

Evening Public Ledger

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EDUCATION AND MISS TAFT
IF ALL college girls and women will do as Miss Helen Taft did yesterday in her debate with Dr. W. G. Chambers...

THE COST
PHILOSOPHICAL observers continue to insist that there cannot be another war of conquest in Europe for at least a hundred years.

YANISHING RADICALISM
IN EVERY European country the first elections after the armistice seem always to be expressions of thankfulness for victory.

RETRIBUTION AND PUSSYFOOT SYMPATHY
"PUSSYFOOT" Johnson, admiration of him or even hatred and detestation of all his works cannot settle the various questions that rise naturally because of his presence in England as a propagandist of the American theory of prohibition.

ought to know it. American devotees of the "dry" principle have the appearance of assuming that the British need to be guided, led about and forcibly reformed. It is largely because of this attitude that Mr. Johnson was raised and hazed. And yet it may be that Pussyfoot is, in this instance, retribution's other name.

PROPAGANDA CAN'T RIPEN APPLES OUT OF DUE TIME

The World is Moving Forward According to Program in Spite of Efforts to Hasten or Retard It
THE friends of the peace treaty, the men who have been trying to bring about a better understanding between the workers and those who pay their wages, and the advocates of all kinds of social and political reform have been handicapped in their efforts by denunciation of them as propagandists by those who disagree with them.

Since 1911 the word propaganda has had a sinister meaning. The world was filled with German propaganda—that is, with a concerted effort to conceal the truth and to lead men and women into support of an indefensible cause.

Propaganda is a perfectly innocent word. It was originally used to designate a society of cardinals instituted in Rome in 1621 to look after the care and oversight of foreign missions. The function of the propaganda was to propagate the gospel or to cause the gospel to multiply and spread. The word was later used to describe any institution or systematic plan for propagating a doctrine or system.

Germany, as already indicated, was seeking by her propaganda to persuade the world to believe about her what she wished it to believe, just as for years she had been engaged in persuading the German people to believe what the military caste wished them to think was true. It printed what the government wished it to print and it refrained from printing what the government was unwilling that the people should know.

We are now in America the witnesses of an orgy of propaganda in the bad sense. Agents of special interests are active in Washington trying to convince the congressmen that what they advocate should be supported and doing their best to debauch the newspaper correspondents so that they can be used for the same sinister ends. Capital has its propaganda artists and so has labor. And each thinks that it can fool the public.

Even unselfish propaganda does not accomplish very much. One has only to take a casual glance over the course of history to reach this conclusion. Martin Luther would be said to have propagated the Protestant Reformation, but Luther could have done nothing if Europe had not been ready for what happened. The time was ripe and Luther did little more than reach out his hand to pick the fruit which had been mellowing for generations. He did not hasten the movement. He merely led it.

Garrison and Phillips thought they did much toward the abolition of slavery, but slavery was doomed as soon as the Missouri compromise was adopted, early in the nineteenth century. It took about forty years for the issue to become acute enough to provoke the war which brought slavery to an end. And it would have been abolished anyway whether the Garrison and Phillips had talked or not. It was an institution which could not exist in a free country.

The same truth applies to the prohibition issue. The temperance advocates have been active but industrial conditions have been more effective in abolishing the liquor traffic than all the prohibition orators from Neal Dow to Bryan. We were discovering that it did not pay to become fuddled with drink. Competition was so fierce that a man who wished to get on needed to have all his senses about him, and he deliberately cut out drink. Employers who had to conduct their business with the greatest possible efficiency refused to hire habitual drinkers. A man could not get a job, or if he got it he could not hold it, if he went to the worse for liquor.

THE CONVALESCENTS
A distinguished-looking old gentleman, who may be either a lawyer or a doctor, gets on a car daily at Eighth and Pine. The other day, five or ten minutes after a passing shower, he arrived at the corner holding up an umbrella. For full five minutes he waited, strapped in thought, uttling up and down, the umbrella over his head, oblivious of the fact that the sun was shining and that people were staring at him and giggling.

