

Evening Public Ledger

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A FOUR-YEAR PROGRAM FOR PHILADELPHIA

Things on which the people expect the new administration to concentrate its attention:
The Delaware river bridge.
A drydock big enough to accommodate the largest ships.

WHAT IT ALL MEANS

THE explanation of the recent bond transactions of the Sinking Fund Commission with a syndicate of bankers headed by Drexel & Co., is so infantile and inconsistent that it is astonishing that it could have been signed by the Mayor, the Controller and Mr. Stotesbury.

In the first place, it sets forth that the city treasury needed money and that there was a large sum in the sinking fund. An opinion was obtained from the City Solicitor that it would be legal for the sinking fund to make a temporary loan to the City Treasurer in anticipation of the payment of taxes.

Then the city offered \$4,000,000 in bonds for sale. The Mayor, the Controller and Mr. Stotesbury intimate over their own signatures that they were not sure of the legality of the bonds until the lawyers of private bankers, one of them Mr. Stotesbury's own bank, had passed upon the question.

MR. CUNNINGHAM MUST STICK
MR. CUNNINGHAM intimates that he has not yet decided whether he will accept the chairmanship of the subcommittee on finance of the Republican city committee.

THE fundamental weakness in the bond program was that which has characterized every get-rich-quick scheme ever launched. The simple question, why was it necessary for the inventor to ask the public to share his treasure? could be raised. It is this pertinent query which subscribers to stock promising speedy fortunes so invariably fail to sound.

SWEETNESS IN THE NEWS
EARLY this week there was a sign in the window of a local grocery store announcing that customers could have all the sugar they wished for twenty cents a pound. Yesterday it was announced that a retail grocer in New York was offering sugar to his customers for sixteen cents, with no limit on the amount bought.

WHY will a contractor take a job which he knows cannot be done without violating the city ordinances? This question is suggested by the complaint of Chief Dunlap, of the Bureau of Highways, because contractors are depressing the sidewalk in order to permit access to basement garages in private residences and because they are extending porches beyond the building line.

FINANCIAL QUACKERY IS BACK AT THE OLD STAND

PONZI'S Preposterous Game and the Public Appetite Which It Whetted Are Painfully Traditional
Ponzi will soon be forgotten. Memory to be worth cultivating must be accompanied with the gift of interpretation. Individuals possess it, and sometimes they have employed their talent in transmitting history from a sterile record of dates and names into a pregnant comment on human motives.

And that is why, in the real significance of the word, "50 Per Cent Ponzi" will be unremembered, and why also the blame attaching to him has something of the nature of a particularly unpleasant boomerang. The heavy end swings around into the public that gleefully made him and bitterly bewails his financial demise.

HARDING'S CONSCIENCE

SENATOR HARDING shines brightly by contrast with Governor Bickett in his attitude on the duty of legislators in handling the equal suffrage question.

Blue-jay laws have been framed to check the ancient and abiding popular faith in countless schemes in which risk is discounted in the dazzling glamour of prodigal reward. Something, of course, has been accomplished by such legislation forbidding the sale of stock in enterprises not subjected to an examination of its backing and a state report on the property assets.

A MODERN MARVEL
SENATOR PENROSE is said to be gratified because the number of his new automobile license tag is 500,000.

EARLY in that year the rumor was industriously circulated that, having gratified his ambition to nominate and elect a Governor of his own selection, Quay proposed to cut up Governor Penrose for the vacancy on the Supreme bench which was due.

WHAT DO YOU KNOW?
1. Where is the Bug river?
2. Who is the present chief justice of the United States?
3. What is the meaning of the girl's name Emerald?

WORKERS TO STAY HERE
Shipping Board Employees Remain Until April 1, 1921, at Least
Shipping board employees now working in the division of construction and repairs in this city will not be sent back to Washington before April 1, 1921.

THE THREE LOVES
I AM enamored of a new Divinity—a glorious creature With matchless beauty shining through Her every feature.

