Evening Public Ledger

PUBLIC LEDGER COMPANY
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Published daily at PUBLIC LEDGER Building, Independence Square, Philadelphia
ATLANTIC CITY.....Press-Union Building
NEW YORK.....365 Madison Ave.
DETROIT.....701 Ford Building
ST. LOUIS.....1008 Fullerton Building
CHICAGO.....1302 Tribune Building

NEWS BUREAUS:
WASHINGTON BUREAU, N. E. Cor. Pennsylvania Ave. and 14th St.
NEW YORK BUREAU.....The Sun Building

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
The EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER is served to subscribers in Philadelphia and surrounding towns at the rate of twelve (12) cents per week, payable to the carrier.
By mail to points outside of Philadelphia, in the United States, Canada, or United States possessions, postage free, fifty (50) cents per month. Six ($6) dollars per year, payable in advance.
To all foreign countries one ($1) dollar per month.
NOTICE—Subscribers wishing address changed must give old as well as new address.
BELL, 3000 WALNUT KEYSTONE, MAIN 3000

Address all communications to Evening Public Ledger, Independence Square, Philadelphia.

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Philadelphia, Friday, August 20, 1920

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.
Development of the rapid transit system.
A convention hall.
A building for the Free Library.
An Art Museum.
Enlargement of the water supply.
Homes to accommodate the population.

ONE DUTY WELL DONE

IT WOULD be out of place to congratulate the goverument on the speedy trial and prompt sentencing of Erwin Bergdoll had not such a nauseous muddle been made of the case of his notorious brother.

The court-martial has been unmarred by disgusting sensationalism. In a word, a plain duty has been simply and normally performed. The most gratifying result is not only that arrogance and disloyalty will be condignly punished, but that the elder Bergdoll will forthwith be retired from public notice.

A WORD TO THE NEW VOTERS

UNLESS the improbable happens the right of all adult Americans to vote at the November election will not be abridged on account of sex.

That does not mean, however, that the ballots cast will be equal to the number of those persons enfranchised. There are thousands of chronic pollslackers among the males. In districts where personal registration laws are operative, reformers and gangsters, politicians and publicists, plead regularly for a full enrollment. Something has been accomplished, as witness the huge local registration last year, but indifference and carelessness still play disturbing roles.

It is to be the privilege of the women of Philadelphia to read the men a significant lesson in attention to a simple duty. Two of the registration days will fall in September, the first of them on the second of that month. The third enrollment day will be October 2. The suffragists will have won an empty victory if they fail to follow it up by strict compliance with the preliminary qualifications for franchise.

The registration hours are from 7 a. m. to 1 p. m. and from 4 p. m. to 10 p. m. It is unlikely that court decisions will invalidate the nineteenth amendment. But it can be converted into mere pompous phraseology by neglect of the registration day duties.

SYSTEM AND SAMENESS

THE beauties of conformity—distinctly a modern ideal—are sought in the plan of standardizing hotels, to be launched at a meeting of hostelry proprietors in Colorado Springs next month. The factors which in combination constitute a good hotel are to be officially defined. Rates are to be systematized. Steps will be taken to prevent firetrap rooming houses from masquerading as hotels.

Regulation will triumph, of course. Contemporary tendency is all that way. The result is often excellent. There are more first-class hotels in the United States than in any other country on earth and many more here today than there were a decade ago.

But the old filip of surprise is hardly to be captured by the most resourceful traveler. Contrasts are effaced. If there are fewer bonifaces who charge exorbitantly for wretched bed and board, there are certainly fewer who thrill the patron with unexpectedly enticing food and accommodations instinct with original charm.

Menus are wholesome—and inflexible. Perhaps the time is coming when they will be identical throughout the land. Progress cannot be downed. Security must prevail. There is little escape anywhere—not merely in hotels—from organized efficient protection.

To complain that the age is dull is to rebel from its governing spirit. None but an old fogy can be so shameless as to confess to boredom.

NO MORE ADVENTURES

WITH Estaban Cantu, the Mexican rebel, abdicating and with the once ferocious Villa sending for agricultural machinery and school books, where now shall the writer of magazine fiction turn for a background for his thrilling stories? Mexico was once the never-failing refuge for the scribbler of 50,000 words a month. He could find his plot in any of the novels of the past, transfer the scene from Europe to the copper mines or the oil wells, use the regular moving-picture costumes and scenery, scatter a few "carambas," "Si, senors," "mananas," "no importas" and "carissimas" through the text and the job was done.

