

Evening Public Ledger

PUBLISHED DAILY AT 100 N. SECOND ST. PHILADELPHIA, PA. BY THE EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER COMPANY...

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PHILADELPHIA, MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1919

PROBE THE PENITENTIARY

A SEARCHING and impartial investigation at the Eastern Penitentiary is necessary in justice to the administration of that institution and to the inmates.

Just what such a probe would reveal it is not easy to say. But it is pretty safe to assume that it would hurry the removal of the state prison from the city to the great isolated tract already marked out at Bellefonte for the establishment of a modern penal institution...

BROAD STREET MOTORBUSES

THERE can be little doubt that well-managed autobus lines on Broad street and on the Parkway would help to solve some aspects of the transportation problem.

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are idealistic reasons why the league was planned, but the practical argument was by far the chief one in its favor. It is the enforcement agent of the treaty. It is the formula upon which primal accord was necessary before any progress could be made upon the treaty.

Only two interpretations of the Knox maneuver are possible. It is either deliberately mischievous or unconsciously noncommittal.

DID DR. CONWELL SEE THE GHOST OF HIS WIFE?

The Answer Depends Not on Belief in Immortality, but in the Possibility of Communications From the Dead

MORE persons are interested today in the possibility of communication between the dead and the living than at any other period since men began to think about the matter.

The Rev. Dr. Russell H. Conwell, pastor of the Baptist Temple, who, of course, believes in immortality, has had a vision of his dead wife, repeated every morning at daybreak for a week, an explanation of the nature of which he is seeking from Sir Oliver Lodge and other men who have devoted themselves to the study of psychic phenomena.

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yet been proved with the certainty of a mathematical demonstration. He professes to have discovered that in producing materializations there passes from the body of the medium a corporeal substance which the French investigators have named ectoplasm, and that this substance can be touched and felt, but that it cannot stand the light.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, who has been converted from a belief in annihilation to faith in the future life through his investigations into spiritualism, will not admit that there is any possibility of doubt of the reality of the messages delivered. He insists that the resurrection of Jesus was not the resurrection of a material body, but the manifestation of his disciples of a spiritual body similar to that which appears in the so-called materializations of the spiritualistic seances.

And there the matter rests today. A large and increasing number of persons believe that the immortality of the soul has been proved beyond the shadow of a doubt, not through the assertions of sacred writing, but through the actual delivery of messages from the dead to the living.

HALF-WAY METHODS

No settlement can be had in this matter unless the findings of this body be guarded at every point by the public interest.

HENRY M. ROBINSON, who is the solitary representative of the public interest in the commission of three, which will have two votes against his one in every emergency, must have read that passage in Mr. Wilson's letter with mingled feelings.

To guard at every point the public interest is a large task for one man under any circumstances. To guard at every point the public interest in a contest of mind and will with angry union men and angrier coal producers in conferences called to settle finally the biggest, the most complicated and the most painful industrial controversy in our history would require superhuman wisdom and superhuman strength.

It is true that decisions of the coal commission will be considered binding only when they are unanimous. But we know how unanimity of opinion is brought about in juries. There is a point at which the most determined human resistance breaks down in sheer exhaustion.

The miners are no less resolute in the apparent intention to get the most out of a crisis that is not yet passed.

When it was announced from Washington that the coal strike had been adjusted and that production would be resumed while a commission studied the industry it was supposed that the truth about wages, prices, living conditions, pooling agreements, methods of distribution and the like would be fully revealed for the intelligent scrutiny of the people who pay the bills.

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MARSHALL A MARTINET Former Speaker of the House at Harrisburg Could Bump His Friends If Necessary

By GEORGE NOX MCCAIG WILLIAM T. MARSHALL, ex-speaker of the House at Harrisburg at the session of 1901, formerly of Allegheny, has for some years past been a resident of this city.

Members of the House at that session will recall him as one of the most strenuous officials that ever occupied the speaker's chair. He ruled with the mailed fist, did William T. The stormiest time in the House I recall was one night toward the end of that session. The Pittsburgh "ripper" bill was up. Factional feeling ran high among the Alleghenians, for it was a big local issue.

