

LEGION PLANNING CHRISTMAS CHEER

A Tree for Every Hospital in City Caring for Disabled Soldiers Proposed

A Christmas tree in every hospital where world war veterans are being cared for, and a Christmas present for every ex-service man in these institutions—this is the program of the American Legion in Philadelphia.

At the instance of the department commander, David J. Davis, representatives of the Legion in this city met and determined upon a plan whereby the posts will endeavor to make the holiday season bright for the disabled men.

David B. Simpson, vice department commander, announced today that an effort will be made to obtain through the seventy-six posts in the county enough money to provide the Christmas trees and the Christmas gifts. A communication will be forwarded to each post commander, and they will be urged to obtain a contribution to the fund from their members and forward it to John W. Brock, Jr., the treasurer, at state headquarters, Tenth and Chestnut streets.

Any individual who desires to aid the Legion in this work may send a check to Mr. Brock.

It was suggested that a city-wide effort be launched to get this money, but the Legion leaders decided that the posts ought to assume this responsibility.

There are sixteen hospitals in this city in which former service men are receiving treatment. Each of these hospitals will be designated as the ward of the four or five posts in the immediate neighborhood, so that the Legion program may be carried into effect Christmas day.

The Benjamin Franklin Post, No. 405, will receive this request at its meeting Wednesday evening, December 2, Dr. Theodore LeBoutillier, as chairman of the committee on assistance for disabled veterans, will report to the post, and the commander has recommended that a camp-town be collected at the meeting for the benefit of these veterans.

Other large posts like the Walter M. Gearty Post, No. 315, will join in this movement. The membership of the Legion will respond whole-heartedly to this appeal, declared George Westworth Carr, the county chairman, today.

The two women's posts—Yonnan (F.) No. 50, headed by Miss Margaret C. Thomas, and the nurses' post, Helen Fairchild, No. 412, represented in this work by Miss Hamilton, will assist in the program.

David W. Jameson Post, No. 183, will meet December 7, when nominations will be made for officers for the ensuing year.

Harry E. Ingersoll Post, No. 174, is looking forward to the return of Franklin D'Olier, former national commander, from the Orient, where he has gone on a rest trip. He belongs to this post and will take an active part in its affairs when he comes back to the city.

Mrs. Brewster, Author, Dies Modesto, Calif., Nov. 24.—(By A. P.)—Mrs. Margaret Brewster, widely known magazine writer, died here yesterday. She was born in New Orleans in 1877.

THE PEOPLE'S FORUM

Letters to the Editor

The Unsolved Murders

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—It is not quite understandable to me how it is that almost all the murders that have recently been committed in this city still remain unsolved as to the perpetrators of the crime. The only deduction that I can make is that either the murderers are very much more shrewd and cunning than their former years, or the detective department is much more stupid.

In former years at least a good percentage of the murders were ferreted out and the guilty parties found. We have had very few murder mysteries in this city during the second half of the last century, but of late it seems to me that the detectives have found it simply impossible to detect and after a period of a few weeks of loud talk, the public have forgotten an old murder when a new one takes place, and we have the same result.

It would almost appear that it would be a wise thing to establish school for detectives in which they were taught the art of ferreting out a crime, for there must be an art in it. I can recall many years ago that to the newspaper reporters of the city was given the credit of having been responsible for the unsatisfied cases. It is evident that the newspapermen, like the detectives, have degenerated as criminal hunters.

It used to be that as soon as there was a crime committed everybody became alert. It is a short time the criminal had run down. It is true that the automobiles are a great source for the hiding of crime, because the criminals can get away by means of the high-powered machines. But, in spite of this, the detective should be able to win out occasionally. I cannot now recall any case against man-criminal against detective—and the detective should be able to win out occasionally. In a crime it is man against man-criminal against detective—and the detective should be able to win out occasionally. In a crime it is man against man-criminal against detective—and the detective should be able to win out occasionally.