There were bandits ready to his hand and no one to dispute his accuracy; he could run the whole gamut of thrills and horrors and not touch the popular conception of actuality; he could mix murder and moonlight, thrills and heart throbs, love and lucre illimitable and cast over it all the perfectly standardized spell of the tropics, and he never had to inclose stamps for return postage.

But it now begins to look as though Mexico were really trying to become ordinarily human. How long it will last, who can say? She has always been a land where the governing classes have represented temperaments exactly the opposite to the deeply rooted characteristics of her great mass of population, and the mere fact that a Mexican government joins church and goes to Sunday school does not necessarily mean that the peons will be found at their prayers.

Still, these are hopeful signs. Even at the expense of the magazine writer, we should welcome them and trust to luck to get our reading thrills from somewhere else.

MOTOR ACCIDENTS AND THE MOB SPIRIT IN CRITICISM

You Hear Much Justified Condemnation of Reckless Motorists, but Little About Reckless Pedestrians

NUDGE in, at the next opportunity, to the middle of one of those crowds that gather in a flash when the driver of an automobile collides with a post or a pedestrian or the prejudices of a traffic policeman.

The unhappy man may have been pottering mildly about in the thoroughly enervated great-grandfather of all flivvers. His very middle name may be Caution. He may loom as a symbol of profound misery throned on one of those portable stoves that cannot be forced to more than fifteen miles an hour without the risk of sudden dissolution. Yet, seen through the eyes of the crowd, he will be a speed devil, a menace to the community, a gas maniac disdainful of the rights of others.

Get his number! If a citizen has been hurt or annoyed, do not ask whether the victim of the accident was wholly or in part to blame. Suggest that the driver of the motorcar be lynched and you will be in the height of fashion.

The lingering prejudice manifest on such occasions isn't directed in reality against those who drive motors. It represents a survival of the human habit to oppose all new and novel things.

Fulton's boat was the work of a lunatic abetted by the devil, and the telephone was an unholy thing likely to bring lightning into the parlor and make life generally unbearable. Criticism of the League of Nations has been mild in comparison with the things said in denuncination of the earliest telescope.

Motorcars are new enough to be still under suspicion.

It has been most interesting, for example, to study the reaction caused in all avenues of public discussion by the reports of the National Safety Council, which show that motorcars cause one death every thirty-five minutes in the United States, and by the statement of Superintendent Mills that 123 deaths were traced directly to automobile accidents in this city during the present year.

The implication is flat and general that the fault is solely with "reckless motorists" and the machines they drive. There is a general outcry for "more stringent laws," for "harsher punishment."

In a way that demand is justified. The total of accidents is really appalling. But the trouble with the one-ideaed and one-sided criticism of the moment is that it can do no good because it does not touch the heart of the question.

Drivers themselves usually get the worst of it in a collision. And when it is remembered that people afoot insistently disregard laws and regulations established for their own safety and comfort, that the driver of an automobile in a city street has to watch traffic, the semaphore signals, his own machine and keep at the same time a harassed eye on men, women and children who stroll languidly almost under his wheels, it is clear that the blame for automobile accidents will have to be more evenly distributed before there is a drop in the statistics of preventable accidents.

A great deal has been made in current discussion of motor accidents in the United States about the absence of fatalities in passenger airplane traffic abroad.

Absent-minded or reckless people do not go walking in the sky. Nor do undisciplined little boys and girls go darting into streams of heavy air traffic where they have no right to be. Nor do they ride on the tails of air machines to drop without warning into the path of airplanes directly behind. Ladies and gentlemen, abstracted and with downcast eyes, do not step languidly off cloudy curbstones to give aviators hair-raising shocks of fright.

Ordinary caution on the part of pedestrians would avert at least half of the motor accidents that are daily reported in the newspapers—perhaps more than half.

It is true that traffic laws formulated to discipline reckless drivers are too loosely enforced. The time is coming when jail sentences and the withdrawal of road privileges will be the punishment inflicted by courts on careless drivers.

