to deny the right of collective If it can be made fashionable to appear bargaining to those who work with their in patches then a lot of us can get hands, but it is important that some through the winter without going into limits be set upon the operation of a debt. The Chicago Old Clothes Club suggests a way out. If the idea becomes principle that may be easily abused or popular we are likely to have a federaeven made the cause of disaster. tion of clubs with a national convention Feudalism in industry will have to go. at Atlantic City, with prizes offered to

the man wearing the most artistically The trusts and the railroads and the repaired garments. Then the repairers utilities have been regulated, but no who can mend a moth hole so that no trust, no railroad and no utility ever one can tell where it was will come into held the potentialities for good or evil that now lie with trades unionists and CONGRESS SHOULD NOW BEGIN with concentrated capital. The rights of individuals are, after WHERE THE CONFERENCE QUIT

all and in any event, of minor impor-Epochal Legislation Necessary to Regutance. Such stresses and strains as are now contemplated in this country must late Opposed Groups That Deem be measured not for their effect upon any individual, but for their possible reac-ONE clear gain remains to the public tions upon the whole life and spirit of

the nation. from the dismal wreck of the indus-If ever there was a need for peace trial conference. That is the knowledge without victory it is now. The soft-coal that epochal legislation is immediately miners can never hope to win with their and imperatively necessary for the future outrageous claims. But the nation may regulation of two powerful, irresponsible properly ask itself whether rational setand violent minorities that seem willing tlements are not better than any sort to make the country a desolate battleof defeat-whether any good could come in the future from a conflict in which With the news of the adjournment the millions of men were crushed in a cause nation will realize with a shock that its which they believed fair and just.

peace, its welfare and even its safety rest, for the time being, not with the What Congress will have to do is set President or with Congress or with any up a new code of morality applicable to elected representative of its common purnew conditions of existence forced upon pose, but with Mr. Gompers and Mr. the country by progressive industrialism. Morrison, of the federation: Mr. Lee, of That would not be an easy task for Conthe brotherhoods, and the miners' leadgress, which frankly loathes precedenters on the one hand and with Mr. Gary making. Politicians would have to venture into unexplored fields which are by no means inviting to cautious and politi-Control of forces that deeply and inti-

mately affect the life of the country is cally minded men. An interpreter able to talk in a voice whipped out of the people's hands. Affairs that are of the profoundest conof unmistakable authority is needed between the conflicting forces of industry. sequence to the public at large are in the hands of men whose aims and purposes We shall have to have a means for identifying outlaws and for punishing we do not even know. Each of the groups that bolted in opposite directions those who, in one way or another, from the industrial conference has in-

threaten the peace of the country. Capital squirmed-but it accepted regulation in the past. It will have to accept a little more of it. Labor alone insists upon its right to supreme authority. But labor, in some of its highly organized activities, will have to be regulated too.

It is a tragic fact of history that all great advances in human welfare and every great reform in legislation have come only after stress and agony, after crises long drawn out, after pain that roused the patient and tolerant mind of attrition, and it is meant to inflict the | the public to a mood for initiative and

heaviest punishment on noncombatants. action. Mr. Gompers has threatened war and his opponents have answered his chalsertion of labor that it is fighting an industrial feudalism in the last ditch. But | lenge. what does it hope to win? Feudal pow-

It remains to be seen now whether the common-sense and the rational view that the industrial conference could not attain can be achieved only at the cost of widespread misery and bitterness and the pain that is the best of all teachers.

Surprising

Themselves

CONGRESSMAN MOORE'S LETTER

Federal Employes Who Do Not Strike. When Roosevelt Appointed a Negro-The Handshake of George W. Coles

RECENT strikes have caused widespread discussion of labor unions. When it has been figured out by economists that the striker generally loses, although strikes also seriously affect capital and sometimes under-mine the employing Institution, new conditions have arisen in the labor world which have aroused a more direct interest in what the organized workman is doing, with the result that public sentiment is beginning to determine the success or failure of strike undertakings. Many men who have given careful thought to the labor situation con tend that organizations of workmen should be incorporated and made responsible for what is done just as corporations of employers with property are amenable to lawful restraint. There are others who inveigh against the organization of men and omen employed in the public service, and point has been given to their argument by