Feels Assessment is Unjust

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—I have read all the letters that have appeared in the People's Forum regarding the unjust assessment that is being levied on the home owners, and I think much good is being accomplished by this agitation on the part of the public. They should keep on writing and agitating until we can see some results. When a movement is as sincere as this is, there is bound to be some results.

I notice that the board of revision states that they will readjust assessments when they are too high following a complaint, but how many of us can get away from business to make the complaint? This is very unfair to tell us that they will not take any recognition of complaints by letter, but will hear any one who will make a complaint in person at City Hall.

The City Hall workers have very short hours that it is impossible for the great majority of people to leave their work and spend several hours making a visit to City Hall. They not only lose their time, but in many instances they are docked in their wages for the time they do not work. When a man has had his assessment raised to the extent that he will have to pay many more dollars in taxes, it is hardly likely that he will want to sit further in person at City Hall, and probably without results.

What right has this tax body to levy an assessment about which they have no voice? It is equitable or not, and then expect the people to come and straighten out their errors? This is certainly in its worst form. We property owners have our rights which even City Hall must admit. We have bought and paid for our property, and at least are paying interest on mortgages, so we are absolute owners and the city has only the right to ask us to pay a certain percentage of tax, the value to be placed on the building up of our streets, sidewalks and other improvements because it would not be possible for each one to care personally for them.

We don't mean to have to contribute large sums in order that officers hold at City Hall can have their wages raised from \$5000 to \$7500, from \$2500 to \$3500, etc. As the Mayor has suggested, according to the Evening Public Ledger of November 19, these men are paid sufficient salary for the amount of work they do. If they are not satisfied it would be easily possible to get hundreds of competent men to take the job for the present price, or even much less.

Death From Petromortia

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—I have read so many times during the past few months the articles from petromortia that I wish to prevent more of them. Every automobile owner, especially chauffeurs, should be very careful to protect himself.

Hoffman, in the year 1716, knew how dangerous the use of kerosene is. The density of 0.907, is colorless, odorless and tasteless. It is so poisonous that a small quantity of 0.5 is deadly. This means that two parts of the gas to 10,000 parts of air are dangerous. Being odorless, it cannot be detected and therefore the greater caution should be observed.

Gasoline will produce more of the poisonous gas than kerosene. The gas has a density of 0.7, is colorless, odorless and tasteless. It is so poisonous that a small quantity of 0.5 is deadly. This means that two parts of the gas to 10,000 parts of air are dangerous. Being odorless, it cannot be detected and therefore the greater caution should be observed.

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Problem for Solution

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—I see a number of your readers have flared out the use of a writer's "lady friend" for him, so I hope some one will be good enough to figure for me the result of the following problem: Near the center of the town of Chester stands on the top of a large hill a beautiful house built for the birds. I use this birdhouse as the starting point of the following problem.

If I should start at 8 a. m. from this birdhouse, keeping my face directly in front of the town of Chester, and the rate of 10 miles an hour for twelve hours, how far and in what direction would I be from the birdhouse at 8 p. m. C. L. SCHWARTZ, Chester, Pa., November 20, 1920.

Married and Happy

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—A writer in your People's Forum says "a girl takes a long chance nowadays in getting married, for she may almost be sure that after a few years her husband will charm her as she once did."

What was it that charmed him into marrying her? Perhaps it was her power of entertaining, or her smiling face, or perhaps she had a warm heart and the help of a physician in time can save the poisoned victim. You cannot detect the presence of the highly poisonous gas.

Another reason is that many girls do not know how to cook and instead of buying a good cooking outfit, they buy their dinners at delicatessen shops. When a man marries he does it so that he may enjoy the comforts of his home, and good meals are one of the comforts to which he is entitled. A wife should learn to cook his favorite foods and make his home so pleasant for him that club and other women will have no attraction for him. If she will allow him to have his friends in for a game of cards or dinner once in a while, I am sure she will be the one woman in the world for him.

I have been married for seven years. We have no family, but that is our misfortune, as we lost several children by death. My husband works for a salary, just like thousands of other men. We have a modest but cozy home, where our friends are always welcome. I do all my own work and play valet to my husband, but that is a labor of love. My husband always turns his key envelope over to me, but he can have any time he wants it.