Judges will not sweepingly denounce the whole world of motors when an accident case is before them. People who go afoot will learn that policemen's signals are for everybody alike. Traffic policemen never fail to bawl out a motor driver who disregards the traffic signals. But they would have no time for any other work if they were to reprimand pedestrians who take their lives in their hands by a complete disregard of street regulations in dangerous areas.

The truth is that the reckless pedestrian is in most cases as much to blame for an accident as the reckless motorist. Still indignant judges tell the average driver who is called before them that "they and their contraptions should be driven from the streets."

Well, automobiles are actually being driven from the streets in Philadelphia. The rights of those who own and drive machines are being constantly restricted. Those who make traffic and parking laws and who have served notice on motor owners that they cannot expect to use their machines freely are not yet aware that the motorcar is a utility that should have quite as much consideration as the trolley car.

Because of the increasing restriction of parking rules, men who desire to use their machines in their business are in constant difficulty. Yet there is enough waste space on Broad street, on other thoroughfares and on the side streets to provide parking space under municipal regulation whenever the city government recognizes the need for that sort of public convenience.

There will be a quicker solution for the whole general question of motor traffic when the courts, the newspapers, the police and the public realize that ninety-nine out of every hundred motor drivers observe more than ordinary caution in the city streets, and that if they didn't, if they were no more alert than many people who complain about them, the total of dangerous accidents would double overnight.

A Philadelphia physician with a grim sense of humor tried an odd experiment which proved that the hardships of street traffic are by no means exclusively with the walking public. He recently sought out a professional chauffeur of the common or garden variety, hitched a blood-pressure gauge to the arm of his subject and, sitting on the front seat of a motor, waited to see what happens to a driver in congested traffic.

On the trip from Broad and Chestnut streets to the postoffice and from the postoffice to Broad Street Station, on a Saturday afternoon, the blood pressure of the driver actually soared. It moved up twenty points. Nervous tension and mental stress not uncommon to the ordinary run of motorists was registered for the first time in black and white.

The prim old ladies who proudly insist on a right to be jay crossers, the stubborn citizen who feels that because he is a taxpayer all traffic should stop while he idles across the street in the middle of a block, and pedestrians generally who refuse to observe even ordinary rules of caution were getting in their work on that experimental trip as they get it in every day in the year.

Drivers of automobiles are forever avoiding accidents that might result from the carelessness of others. They know that jail or a fine or an ugly wreck and perhaps serious injury will be in it for them first of all.

When airplanes are the new luxury—that is, when all the world rides in motorcars—there will be a different refrain in the statistical reports. Then the public will begin to condemn aviators who drop in the streets without decent consideration for the rights of the humble people who have to get about with difficulty in motor vehicles.

LEAGUE AGAIN LIBELED

WHATEVER else may be said in derogation of Franklin D. Roosevelt's views on international policy, their originality is undeniable.

Senator Johnson, the most vigorous of the league's foes, has not hesitated to twist the lion's tail for demagogic purposes. But his "Americanism" has not been carried to the point of comprehensively insulting all the independent nations of the New World over which the folds of the Stars and Stripes do not wave. Furthermore, the Californian is avowedly averse to international affiliations in general.

Standing on a platform which has appeared to favor some peace-promoting basis of reciprocal agreement among governments, the Democratic candidate does not, nevertheless, propose to be outdone in bad manners.

At Butte, Mont., the other day, Mr. Roosevelt championed a bullying peace with all the ardor with which the confirmed militarist might be expected to indorse a bullying war. Obviously this is something new in Democratic argument and worth heeding in London, in Rio, in Montevideo and Buenos Aires.

"President Wilson," averred the vice presidential candidate, "'put one over' on Premier Lloyd George in the distribution of voting strength in the League of Nations." It was Mr. Roosevelt's exultant contention that the United States in contrast controls the votes of twelve Latin-American nations, and is in a position to dictate to them to sit up, to lie down or to plug dead.

Needless to say Argentina, Brazil and Chile will note this interpretation of the covenant with some interest before collapsing into supineness and servile prostration. And Britain will at least be made aware that she was victimized by a slick Yankee maneuver before she accepts the role of subordination in an alleged partnership.

Democratic enthusiasts are welcome to figure out for themselves what will happen to international good feeling when the Monroe Doctrine is converted into a gag and the British empire takes its orders from Washington!