WHEN QUAY QUAKED

It Was When Durham and Elkin Were on His Trail—But He Out-generated Them and Shelved Elkin in the Supreme Court Bench
By GEORGE NOX MCCAIN
PROTHONOTARY HENRY F. WALTON is authority for the statement that the shortest and incidentally, one of the most important Republican state conventions ever held in Pennsylvania lasted just seventy-two minutes.

THE difference was that the climax of the convention of 1904 was reached with a smoothness and precision that were totally lacking in Chicago. The one performed like a company of trained goals; the other carried on like the inmates of a bear-pit after a five days' fast.

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SHORT CUTS

The Ponzi front had no back after all. Sooner or later, happily, we'll see an end to The Craze.
Ponzi's favorite song is probably "I'm forever blowing bubbles."

THE modern definition of governmental "regulation" appears to be "making good a deficit."
Pultusk simply shows that pronouncing Polish proper names is like an operation in dentistry.

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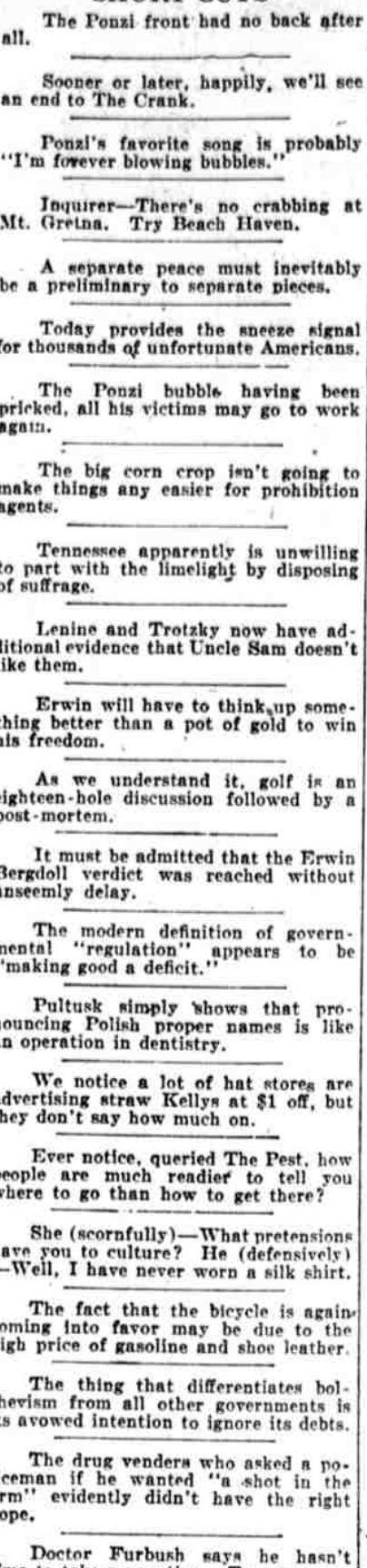
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THEY ALWAYS COME BACK



"Remember the last time, Hiram." "Shucks! This one is an Honest Feller!"

CRAZE FOR PLEASURE BARS BABIES IN HOME

E. J. Cattell Blames Recent Tendencies for Lower Birthrate, but Sees Future Full of Promise
A RELAXING of moral standards, a mad lust for pleasure and a loss of a sense of personal responsibility are among the reasons ascribed by E. J. Cattell, city statistician, for the great decrease in the city birth rate and the increase in the divorce rate.

THE responsibility which marriage thrusts upon young people doesn't seem to have weighed very heavily with many of them in recent years. Simple pleasures are always at hand for any one at almost any time, but the desire has grown more and more for smart pleasures. Children very often are a hindrance to the enjoyment of smart pleasures.

PEASURES HAVE CHANGED
In former days parents took their children to the parks, or to merry-go-rounds or other simple forms of pleasure which the children could enjoy as well as their parents.

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EXPERTS CONDEMN SUBMARINE CHASER

Eagle 25 Too Unseaworthy to Justify Putting Her in Commission Again
The Eagle 25, the Ford-built submarine chaser that toppled over in the Delaware river June 11 with the loss of nine lives, will probably be scrapped.

THE vessels were severely criticized by marine architects when they first appeared and the naval architects that were utilized in the crisis. It is said that the Navy Department recognized several faulty features in the design of the vessel.

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