Perhaps the writer of the letter referred to above thinks that is doing too much for a wife.

Happy Married

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—In answer to a "Girl in Doubt," let me say that I had an uncle who married, at the age of forty-seven, his third wife, a woman of twenty-seven. At the time of his third marriage my uncle had grown-up children. He lived to the age of seventy-four and had four children after his third marriage.

I have often heard my aunt say, "There is no one in the world like Tom," meaning my uncle. They were the happiest couple I have ever seen. I suppose it was because they loved each other. W. L. M., Philadelphia, November 16, 1920.

Needs "Cave Man" Course

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—In tonight's issue "W. L. C." calls me to help solve the problem of "lady friend" and "lady friend" says, "He claims 'dire distress,' which must be rough on the nerves. The demand of gasoline indicates also 'dire distress' early in the game. If, as he claims, he cannot live away from her he had better take a full course in cave-man procedure."

JAMES LARKIN and WILLIAM TAYLOR, Frankford, Pa., November 20, 1920.

Expense of Husbands and Wives

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—In discussing the division of the family income, Mr. George Bland in the People's Forum of a recent date, suggests quite a plausible plan, except that it places the wife entirely at the mercy of her husband's sense of honesty, which might be a very lacking quantity. He says that men have a hundred and one expense that women can't understand. Naturally, a man who is in touch with the outside world must have lots of spending money; that is where the wife's part is so apt to come in. He can be a good fellow, generous, with a lavish hand, tip waiters after buying good meals in restaurants, smoking good cigars, giving to any worthy charity that touches his heart, etc. Ladies and girls, too. Will her ain money enable his wife to do even one-tenth what he can do?

Is she kept home, for the lack of means, from joining into interesting associations with other people? Her mind will become contracted and perhaps unbalanced if she is, while his goes on developing.

If you are not open and aboveboard with your wife you are unworthy and need to correct your faults. E. MCKINTIRE, Honesburg, Pa., November 10, 1920.

Questions Answered

What Was the Food St. John Ate?

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—Among a circle of friends there has been a lot of talk lately as to what was the food St. John really ate. We are told in the third chapter of St. Matthew and the fourth in St. Luke. The feast was locusts and wild honey. Are we to assume that the insect is meant, or that it was a food prepared from the locust tree, for instance, in the form of bread? This is suggested by the association of "locust" with "wild honey." If the insect is meant, how was the food prepared? The matter of St. John's bread leads us to infer that it was a bread and not the insect that it is meant. W. C. L., Philadelphia, November 15, 1920.

This query was submitted to several of the most eminent Biblical scholars of this city. The Rev. Dr. Floyd W. Tomkins, rector of the Church of the Holy Trinity, sends the following answer: "The question about the food eaten by St. John the Baptist is not a difficult one. The locusts were a comparatively common food amongst eastern people, and indeed, we have known grasshoppers in the west of the United States to be eaten. In Leviticus 11, the eating of locusts, as well as beetles and grasshoppers, is distinctly allowed. As for wild honey, we know from the experience of Jonathan (1 Samuel xiv, 25-27) and also from the riddle of Samson that wild honey was counted almost a delicacy. Probably the locusts were cooked into a kind of pudding. St. John was, by his very dress and habit, a startling messenger to his people. They were not unused, however, in the East to seeing men who, like Elijah the 'Prophet,' came with curious dress and curious habits to call them from sin to righteousness." Rabbi Joseph Krauskopf, of the Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel, took a different view and believes that the fruit of the tree is meant, his answer to the query being: "In reply to your inquiry of November 17 permit me to say that the 'locust' spoken of in the New Testament in connection with John the Baptist was not the insect of that name, but the fruit of the locust tree, which in the Orient constitutes a very palatable diet of a sweetish taste. It is very nourishing and highly different from the fruit of the locust tree in this part of the world, where it does not attain the size and richness of the fruit of its kindred tree in the Orient."