Mr. Harding has not yet divulged his detailed idea of a new league, but Mr. Roosevelt has no patience with such conservatism. In spirited, not to say slangy language, he hastens to explain what he thinks the old league really is. The revelation is not without piquancy, since the former assistant secretary of the navy has not permitted himself to be encumbered by facts.

If Mr. Roosevelt has heard of an American suzerainty over Brazil, Peru, Uruguay, Chile and Argentina he is unique. By the terms of the Platt amendment, the United States stands in a peculiarly intimate relation to Cuba, and by special treaty also with Panama. We are maintaining a temporary guardianship over Haiti and Santo Domingo and to a less extent over Nicaragua.

But where are the twelve tame nations to illustrate the acuteness of Yankee trickery in the Peace Conference? Just where are those dozen votes capable of inspiring a European former ally with feeling of abject humility?

Mr. Roosevelt, like a good many of his compatriots of both parties, appears to have a somewhat erratic acquaintance with the actual text of the league covenant. It was explained ad nauseam to Hiram Johnson, it will evidently have to be explained to Mr. Roosevelt, that it is the council of the league which is endowed with rights of initiative and action, and that in that body Great Britain and the United States may cast exactly one vote apiece.

The British dominions and the Latin-American republics under our tutelage are members of the advisory chamber, the assembly. Their admittance by a rotation scheme to the council is contingent upon a unanimous vote of that upper house. This is the incontrovertible answer to the twaddle about British domination of the league, nonsense which seems to have bothered Mr. Roosevelt on one side of the fence almost as much as it has Mr. Johnson on the other.

Of course, if the vice presidential candidate enjoys contorting facts and arrogantly imperiling international good will that is his privilege, unless his political managers should see fit to shut off his prattle.

CROPS ON VACANT LOTS

Success of War Gardens Is Being Repeated by Many Industrious Philadelphians

WHERE once the only crop that flourished was of tin cans, thrifty Stone and pound-large Ponderosa bear burdens of tomatoes, now "red ripe," as they say in Jersey. Broomsticks that once littered the ground are now supporting luscious lima beans. Brickbats have given way to beets, and miscellaneous debris to small-eared but toothsome Golden Bantam or fine-grained Shoepeg corn.

It is harvest time in the gardens of the Philadelphia Vacant Lots Cultivation Association, and bumper crops are the rule. Chard, lettuce, cabbage, cauliflower, carrots, potatoes and other varieties of hardy "truck" are in their prime or verging on maturity. A bumper crop of "earlies" has been followed by one as bounteous of main-season varieties, and the "late croppers" will be ready in time for the home canning and pickling season.

HARVEST time in the vacant-lot gardens means the measurable reduction of the cost of living by the urban agriculturists in their toy plots; which, however, are big enough to supply the family table and often to afford a surplus to sell, thus augmenting the family income.

Despite the handicap of wet and cold ground that prevented planting in accordance with the old reliable Farmers' Almanac, this has been one of the best seasons in the history of the vacant-lot movement, which Philadelphia has developed on a larger scale than any other city. John K. Snyder, superintendent of the activities for many years, is enthusiastic over the project, and his roseate outlook is confirmed by a visit to the scores of once vacant lots reclaimed by amateur intensive farming from their former fallowness into an agency of real helpfulness.

One must dissociate the idea of charity from the vacant-lot movement. Philanthropy, yes; charity, no. Routine relief work is likely to exert a more or less degrading influence on the minds of the recipients. Frequently it causes a physical degeneration as well, on account of encouraged idleness. Vacant-lot farming, however, requires the industrious participation of the beneficiary. It encourages ambition and self-reliance. Instead of having their efficiency lessened, the workers on the vacant-lot farms become more efficient and diligent. For they will reap no harvest unless they sow and till.

VACANT LOTS CULTIVATION ASSOCIATION has been operating for more than a score of years. Its motto is "Increased opportunity for self-help." Its purpose is not to give charity, but to open the way for those in need of aid to help themselves through their own efforts. Its work is the cultivation of gardens by the needy on unused land, subject to dispossession when the owners want the land for building or other purposes. The result of the work is briefly summarized in the statement that each dollar expended fructifies into four. In other words, vegetables are produced to four times the value of the subscriptions made by civic-minded and public-spirited persons to finance the work.