recent proceedings with respect to police men in Boston, where the force struck, and in Washington, where those who had joined the American Federation Labor are said to have thrown up their charters. While all this discussion is going on, it is worth noting that some labor organizations do incorlike the Journeymen Bricklayers' porate, like the Journeymen Bricklayers' Union of Philadelphia, and that others are lisinclined to strike, believing they can work or their own betterment without the use of that drastic weapon. Of the latter class of organizations is the Federal Employes' Union. No. 23, of Philadelphia, an association of federal odiceholders affiliated with the Ameri-

can Federation of Labor. Its membership made up of men and women employed in the Custom House, the Mint, the immigration service, the Department of Justice various other branches of the United States service in Philadelphia. According to the secretary of this union, its constitution forbids strikes against the government or sympathetic strikes to support such movements. Moreover, it is said of this union that it is endeavoring to solve its problems, which in dude better working conditions, "subject to proper limitations and in a same and patriotic nauner."

DMIRAL BENSON, who won interna-

A tional distinction as the director general of naval operations, has indicated his purpose to attend the Charleston convention of waterways men. The admiral took a lively nterest in Delaware river development when ie was at the head of the Philadelphia Navy Yard, and his appearance at Charleston by very acceptable to the many Philadel-phians who are going to talk up their city at that place. It is also worth mentioning that Admiral Harry B. Wilson, now commandern-chief of the United States Atlantic fleet has been instrumental in making an assign ment of naval vessels for Charleston harbor as an object lesson for those who study pre-paredness and commercial and naval develop Mayor Ellis and the Camden dele gation will take pride in knowing how their ity figures, through the admiral, in this lemonstration. Admiral Plunkett, who is in harge of the destroyer fleet, is another active naval man who will join in the waterways procession. It is evident that the war has not lessened the interest of the army and navy in the Atlantic coastal scheme.

A LTHOUGH a reformer. Theodore Roosepolitician. An instance in which the late John Stephens Durham figured will suffice Durham was a colored lawyer and editor who had formerly been minister to Haiti. His desire to become a member of the Span-lish Treaty Claims Commission after the Spanish American war was taken up at the White House by Mr. Moore, who was then president of the National Republican League. It was argued that Mr. Durham was a highly creditable representative the colored race: that he had mustered the Spanish language, was a good lawyer and art



THE WEEKLY SUMMARY

For one, in Ballyhattin, Who goes to town in satin Trimmed with ferny lace.

And who has won her? Sure. The man in Ballyhattin Who talked about lace and satin. My dreams and I were poor. FRANCIS CARLIN.

Give Him a Match!

Lie the letters to which I'll Have, some day, to make reply. And then she had a greater artist paint again Ere on holiday I fly Casting off the daily fetters, A lovelier picture of her lovely face, And placed it in another golden frame. I glance through them with a sigh

Of curious work and wonderful design, And very costly. And a certain man Of her acquaintance, whom she looked upon Indifferently, stole the lovely thing, (Ay, frame and all) and carried it away. Yet, though she knew the thief, she said no word. But smiled a little to herself.

ud th

tions adopts such a foolish proposition as that contained in the Reed resolution no one is expected to take it seriously

TOO BUSY FOR FASHIONS

TF QUEENS like Elizabeth of Belgium set the fashions women would have to worry less about following them. The queen, who designs her own gowns, was asked what she thought of the trend of fashions.

"They change so often I can't keep track of them," said she with a laugh. "What are they?"

This was not a pose. The queen has been too busy with other matters to trouble herself with the length or the width of her skirt or with the prevailing style of trimmings, whether they be frills or lace or fur. She has worn what she thinks is becoming and let the fashions go hang.

But then she is a queen.

NERVE IN NORRISTOWN

THE motormen and conductors of the Norristown division of the Reading Transit Company think they know better how to operate a street-car line than their employers. They are said to be seriously considering a proposition of the company that they take over the Norristown lines and operate them. The company is willing to surrender its control and to give the men a bonus of \$25,000 if they will assume responsibility for the operation.

The company has found itself in the same state as that which confronted the Public Service Railway Company in New Jersey when it raised the fares. The Norristown fare was raised to eight cents a year ago and business has been falling off ever since. The men think that the lines can be operated at a profit for a five-cent fare. The company seems to be willing to let the men try it. Their willingness is increased by the prospect of a heavy tax levied by the borough to repair the streets over which the cars run. The company's franchise requires that it keep the streets in proper condition.

There may be men operating the Norristown cars who have the executive ability and the nerve to tackle the probem which has stumped men supposed to know all about operating street cars. The people in many communities would like to see the experiment made.

sores.

able and dangerous.