THE CHAFFING DISH
The Great Pharmacist
GOD—however you choose to name Him—
Blended a potion maddening strong:
Gave it to man, and you blame him
If he cry with a fevered song?

OUR TIME IS OUT OF JOINT
ARDENT millenniumists may be annoyed, but the ordinary, every-day mortal can hardly fail to derive a kind of back-lashed cheer from Professor Doolittle's expressed conviction that not only is the time out of joint, but it can never be repaired.

THE REV. DR. H. A. E. HOYT, of Cinyd, whose work as an army chaplain made him a favorite with the boys of the old national guard, has taken to water. The doctor goes aboard ship and cats three meals regularly like a veteran mariner. Moreover, the doctor mixes. He likes people and is not afraid to talk to them. It is not altogether idle to suggest that the mixing habit properly cultivated materially assists the minister in his work.

THE NATIONAL W. C. T. U., in convention in St. Louis, desires momentarily from its war on cigarettes to assist in the cause of 100,000 Armenian women said to be enslaved in Turkish harems. They doubtless consider both as campaigns against slavery.

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MAYOR-ELECT MOORE'S LETTER

Gossip About the Deep Waterways Convention—Warner Hargrove's Snake Story

JUST before New Year's forty years ago, H. B. Vansiver, a lad who had grown up in the Fifth ward, took a minor position with the Philadelphia and Boston Steamship Company, commonly known as the Winsor Line. The founder of that line was Henry Winsor, a Philadelphian, and he is reputed to have made a great deal of money as a pioneer in the New England Delaware river trade. Henry Winsor had two sons, James D. and William D., who took as active an interest in the business as their father, and who were equally successful. They were big figures along the river, when Joel Cook, William R. Tucker, Christian K. Ross and Jonathan May were young fellows in the shipping world. In the course of time the Winsor Line was absorbed by the Merchants and Miners Transportation Co., a much larger concern, having extensive interests north and south, but the major carried Vansiver along with it and today he is the superintendent of the consolidated company. On the recent trip of the steamship Howard to Savannah, for the twelfth annual convention of the Atlantic Deep Waterways Association, Vansiver, as a prophetic fortieth anniversary in the steamboat business was commented upon, and it is just possible George E. Sproule, John Virdin, Albert L. Brown and William E. Bernard may take occasion to celebrate the event during the Christmas holidays.

WILLIAM T. BLIDD, whose long experience with the Harlan & Hollingsworth people brought him an exceptional knowledge of ships and shipping, is now secretary of the Wilmington Board of Trade and as such is a leading figure in the Delaware city. Mr. Blidd has looked over Mayor Downer's greater plans at Trenton, is keeping in touch with Mayor Ellis' activities in Camden and has an eye on Chester's new Mayor Ramsay, who is about to join the waterfront contingent. John Meigs, at one time Director of Wharves, Docks and Terminals of Philadelphia, devised the plan for Wilmington, and Mr. Blidd has in mind. They contemplate a business union of the Delaware and Christian with great wharves extending along both rivers, and industries behind utilizing the vacant space back to the Pennsylvania Railroad. Persons who observe Wilmington's situation on the high land, with its waterfront except for the Christian almost waste, have often wondered why the city has not been built down to the greater stream. The Wilmington Chamber of Commerce plan contemplates that very thing.

WARNER HARGROVE continues to put Brown-Mills in the line on the map. According to Warner, who has been in the public office of Brown-Mills in the Pines, so many things are going on in that vicinity that even Doctor Keely of the Art Club and William H. Peterson, leading summer residents, are beginning to perk up a little. Hargrove is collecting agency, and up to date he says it has been measurably profitable except in one instance. And this is how he tells it: "I went out into the Pines one day to look for snakes and found two big fellows fighting. Now a snake fight is worth witnessing and I stopped to act as umpire, but this is what happened. After sparring a little, one of those snakes grabbed the other by the tail and began to swallow him. When the second snake observed what was happening he grabbed the tail of the first snake and also began to swallow. And those two snakes kept on swallowing each other until there was no snake." Hargrove says this is the funniest snake fight he ever saw.