Sometimes there are in different parts of the city as many as twenty different garden "farms," divided into nearly 1000 lots, each allotted to a family. Analysis of a season shows the beneficiaries to have been laborers, mill hands, railway employes, building trades operatives, persons engaged in miscellaneous occupations affected by "seasonal" conditions, and persons closely confined to office work, who thus counteracted potential illness through lack of outside recreation.

All nationalities are found among the vacant-lot farmers. All ages are represented, from the kiddie in knickerbockers to the old man of eighty. The best garden one year was the result of the toil of a nonagenarian. In every respect the work of this broad and useful movement is highly diversified.

PROFIT as well as healthful exercise follows engagement in vacant-lot farming. Its economic value is obvious. With the quotations on green groceries this year higher than ever, savings effected by the vacant-lot farms have enabled thousands of persons to eat fresh and health-giving vegetables in abundance. Many a well-filled market basket, laden with more than enough to supply the half week's needs of a tolerably large and hungry family, is taken from the gardens every morning.

The gardens vary from one-eighth to one-sixth of an acre. The association arranges with the owners of idle land to turn it to use until it is needed for business development. The land is put into shape by the association, which plows and harrows the soil. The miniature gardens are then allotted to the applicant families in order of request. Receiving the land free of rental, the society assigns it on the same basis. Its only charge is a nominal fee to cover expenses of plowing, harrowing, fertilizer, seeds, etc.

THE families spread the fertilizer, choose their own crops, plant the seeds, till the crops and gather the matured produce. After supplying domestic needs they sell any surplus or store crops that keep over winter. If an individual or family cultivates a garden resultfully one season, the association generally reallots the ground the ensuing season.

Directly, the labors of this useful enterprise assist the beneficiaries in making possible garden "sass" for home use without any implication of charity, as the results are sheerly dependent on personal effort and efficiency. The "city farmers" sometimes devote most of their ground to one crop, attaining better results by concentration, and then trade portions of their crop with their neighbors. Many of them "huckster" the surplus. Others practice diversified agriculture on a small scale, to give variety to the family table. The lots are kept free from weeds and unsightly objects, which removes all opposition from householders near the vacant-lot gardens.

INDIRECTLY, the association is influential. Its workers set a valuable object lesson to others in the vicinity to utilize backyards for intensive gardening. Many of the gardeners secure practical training enough to set up "trucking" in the nearby suburbs. It thus fosters the "back-to-the-land" movement. It serves as a desirable agency in the general uplift movement, which is so promising under the guidance of sociologists and settlement workers.

Tell It to Congress

At last we have traced one of the hidden causes of the present white paper shortage. It is in the untold number of paper napkins which, handed out in the quick-lunch dens, invariably blow away and disappear before they can be captured and firmly held.

It Is Always So

The wonder is, after all, that the authorities in Boston didn't get Ponzi before Ponzi got the money.

SHORT CUTS

Susan B. Anthony's soul goes marching on.

What "Southern chivalry" said was, "Oh, well, take it, darn it!"

What Frankie D. seems to be suffering from is immaturity.

Decline in sugar prices may be described as little drops of sweetness.

The political capital to be drawn out of Poland's disaster will eventually demand a ruinous amount of interest.

The Candy Box and the Cigar Box now march side by side to the Ballot Box.

Fireman - Statesman Roosevelt's difficulty appears to be that every time his whistle blows his engine stops.

If some relative of Josephus Daniels could get a job in the navy it might give the country a needed rest.

After days of mugginess, yesterday we momentarily sensed the "raw gust of August."

Here and there are those who consider Reno the capital of the land of the free.

The Poles may yet proceed to prove the truth of Mark Twain's declaration that nothing succeeds like success.

When Grover learns how free from worry Erwin is he may decide to give himself up.

The Bolshevist program is a comprehensive one, but, very happily, it is subject to change.

Shibe Park being like a sponge yesterday, the scheduled game was wiped off the slate.

The women at least proved their possession of political strategy in Tennessee. They made the two national political parties fight for their votes.

Forgetting for the moment that we are Republicans or Democrats, we rejoice as Americans at the news from Antwerp.

In the matter of votes for women we have it on unquestionable authority that the Hearst newspapers did it. They admit it themselves.