AN OLD-CLOTHES CLUB

THE only difference between the city employes in Chicago and those here those in the West who have to wear old clothes have organized a club. An overcoat or a suit costs so much lays that the man who appears in new suit always has to explain where got the money to pay for it. Thou-mis of he, both in office and out, have

be the desires of a majority of labor leaders if the terms demanded by the coal miners and the pronouncements of

Mr. Foster mean anything. The employers' group would have had to bolt in self-defense if labor had not bolted first. The adjournment of the conference has opened the way to a struggle in which the whole country may be drawn wretchedly along in disgraceful confusion.

So the responsibilities of the occasion are now shifted to Congress and the President. It is the duty of Congress to formulate and establish an industrial code, to define the related rights of labor and capital in industry, to fix limits beyond which unbalanced trades unionists on the one hand and backward-minded employers on the other may not go in

pursuit of their own selfish aims.

The commission on unrest that young Mr. Rockefeller suggested in a moment of desperation can tell us nothing that we do not know. Labor and capital actually seem braced for a finish fight. Yet neither side can be crushed without disaster of one sort or another to the country. The industrial conference

proved actually worse than useless. Both sides met with inherited fear and

distrust that they could not shake off. They were more bitter enemies when they fell apart than when they met.

The manner in which the smash occurred will make propaganda for the anarchists of trades unionism. It will harden the dislikes and the suspicions already existing on the side of capital.

It will revive old hatreds and open old flushers. The country is face to face with a con-

dition that was inevitable. It has to deal with the consequences of unregulated power grown wild and arrogant, intolerto pay it. -

Congress, unless it shirks a duty of dominant importance, will have to do what the industrial conference might have done had it a rational will and the in their own territories? ability to rise above selfish concerns.

The rights of individuals who acquire or seize extraordinary power in the ecobelong the spoils. nomic system will have to be defined.

The right to just rewards for indus-try, labor, talent, situative will have to feel quite at home in a dry inited States.

Insurance men vention in New York see no reduction in rates for soaks as a esult of prohibition. Alcohol addicts may become candy addicts, they say, and the death rate, as a consequence, may be just as ligh. Perhaps it is the shock that will kill

man Durham !"

a toast,

states.

in one particular-it brought the great issucs of capital and labor to the attention of the American public as nothing else would have done. But it is the fear of many that the American public knows no more of the merits of the controversy than it did at the

beginning. Fact and Fiction capped in the telling of a story where the

a point where the last separating barrier of earth could be removed. The faded old The fictionist is handipaper declares that the waters met on July 4, 1829. The event was celebrated by an

reporter of fact has easy sailing. The fic-tionist has to be plausible, while Fact cheerfully deals in "impossibilities," The tug that overturned itself in the Delaware river by pulling at a hawser that had fouled its keel is a case in point.

The Belgian Parliament has been dissolved by a royal decree dated Los Angeles, Calif., October 17. Oh, well, the Belgians have nothing on us in the matter of long-distance rule. We received one or two decrees from Paris that were similarly potent.

There is less than 1 per cent of alco holic content in the knowledge that the prohibition enforcement bill may be slightly delayed by the withholding of the President's signature.

Casey is donning his Santa Claus suit preparatory to a visit to our soldier boys in Siberia. And for once Santa will be appropriately appareled.

The King of the Belgians blushed when tribute was paid to him in Harrisburg. And it is a safe bet that he won everything in sight with the royal flush.

Drivers of street flushers are on strike. Sympathizers will tell them that if they win they're straight; if they lose they're four-

Railroad corporations may be able to convince the Interstate Commerce Commission that transportation rates ought to be increased 25 per cent, but they can hardly hope to convince shippers that they ought

There is talk of another peace offer from Russian Bolshevists to the Allies. But how can the Allies make peace with the leaders of a school of thought that is assailing them

Members of the Tenants' Association evidently do not believe that to the evictors

Roosevelt listened and took the matter under consideration. Subsequently, he came to BREATHES there a man with soul so dead. "Have you a match?" There may be those who've always matches in their clothes, and never pull this little line. the Union League for a great reception. The line extended almost beyond the League doors. When Mr. Moore came along, the beyond the League President singled him out, held up the crowd and then exclaimed so every one around about could hear "I appointed your