Lincoln Statues in the South

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—Can any of your readers tell me if there are any Lincoln statues in the South? Philadelphia, November 14, 1920. C. L. R.

Query Regarding a Will

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—I come to the People's Forum with a query. I married a man who was once married, who had two children by his first wife, and as I had two children by him, our children by the first wife broke the will if there is nothing left to them, or can they get property that is left in my name? MRS. S. L. T., Philadelphia, November 9, 1920.

People talk of "breaking a will" as though it were a very easy matter, instead of being one of the hardest of legal propositions. The children of a man by his first wife could only break his will by proving that he was insane or incapable of making a will because he did not know what he was doing, or else that undue influence were used, which is also an exceedingly difficult matter to prove. They certainly would have no claim to property which their father had left by will to his widow by a second marriage.

Asking Parent's Consent

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—is it still the custom for a young man to ask a girl's father for her hand in marriage? Is it not now considered sensible to take the girl's consent as the answer? MILDRED JONES, Philadelphia, November 20, 1920.

For a young man to ask the consent of a father for his daughter's hand in marriage is a courtesy that will probably never be discarded, and never should be.

Square Foot and Foot Square

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—Kindly print in your column the dif-

ference between a square foot and a foot square. A. R. EASTON, Philadelphia, November 20, 1920.

A square foot may be any shape as long as it contains 144 square inches. That is, a figure six inches wide by twenty-four inches long, or one inch wide by 144 inches long, is a square foot. A foot square can only be twelve inches long by twelve inches wide.

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Poems and Songs Desired

An Old Favorite To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—I should like to find a poem the end of which is this: "When I was young and happy as could be, I thought that all the world was made for me; When pain and sorrow came to me, 'Twas then I thought how sad 'twould be If all the world were made for me." JOHN T. YOUNG, Philadelphia, November 14, 1920.

Two Songs To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—I would appreciate it if you could get for me and print in the People's Forum the words of two songs—"The Vestry of St. Nicholas" and "Where the Ancient Shamrock Grows." The first contains the lines: "I am, you know, Napoleon brave, the conqueror of nations; I have banished German legions and drove the huns from their thrones."

"We will sing tonight of a far-off land, In the lap of the ocean vast, And of all the lands I have traveled o'er 'Tis the fairest I've ever met." Mrs. FRANK T. FAUST, Philadelphia, November 16, 1920.

An Irish Poem Wanted To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—I would like to get a poem that John Boyle O'Reilly used in recite in his lecture on "Irish Poetry and Song." One verse is as follows: "I'm often in the night when Pat Is sleeping by my side, And thinks that I am sleeping, too, I've laid awake and cried."

A Humorous Poem To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—I would appreciate it if you would print in your People's Forum a humorous poem entitled "All at Sea," which relates the voyage of a "certain uncertain sailorman."

"I saw a certain sailorman who sat beside the sea, And in the manner of his tribe he yawned this yarn to me: "'Twas back in eighteen-fifty-three, or maybe fifty-four, I skipped the farm—no, 'twere the shop—' 'twas to me to Baltimore. I shipped aboard the Lizzy—or she might ha' bin the Jane, Them wimmen names are mixey, so I don't remember plain; But anyhow, she were a craft that carried a schoner rig. Although Sam gwah, the bo'sun, alius swore she were a brig. We sailed away from Salem town—no, I'mme think 'twere Lynn—An' stowed a curren for Africa for Greece, It might ha' bin; But, anyway, we tacked an' backed an' weathered many a storm— Oh, no—no—I recall it now, that week was fine an' warm! Who did I say the cap'n was? I didn't say at all!"

Wanted now, his name were 'Liljah Bell—or was it Bill Bell? I kinder guess, 'twere Eli. He'd a big, red, bushy beard— No—come to think, he alius kept his whiskers nicely sheared. But, anyhow, that voyage was the first a ever took, An' all I had to do was cut up cabbage for the cook; But, come to talk of cabbage, just reminds me that there 'twere 'Aboy,' while ballin' Would probably be my third one on a Hong-kong clipper ship.