George M. Hosack, a young, able and pugnacious Pittsburgh member, was fighting for the measure. Hosack and Marshall were good friends personally, but were on opposite sides on the "ripper." Hosack was determined to speak his fill and the speaker was just as determined he should not; so the latter declined to recognize him on the floor.

Representative Hosack's indignation at length burst bounds. In a high-keyed voice that made the five-story chamber quiver he bawled for recognition. Between times he denounced the speaker, refusing to recognize the order "the gentleman from Allegheny will resume his seat."

SENATOR EDWIN H. MARE the other day gave a curious instance not only of the extent of his contracting operations but the limit to which he intrusts his business to his subordinates.

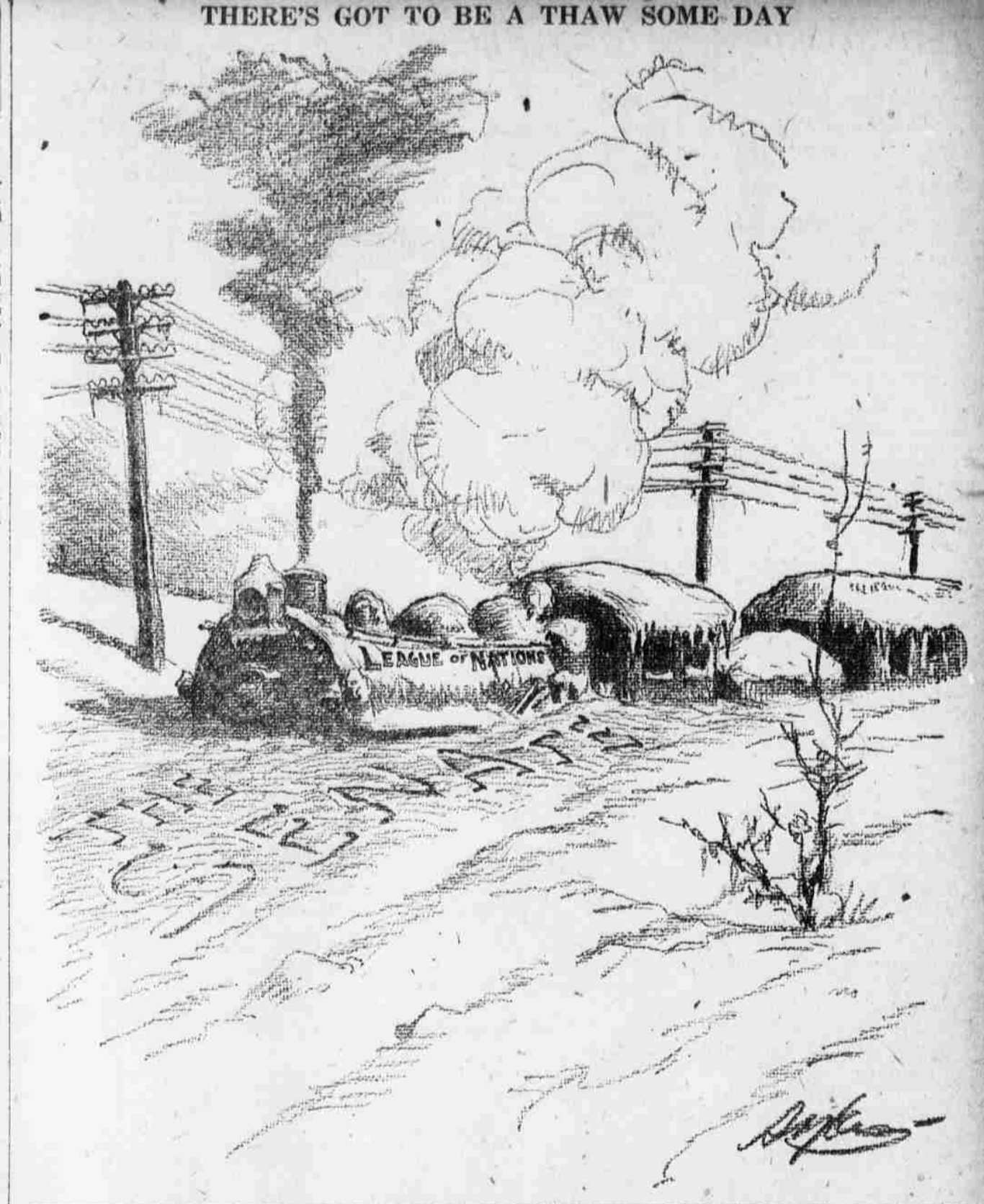
He took a party of Philadelphia friends some years ago to the dedication of the Commodore Perry monument at Put-in-Bay. After the ceremony the party, which was also on a sightseeing jaunt, took a boat to Sandusky, O., and thence by train to Toledo on route to Chicago, I think.