Doesn't Secretary Baker realize that he is making things harder for Postmaster General Burleson by sending those bulky Democratic speeches of his through the mail free?

Among the Bolshevists there are military visionaries who see world conquest ahead of them and fanatical visionaries who foresee uprisings of the proletariat the world over; and back of them both is the silent peasant, who yet may prove modern civilization's strongest ally.

The fact that Secretary Daniels chose the day on which woman suffrage won its victory to send his communication on political activity in the navy to all employes causes one to conjecture that perhaps Finland might not have had it all her own way in the javelin throw if Josephus had entered for America.

A mother's appeal to her boy is said to have brought about the deciding vote in favor of the ratification of the suffrage amendment in Tennessee. "Don't forget to be a good boy," she wrote, "and help Mrs. Catt to put the rat in ratification." A new nursery jingle for Tennessee youth is here suggested: This is the letter that turned the vote that enabled the state to help Mrs. Catt to put the rat in ratification.

Says Josephus Daniels, secretary of the navy: "Employes are accountable for political activity by persons other than themselves, including husbands and wives." Thus, according to the gospel of Daniels, husband and wife are one politically as well as socially. Dangerous doctrine, Josephus, at a time when Democrats are wooing the feminine vote and women are celebrating their emancipation.

Philadelphia Egyptologists are much interested in the alleged discovery by a Washington student of the fluid with which mummies were embalmed, but they apparently have not taken cognizance of a noteworthy local case. There is evidence that when the present street car company was organized the underlying companies were dipped in mummy fluid. At all events they seem to be pretty well preserved.

What Do You Know?

QUIZ

1. Who wrote the words of "Annie Laurie"?
2. What is a ciborium?
3. How many federal constitutional amendments have been ratified within the last ten years?
4. Who won the battle of Brandywine in the American Revolution?
5. What is the largest tideless sea in the world?
6. What famous republic had St. Mark for its patron saint?
7. Where is Benjamin Franklin buried?
8. Name a small animal of which snakes are intensely afraid?
9. Distinguish between a hassock and a cassock.
10. What part of a fathom is a foot?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

1. The difference in time between London and New York is five hours. At present both cities are using daylight saving.
2. "Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown," is spoken by King Henry IV in the Shakespeare's "King Henry IV, Part II."
3. Neptune is farther from the sun than any other planet in the solar system.
4. General George B. McClellan was the Democratic candidate who ran unsuccessfully against Abraham Lincoln for the presidency in 1864.
5. Most of the scene of Stevenson's romance, "Treasure Island," is laid in the West Indies.
6. Elihu Root has been instrumental in drawing up the plans for a world court of arbitration to operate under the League of Nations.
7. Gilbert Stuart was an American painter, especially celebrated for his full length portraits of Washington, of which there are five. Stuart was born in Narragansett, R. I., in 1755; died in Boston in 1828.
8. The tomato was formerly called love-apple, was thought to be poisonous and was grown for decorative purposes.
9. Augustus was emperor of Rome at the time of the birth of Jesus Christ.
10. Count Casimir Pulaski served in the Continental Army in the American Revolution and in 1778 formed a corps called "Pulaski's Legion." He defended Charleston in 1779 and was mortally wounded near Savannah the same year.

OUR POSITION IN ONE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

NOW MY IDEA IS THIS!

Daily Talks With Thinking Philadelphians on Subjects They Know Best

JOHN H. MASON

Teaching Sound Investments

"INSTRUCT people who wish to invest in what is sound," is the advice of John H. Mason, president of the Commercial Trust Co., "if you would steer them clear of the rocks of financial disaster."

Mr. Mason, who had charge of the Liberty and Victory Bond and War Savings Stamps sales during the war, was commenting on the campaign against fake stocks being waged by chambers of commerce and civic and industrial associations all over the country to protect savers and investors, especially holders of the government bonds, from the machinations of unscrupulous stock operators.

In the campaign being waged investors are being made acquainted with the method of procedure pursued by fake stock salesmen, and warning is being extended against placing money in concerns operated and backed by persons with whom the investor is not familiar.

"To my way of thinking, the only effective way to instruct investors is not to attempt the impossible and tell them what is bad, but to devote our energies to educating them as to what is good. The teller in the bank does not detect counterfeit bills by being trained in knowing bad money, but by learning to recognize what is good.