E. C. HILL, of Trenton, put in an appearance at the Charleston convention of the Atlantic Deep Waterways Association with a report of the National Board of Trade proceedings of 1919. In those proceedings were contained a geographical record of the port of the board concerning the intracoastal waterway, and a new undertaking and generally approved. A number of Philadelphiaans participated in that meeting of the national board and were not altogether in favor of treating the project as anything more than local. It was about this time that the committee was organized to obtain a survey across the State of New Jersey with a view of connecting New York and Philadelphia by water. The report of this committee came to be known as the Martindale report. Professor E. C. Haupt had much to do with its preparation, but the project was not carried out. It was held in abeyance until the Philadelphia convention of 1907. Now the project across the State of New Jersey is regarded as national, since it is the one connecting link between the waterways leading up from the South and those running on to New England.

ELISHA WEBB, Jr., who gathered his friends around him for the celebration in Charleston of his twenty-fourth wedding anniversary, is not only a live steamboat man, but an exceptionally fair comedian. In order to make up a Christmas party for a newspaper on board ship, it was necessary for Elisha to shave his Edgar Poe mustache. The deception was so perfect for the purposes of entertainment that it is said to have occasioned some embarrassment when the boss returned to the Webb establishment on South Front street. Faithful employees are not prone to take orders from men they do not know.

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SOUTHERN towns are increasing their business with Philadelphia. Some of them now are more active than they have ever been and they are bringing out for increased transportation facilities—more railroads and more ships. The southern towns are also beginning to understand some of the perplexities of large industrial communities. Take Savannah. The chief of police reported to Mayor Stewart that a troublemaker had come to town. He organized a navy and had some men on board for the agitator and told him his presence was not desirable. The man threatened to make trouble, but about the time the legality of proceedings against him was being determined, information reached headquarters that he had brought with him a big bottle of whisky. There was sufficient evidence for the police and settled the hash of that particular agitator.

A dispatch from Paris sets forth the fact that Frenchmen believe that the United States will not be able to fulfill the terms of the armistice, which it may be. It will not be denied, however, that the United States Senate can do much to gum up the proceedings.



THE CHAFFING DISH

THE Great Pharmacist
GOD—however you choose to name Him—
Blended a potion maddening strong:
Gave it to man, and you blame him
If he cry with a fevered song?

THE answer sounds through time's dim hall:
Remember? Yes, and in the fall
Of life, bring forth a hymn to praise
Days that are gone.

THE Morning After
O STARS that slowly fade away,
Before the withering glance of day;
Some glances wither, some delight—
I met the only girl last night!

THE MADDENING draught of young veins'
Erasering.
Eyes that linger, eyes that evade,
Half-seen glimpses that find no phrasing,
Pangs and passions so quick to fade—
Speechless appeals, but still strife—
Strife unquarrelable, but still strife—
I laid down on the mountain plain:
This is the physis that men call Life!

THE MEXICAN consul at El Paso has been dismissed by the Carranza government because he failed to resent remarks made by Governor Hobby at a banquet. We are therefore expect more ginger in future El Paso banquets.

THE Prince of Wales was in Philadelphia for twelve minutes yesterday—which was almost long enough for a foreign tourist to get material for a book.

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THE Poet Discovers Chicago
O CITY of beauty,
They have spoken without understanding;
They have called you evil!
"O city of beauty,
Maybe it is only my heart you have shaken
With your sadness of rose evenings,
And the shadows falling
In the misty evening
Under the bridges.

THE answer sounds through time's dim hall:
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