That night in Toledo from his hotel window he observed a string of red lanterns stretching for squares down one of the streets; saw signs of excavations and street work.

The following morning what was his surprise on looking out of the window to see the entire distance dotted with familiar tool boxes each bearing the legend "Vare Bros., Philadelphia." The men were at work, some hundreds of them, putting in telephone conduits for the local company.

AN INTERESTING little story came to me recently about the Rev. George William Lincoln, of St. John the Baptist Church, Germantown. It was when he resided in Brooklyn.

When Mayor Thomas B. Smith retires from office he will spend much of his time on the farm he recently purchased up in the Pocono mountains.



THE CHAFFING DISH

Only Two Days More

Wife has dug up our old overcoat and insists on giving it to him. We intended to give it to the Honorable Girls around at the Walnut, they looked a bit goose-fleshed last week, but we always have hay fever when we get near those grass skirts.

FINE old Anglo-Saxon festival, Christmas. A time of jovial cheer and bracing mirth. Must be so, because Dr. Frank Crane and Ralph Waldo Trine have often said so.

GRAND time, Christmas! We vowed to try to take down our weight this winter, and then they put sugar back on the menu, and doughnut shops sprung up on every street, and Charles F. Jenkins sent us a big sack of Peaseo buckwheat flour and were eating a basketful of griddle cakes every morning for breakfast.

GRAND time, Christmas! No one is really a Philadelphian until he has waited for a Pine Street car on a snowy night. Please have my seat, madam, there's plenty of room on the strap.

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SUNRISE

Never the most-high run of the seas Of traffic shall bid thee, Never the hell-colored smoke of the factories Hide thee.

ASSOCIATION of ideas. Everybody wears silk stockings at Christmas time. Excessive geniality of the ad-writers. Up-roarious good cheer. Makes one almost ashamed to notice the high price of everything.

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What Do You Know?

- 1. What pioneering aviator has just died? 2. What is to be the status of Danzig under the peace treaty? 3. What is cholechony? 4. Who was Dulinea? 5. Name three noted comedies by Moliere. 6. What kind of an animal is a cosset? 7. Who owns Hongkong and where is it? 8. Who was commander of the British forces whose retreat through France was ended by the first battle of the Marne? 9. What is an ad valorem tariff? 10. Who were the victors in the Battle of the Nile and when was it fought?

Answers to Saturday's Quiz

- 1. The horse was unknown to the American Indians before the advent of the white man. 2. Prestige should be accented on the last syllable. The "c" may either be sounded soft, giving a result somewhat like the "s" in seizure or it may have the harder sound of "dg" as in the word bridge. The "q" of the final syllable has the sound of an "e." 3. The Doukhobors are a religious sect. 4. A duniassal is a Scotch Highland gentleman of secondary rank. 5. Four notable novels left unfinished by their authors are Stevenson's "Weir of Hermiston," Thackeray's "Dennis Duval," Hawthorne's "The Dolliver Romance" and Dickens's "Edwin Drood." 6. The doublet, formerly worn by men, is a close fitting body garment, with or without sleeves and short skirts. 7. Chrysoprass is thought to have been a golden-green variety of beryl. It is now an apple-green variety of chalcocite. 8. Porto Rico is the portion of American territory which was the first to be found by the white men. It was discovered by Columbus in 1493. 9. A coatee is a short tailed coat, especially a military coat. 10. "Dens ex machina" literally means "God out of the machine." The phrase is used to describe a power or event that comes in the nick of time to solve a difficulty, providential interposition, especially in a novel or play. The "cic" in "anachina" has the sound of "k."