But this is drawing "system" fine, But this is drawing "system" rife, And don't appeal to me. I like That comradeship of Pat and Mike, That free and casy point of view That gives a match and takes one, too, Without the thought that matches cost Two cents a box. Count that day lost Whose sunset finds no matches given For they may mean new friendships riven. King Richard bid high for a horse, Poor Dick was sore in need, of course, REVEREND C. H. B. TURNER, rector of Saint Peter's Church, Lewes, Delaware, received from an elderly lady many years ago one of those quaint bits of penmanship characteristic of our forefathers, indited by John Porter, of Wilmington Poor Dick was sore in need, of course, But don't decry the harmless guy Delaware, concerning "The meeting of the Who never seems to think to buy His matches; for this careless lad, Chesapeake and Delaware Bays" when the May just produce the match you need To save your life, like Richard's steed. construction work on the canal had reached

Our Strange Experience

outpouring of people and apparently by an outpouring of rain, since A. Dexter, in Something very odd must have happened to the Spruce street cars yesterday morning. giving his views to the writer of the article, We were sallying up Seventeenth, in our usual hopeful vein, when we saw a car go by along Spruce. We gnashed our teeth, expecting to have to wait fifteen minutes for expressed the sentiment. "The nilpgling of the waters in which the Heavens seemed enviously to participate." Jacob Caulk, Esquire, was quoted as saying, by way of the next one. When we got half way up "The state of Delaware, ever grateful for the honor conferred by her sister the block we saw another one trundle past the crossing. Amazement was ours and we And there were other sentiments of this kind, all hopeful and optimistic, but clenched our fists, expecting a wait of at least twenty minutes. With sad and de-jected pace we reached the corner, and saw the fact that it rained when the waters of the two bays mingled would not down. a spectacle that we will never forget to the day of our last and most rapid of all transits. All down Spruce street, as far as our eyes could hurl their beam, was a fine, stalwart caravan of cars-perhaps twelve of them, rumbling peacefully along. Were we seeing visions? We boarded one, expecting to find it a mere mirage. No, it was real, and carried us bravely to Sixth street. We did not have the strength, our heart was thumping so, to ask the conductor what had happened. Never inquire too closely into miracles.

> Says the once-illustrious George Creel, referring to a course of mind-training which he has taken up with his customary enthusiasm:

> "It went deep into life, far down beneath all surface emotions, and bedded its roots in the very centers of individual being."

In the right hand trouser pocket, probably.

Georgiana, our own bookworm, is rollicking about in her little cardboard box just as though we weren't going away. Heartless, we call it. . . .

William Rose Benet, who is unquestion ably the best poet born in this country on February 2, 1886, is in town today. Bill is also beyond a peradventure the best poet who ever lived at the Frankford Arsenal, which he did, successfully, from 1890 to 1894.

Our friend Mrs. Andrew McGill was pres Our friend Mrs. Andrew McGill was pres-ident of a woman's club in California that was very eager to get Mark Twain to ad-dress them. She wrote to Mark inviting him and offering huge sums for a lecture, but Mark was an old, man and redded it was the far for bim to go. Wilerdopon Mrs.

How I hate to answer letters! . . .

A ballad discussing the well-known truth

A little sermon, of a rather cheerful sort,

on Interruptions, pointing out that every

time a man really gets interested in what he

is doing, something interrupts him; carry-

ing the argument down to the last and Final

Interruption of all, with an appropriate in-

We intended to pull some funny crack

about there being a new subway in Madrid,

and hitch this up with the old saw about

castles in Spain; we had a really corking idea for this, and find a brief memorandum

on the subject; but we have forgotten just

It seems, on examining an old sheet of

notes, that we were all set to write a reall;

savage and cruel poem about something : the

But the rest is missing and we can't recall

We find a very cryptic note written in

pencil on the cuff of a shirt that we thought

we had sent to the laundry, but which we

find in the bottom drawer of our desk, a

relic of the time when our family was at

the seashore and we were doing our own

housekeeping. This note says, What would

a summer resort be without a Lover's Leap?

This seems to need a little polishing; per-

haps some one can build it up into a genuine

. . .

We find several memoranda about girls

on Chestnut street, and it is hard to resist

the conviction that we intended some sort of

poem on the subject. Probably we had in

mind the surging river of comely damsels

that presses merrily westward on that thor-

oughfare about noon on Saturday, between

have come to the conclusion that this assign

ment had better be referred to some bache

lor, and we nominate our admirably con-tributor, Richard Desmond, to tackle the job. We know of no one who writes of the

Here is another memorandum, which

seems to contain the germ of an idea which

we thought highly of and planned to spring

on the world by way of the Chaffing Dish

This memorandum, which we find written or

the back of a telegram sent us by a man offering us a barrel of clams if we would write a Travel in Philadelphia about his

Life is comparatively simple for the ma

who is a complete optimist or a complete cynic. It is very trying for the creature who is a misture of both.