The crew they were a jolly lot, an' used to sing 'Avast, I think it were, or else 'Aboy,' while ballin' As I I recollect it now— But here I cut him short, And said: 'It's time to tack again and stow, I came to get a story both adventurous an' true, And here is how I started out to write the interview: 'I saw a certain sailorman,' but you turn out the trials of a man named Bolden, who died in New York city on November 16. He is said to be a former Philadelphia, a graduate of Girard College and a member of the Elks.

Former Director of Army Sales Menored by Government "For disposing of great quantities of supplies at exceptionally advantageous prices," Ernest C. Morse, of this city, former director of army sales, has been awarded the Distinguished Service Medal, according to an announcement from Washington yesterday.

For many months after the signing of the armistice Mr. Morse personally supervised the sale of all the army surplus materials in this country, and also all of the supplies that were sold abroad after the liquidation commission had completed its work.

Among the most prominent sales made by Mr. Morse while directing this work were the ones of the big powder-making plants at Nitro, W. Va., and Old Hickory, at Jacksontown, Tenn. Under his supervision the army sold \$7,000,000 worth of canned meats in less than ten weeks.

CALL COLLEGE CONFERENCE Penn Men Will Attend Meeting at Johns Hopkins Two men from the University of Pennsylvania left this morning for Johns Hopkins College, Baltimore, where they will attend a conference of representatives of eastern colleges. The purpose of the meeting is to formulate plans by which the various institutions can solve their administrative problems.

The two men from the University who will attend the conference are William O. Miller, controller, and R. L. S. Dugart, assistant treasurer. Mr. Dugart will read a paper on "Administrative Administration." Other colleges which will send representatives are Princeton, Cornell, Pittsburgh and Columbia. A similar organization has been functioning for some time in the Middle West.

Dead Man's Kin Sought Philadelphia police are endeavoring to find relatives of a man named Bolden, who died in New York city on November 16. He is said to be a former Philadelphia, a graduate of Girard College and a member of the Elks.

It's "weeding-out" time in your factory

Time to eliminate the failures—to keep only those men and that equipment that return a full measure of service for the dollars they cost you!

The time has passed when the employment office cries, "any man will give you more production than no man"—hence the incompetents crept in. No longer does the purchasing agent cry, "any belts that will turn the pulleys!"—and therefore the inefficient belts were installed.

Now is the time to save every penny in the shop; to stop leaks of precious power; to see that every belt in the place is delivering every possible ounce of power to the wheels.

We can help you to find out if they are or not. Our engineers will survey your belt transmission, make reports and recommendation to you—gladly and freely. That is a part of Ladew service to belting users.

Phone Market 5263, or write George Yeaman, District Manager EDW. R. LADEW CO., Inc. Third and Cherry Streets, Philadelphia, Pa.

LADEW LEATHER BELTING 86th Year

Pick a Spur from the new vacuum-sealed tin. Note the firm "feel" of it, get a whiff of its sealed-in fragrance!

Advertisement for Spur Cigarettes. Features a large illustration of a pack of Spur Cigarettes and a cartoon character riding a roller coaster. Text includes: "There's always room at the top for Highest Possible Quality at Lowest Possible Price", "Well, I'll Be Switched"—exclaimed the chap who had just heard the why and wherefore of Spur Cigarettes. It didn't take him long to say, "Switch me to Spurs." Notice that good old-time tobacco taste in Spurs. Trace it down and you will find it comes from the blend of choice Turkish, fine Burley, and other home-grown tobaccos. Rich—refreshing—right. Finger Spur. It's fat and full-rolled. Note the crimped seam—no paste there. It's a new wrinkle in cigarette making—and Spur owns it all. You'll discover that crimping means easier drawing, slower burning, better taste. Spur is a well-dressed cigarette—the rich-looking, brown and silver package of twenty, with its threefold wrapping, suggests good taste as plain as day. Ring out the old, ring in the new. Start fresh with Spur. LIGGETT & MYERS TOBACCO CO.