

Evening Public Ledger

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NOW FOR INJUNCTIONS!
Governor Sproul and the Delaware bridge commissions, hopefully and sincerely as they talk, have yet one certain obstacle to overcome before they can get their work fairly under way.

A HUMORIST FOR CONGRESS?
Why should E. J. Cattell, who wastes much of his talent in the office of city statistician, laugh so loudly at the suggestion that he run for Congress?

FIGHTING JERSEY'S GOVERNOR
Election contests are not popular in America unless there is in the background pretty definite evidences of deliberate fraud.

CHRISTMAS WILL BE MERRIER
The removal of restrictions on the use of light and heat follows the settlement of the coal strike without delay.

SHRUGGING OFF THE RAILROADS
The President, despite the inaction of Congress, carries out his announced purpose to turn the railroads back to their owners on January 1 without proper financial provision and protection.

cerns not the capitalist alone. It comes right home to the plain people. Lack of it will directly threaten their savings. Congress will adjourn over the Christmas holidays so that there remain only ten days for action.

EUROPE'S FAVOR TO REVISIONS FOCUSES THE BLAME ON US
Only Political Perversity Now Stands in the Way of a Compromise Insuring the Passage of the Treaty

OPPOSITION to a meritorious cause is sometimes a means of demonstrating its worth and inspiring its champions. The peace treaty is a case in point.

It was evident that the treaty was a good deal like the climate. The average mortal, bound to his environment by indissoluble ties, must accept it or cease to exist.

Similar events, although more veiled, have taken place abroad: It has been reported, and perhaps with considerable truth, that prevailing sentiment in European official circles was unfavorable to the league covenant which was ineffectually bound up in the treaty.

There are sound reasons for believing that this prominent Paris journal speaks with authority. Its editor, Stephen Lauzanne, was a special representative of the French Government in this country during the war, and is admittedly in close touch with diplomatic affairs.

It begins to look as if that momentous document were worth a few sacrifices. Europe is seemingly willing to make its share. Europe hopes for eventual agreement on the subject; prefers it, whether on grounds of self-interest or not, to underground intrigues and the formulation of imperialistic projects.

It warrants imitation in the United States. Here, also, it will entail sacrifices, but not of anything vital. Political jockeying must be renounced—political vanity and obstinacy and political playing for points.

Without some guarantee of rates high enough to meet the increased wages paid by the government, there is hardly a railroad company in the country that could escape bankruptcy.

America. Europe has had time to consider the case and weigh the perils and promises of her position. In any event, the President can no longer afford to make himself and his party responsible for a stagnation policy unless he is desirous of going on record as hostile to the very part of which he was so ardent a champion.

Whether reservations to the treaty are actually useful or not, the nation, as a whole, would like to see them made and would like to see the document adopted. It has no longing for resolutions that are deliberately offensive and there is no reason why any such ill-tempered challenges should be forthcoming.

THE average citizen, unblinded by partisanship, is assuredly more eager for the present situation to be ended than he is to see points scored by either Democrats or Republicans.

AN ORDINANCE OF CONFUSION
The enforcement of the daylight-saving ordinance of Councils will bring about complications which were not foreseen when it was signed by the Mayor.

There is a saving clause in the law which permits business to be done on a different time standard, provided there is specific agreement to that effect.

A Red Cross seal can be trained to do stunts that are "perfectly wonderful"—such as cleaning streets, building sanitary houses, inventing scientific appliances, discovering scientific facts, caring for the sick, feeding the hungry and a thousand other things designed to benefit for a people's common good.

A Thrilling Game
The national checker tournament between the wets and the dries has its thrills. There have been many shrewd moves, one or two bluffs and an occasional man in the king row.

No Power to Prevent Trouble
In the earth's crust sufficient energy may be tapped to furnish all the motive power of the world. With generating power plants operated by natural steam, coal strikes will have no terrors—but, of course, that doesn't say that the engineers may not go on strike.

It is right that the operators and miners should settle their differences for themselves. To paraphrase Gilbert: The problem all sublime they'll solve, we'll bet a dime. And make the recompense fit the time; And worth with wisdom bent achieve, with shrewd intent.

IRRESPONSIBLE MESSING WITH THE CONSTITUTION

Governor Sproul's Commission De-nounced as an Invasion of the Rights of the People of Pennsylvania

Consideration of Governor Sproul's History General Schoffer and the twenty-five ladies and gentlemen comprising the commission on revision of the state constitution holding sessions from time to time in Harrisburg.

It seems that the Legislature and the Governor entertain the notion that they are the creators of the constitution. The former has authorized and the latter has appointed a select commission of twenty-five men and women to revise the constitution.

It is perfectly true that the people have in their constitution granted to the General Assembly all of the legislative power of the commonwealth, but it is also true that they have, in the article on amendments, limited to the Legislature the right to submit to them for their approval amendments to their constitution.

public mind is no different from that of the people of Pennsylvania in '76, in '82, in '87 or '93. It affords no justification whatever to the Legislature and the Governor to withhold from the people their inherent right to alter, reform or abolish their government.

It is an innovation in constitution-making that should challenge the attention and the serious consideration of the free men of Pennsylvania. It strikes at the foundation of all their liberties inasmuch as it infringes upon their sovereignty.

Such is the argument for the "unusual, unprecedented" and, as I believe, unconstitutional action of the Legislature and the Governor. That argument is now being repeated for the creation of this constitutional commission.

It was a time of unrest and turmoil, and the convention was preceded by riots in the city of Philadelphia. A large part of the state council, whose duty it was to call the convention, refused to do so and the Legislature of that day usurped the power and authorized a convention to alter the constitution.

It is therefore an historical fact that every one of the four constitutions which the state has had since its independence was adopted by the people in a period of unrest and turbulence. The present state of the



THE CHAFFING DISH

MEDITATIONS IN PORT
By William McFee
(Special Correspondent of The Chaffing Dish)
S. S. Turillaba, New York, Dec. 10, 1919.

I USED to be the only man in England who did not privately entertain the conviction he could write a play. I never did think so, which is why I have never written one.

Well, I went up and got him fired, of course, and he is now heading upon the queer fate which dogs his footsteps everywhere. I asked the superintendent: "He says he's an American. I'm sorry for that."

WHAT I want to know is, is this permanent? Are we slowing up? More important still, are we to have no more of that doing a job because you are fond of it? These men nowadays who are getting prodigious wages and all sorts of fine things said about them by governments and employers seem to have no heart.

By THE way, I came across a strange thing in Pepsy's Diary the other day. He goes to a play and is impressed chiefly by the sweetness of the wind music "when the angel comes down," and he uses these remarkable words: "No green, did rایش me, and indeed in a word, did wrap up my soul so that it made me really sick, just as I have

formerly been when in love with my wife." Now isn't that nearer the mark than about 700 pages of "Sinister Street" or eighteen volumes of Arnold Bennett's potterly works? More anon. I have just had a couple of egg sandwiches and a pint of "caffee" sent in, which is my lunch.

Desk Mottos
The human mind is capable of being excited without the application of gross and violent stimulants.

What Do You Know?
QUIZ
1. Name two of the most destructive earthquakes of the last half century.

Answers to Saturday's Quiz
1. Giuseppe Motta is the newly elected president of Switzerland.

Three commanders on the British side in the American Revolution were Howe, Clinton and Cornwallis.