"So used does he become to seeing good money that he instantly recognizes that which is spurious by the contrast. Any wise person knows that no one can promise fantastic profits on investments and guarantee them to be safe. It is simply not in the wood.

"There is an educative process now going on in this country to show people how to walk in the straight and narrow path, financially speaking, but it will take years to become genuinely effective.

Cannot Stop Gambling

"There is no better or sounder investment in the country today than Liberty or Victory Bonds or War Savings Stamps, but it is always a question how far you can influence the speculative element in human nature.

"You cannot change human nature. It's human nature to fight, and it's also human nature to gamble, to speculate. No law has ever been devised that would change this element, and no teaching, no training, no influence will ever be found that can eradicate this human trait. Gambling and speculation, in my opinion, will continue to go on as long as the world lasts.

"This is particularly true of the American people. There are no people on earth so extravagant or so reckless. Comparatively speaking, they earn their money easily and spend it in the same way. The tendency to plunge, to take a chance, to try to get something for nothing, is ever present and no amount of warning or advice seems to stop it.

"Consequently, the promoter always has a chance to flourish in this country. Working on the principle of 'robbing Peter to pay Paul,' he is always able to promise enormous profits on small investments, and, with glib-tongued representatives, he always finds people ready to fall for his schemes.

"The millions of dollars which Ponzi was able to get people to invest is the most concrete proof of this at the present time. If there were not great numbers of persons who cannot seem to realize that you cannot get something for nothing, it would not have been possible for such a scheme to have got over.

"But the speculative element seems to be almost an integral part of the man himself. If he did not gamble in stocks, he would gamble on horse races or cards or something else. You cannot train or compel people to be wise any more than you can make them good by the same processes.

Cannot Avoid Mistakes

"It is not within the province of the banker to say what investments are bad. They are, after all, only human beings and just as fallible as any one else. They have made many mistakes. That is, in fact, why they are bankers.

"For instance, some years ago it would probably have been the thing to say that telephone and typewriter stock was a bad investment. But time has proved otherwise. There is no positive way of telling just what is behind a certain stock, or what elements are going to enter into its development or its failure. There is no man living who can do this.

"Besides, it is a question just how much weight our opinion would have. Many persons come to bankers for advice and are shown comparatively safe but conservative investments or methods of investing, only to go out and totally disregard this advice and invest in some superficially attractive scheme that promises big returns for their money. It is only by being stung that such people learn.

"During the war, when people were in the right frame of mind, the government with its Liberty and Victory Bonds and War Savings Stamp campaigns contributed magnificent propaganda in this direction. It did have a beneficial effect and there are thousands of people in this country today who are better off for it.

"As a matter of fact, despite the fact that the bonds are selling below par at the present time, there is no better or sounder investment to be had than these same bonds.

"But it will be only when the speculative element in human nature is minimized that one can hope to curb the schemes of the dishonest promoter.

"One solid proof of this is to be found in the fact that nearly every one who tries to get rich quick, be he promoter or investor, is to be found trying his luck in some other scheme, if the one he is in at the time fails. In the language of the poet, 'schemes may come and schemes may go, but the gambler goes on forever.'"

We'd Make a Gallant Effort

A very large clump of senators and congressmen head the expedition now coursing through the Orient. A plot to seize and hold the entire delegation has been discovered among influential Koreans, who believe that they might thereby stir up a row between Japan and the United States Government. We shouldn't like to lose our congressmen, even temporarily. But one may venture to suggest that the country would potter along somehow until they were returned from captivity.

Quite So

Every once in a while the revered citizen who insists that old-fashioned weather has passed for good is given a shock of surprise. This state, for example, has just passed through a period of the sort of weather they used to have in Noah's time.

When the hot weather is over the general public may begin to take some slight interest in what is happening in Europe, outside of Antwerp.