Upfortunately, we don't like clams. SOCRATES

fair see with more zest than he.

restaurant, says:

Sixth and Ninth streets. On the whole, we

first two lines are written down, thus:

A fool, a dumb, blind, sodden fool,

I walked amid the flames of life

. . .

that a man's pipe never tastes so bouny as

when he is washing the supper dishes.

jection of pathos at the end.

what we were going to say.

what it was all about.

jape.

were our intentions :

ture of George Creel.

ON MY desk, this long, long while,

In a heap eight inches high,

best way to solve the problem.

ing favor; But he was impecunious, and he It grieves us to see, in exploring through Stole the rich frame but let the portrait our rolltop, how many nice things we meant lie. to dish up for our generous-minded clients and have failed to achieve. We will men-

Whereat she raged and called upon the law, tion a few of them, just to show how brave An Essay on the Past, Present and Fu-

Pierre Lenoir, French traitor, has been sent to meet the men he betrayed.

On whom she looked with more than pass-

What Do You Know?

QUIZ

- 1. Can the United States Senate negotiate a treaty with a foreign power?
- 2. What is the correct pronunciation of 'Boz. the pen name assumed by Charles Dickens?

3. What is nostalgia?

- 4. What is the origin of the word scala wag?
- 5. The British are now building the largest airship in the world. How does its length compare with that of the largest steamship?
- 6. Who were the two Italian generalissimos in the war?
- 7. In what battle did Thomas J. Jackson win his title of "Stonewall"?
- 8. To what political party does Senator Reed belong?
- 9. Of what country is the mother of King Alfonso a native?
- 10. What people are chiefly responsible for the use of the arch in architecture?

Answers to Vesterday's Quiz

- 1. General Yudenitch, the anti-Bolshevik commander, won a notable victory during the world war by the capture of Erzerum from the Turks.
- 2. George Washington received a rudimentary education at Fredricksburg, Va., He attended no college. After leaving school in 1747, he instructed him-self in mathematics and surveying.
- 3. Letvia is another name for Lithuania, which formerly formed part of the Russian empire. It has a coast line on the Baltie sea. Vilna and Kovno are among the principal cities.
- A carct is a mark, a small inverted "v." 4. placed below a line to show a place of omission.
- 5. Etiquette originally meant a ticket or card and referred to the ancient custom of delivering a card of directions and regulations to be observed by all those who attended court.
- 6. Franklin K. Lane, secretary of the has been serving as chairinterior, man of the labor conferences in Washington.
- 7. A distinguishing feature of American battleships is the basket mast.
- S. Santos, Brazil, is the great coffee port of South America.
- William Caxton, who died in 1491, is 9. called the Father of English Printing.
- A marsupial is an animal of the class of mammals which carry their young in a pouch.

Said Isaac Clement "May the roof of the grand bridge over the Summit level never again screen from the inclemency of the weather, men who design to encourage the honest exertions of our worthy citizens." Anthony Groves, Jr., of the Ericsson Line, photographic copy of the tablet has a pressed into the wall of the Summit bridge.

He carried it with him on the recent ex-pedition to Delaware City, when the taking over of the old canal by the government was elebrated. But the news to James Mc-Nally, Eugene W. Fry, Captain Al Brown, Louis Burk, James Waddington and other users of the canal, is in the belated report. that it rained when the waters mingled, July 4, 1820.

GEORGE W. COLES, the generalissimo of the Town Meeting party, is the author of a new style of handshake which is getting of a new style the boys around the mayoralty campaign headquarters. It doesn't make much difference whether he uses the right hands or the left, the shake is so individualistic as to be worthy of imitation. Some of these observing politicians who have come to admire the reform champion's gestures as they previously enjoyed his eloquence, have

accounted for the phenomenon in two ways: first, that George W. has been ob in two serving the gestures that give point to the eloquence of the senior senator from Pennsylvania, and second, that the habit has been acquired due to the fact that Mr. Coles is the treasurer of the United Republican Campaign committee.

H. C. of L. has been monkeying with the slang dictionary. A jitney nowadays has absolutely nothing to do with a nickel. . The relations of landlord and tenant

Bernard Baruch says the industrial con-The **Optimist** gress was a success