The Stanley
Market St. ab. 16th, 11 A. M. to 11 P. M.
MARSHALL NEILAN
PRESENTS FIRST SHOWING OF
"DON'T EVER MARRY"
NEXT WEEK—NORMA TALMADGE in "YES OR NO"

PALACE 1214 MARKET STREET
10 A. M., 12, 2, 3:45, 5:45, 7:45, 9:30 P. M.
"A COMMON LEVEL"
With Edmund Breese and Claire Whitney
Added Feature Charlie Chaplin in "The Immigrant"
NEXT WEEK "SEX" Featuring LOUISE GLAUM

ARCADIA Chestnut St. Bel. 16th
10 A. M., 12, 2, 3:45, 5:45, 7:45, 9:30 P. M.
JACK PICKFORD "DOUBLE-DYED DECEIVER"
Next Week—BILLIE BURKE in "AWAY GOES PRUDENCE"

VICTORIA Market Street Ab. 9th
9 A. M. to 11:15 P. M.
MARY ROBERTS RINEHART'S
"Dangerous Days"
Nt. Wk., MAY ALLISON in "The Cheater"

CAPITOL 724 Market Street
10 A. M., 12, 2, 3:45, 5:45, 7:45, 9:30 P. M.
THOMAS MEIGHAN In De Mille Production
"THE PRINCE CHAP"

REGENT Market St. Bel. 17th
ENID BENNETT in "HAIRPINS"
Added, Larry Semon in "The Stage Hand"

GLOBE MARKET STREET AT JUNIPER
11 A. M. to 11 P. M.
CONTINUOUS VAUDEVILLE
Wroe's Buds, "Sweet Sweeties"; Others

CROSS KEYS 60TH & MARKET STS.
2:30, 6:45 & 9 P. M.
ERNEST EVANS & COMPANY

BROADWAY Broad and Snyder Ave.
2:30, 6:45 & 9 P. M.
PRIMROSE MINSTRELS; MacLEAN and MAY in "LET'S BE FASHIONABLE"

GARRICK
Chestnut Near Broad
Continuous from 10 to 11
Daily Matinees 25 and 50
SHIPWRECKED AMONG CANNIBALS
Being the amazing adventures of the camera operators among the man eating savages of New Guinea
Last Week—Only 2 More Days

METROPOLITAN
OPERA HOUSE
THREE SHOWS—2:30, 7 AND 9 P. M.
LAST TWO DAYS
TO SEE
Up In Mary's Attic
A ROLLICKING, ROARING RIOT OF MIRTH AND MERRIMENT
Bathing Beauties in Person
SHOWING LATEST STYLE COSTUMES WORN AT THE SEASHORE RESORTS
SECURE SEATS IN ADVANCE

LAWN PARTY AND FIREWORKS DISPLAY
Benefit Italian C. School
E. HAINES & NORTON STS., Germantown.
Tonight, August 20th
PROGRAM: 7 P. M.—Opening of the Fair in the School Ground.
9 P. M.—Fireworks: 24 Bombs of different colors, a Wheel with glaring lights and a Ray of the brightest colors; a Tree with little flowers; NIAGARA FALLS, 20 palms long, a Wheel with silver rain; a Fountain of Jumping lights; a Battery with 100 roaring shots and a Finale of brilliant effect.
ENTRANCE FREE—ALL WELCOME
The Holy Rosary Catholic Club.

CHESTNUT ST. OPERA HOUSE
3 TIMES DAILY
MATINEES, 2:30. EVENINGS, 7 & 9.
"The desert storm carries realism to a degree impossible on any stage."—Bulletin.
THE GARDEN OF ALLAH
Gorgeous and Colossal Spectacle

People's Theatre Kensington Ave. and Cumberland
ALL THIS WEEK MAIDS OF AMERICA
WITH BOBBY BARRY AND GEO. LEON.

BIJOU 8th & RACE MAT. TODAY
JAZZ BABIES

Trocadero 10TH AND ARCH. Mat. Daily
"BEAUTY TRUST"

KEITH'S
Homer B. Mason & Keeler in "MARRIED"
HILDA CARLING & CO.
And Her Famous Dancers
EUFEMIA GIANNINI & CO.
JOE COOK; SISSLE & BLAKE; EDDIE BORDEN & CO. OTHERS.

CASINO
Walnut Above Eighth—SEATS NOW
OPENS TOMORROW NIGHT
"Sliding" Billy Watson In HITS AND BITS

WILLOW GROVE PARK
The One and Only
SOUSA AND HIS BAND
FOUR CONCERTS EACH DAY
TOMORROW—FIREMEN'S DAY—Parade Contests Prizes