# THE PEOPLE'S FORUM

## Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor should be as brief and to the point as possible, avoiding anything that would open a denominational or sectarian discussion.

No attention will be paid to anonymous letters. Names and addresses must be signed as an evidence of good faith, although names will not be printed if request is made that they be omitted.

The publication of a letter is not to be taken as an indorsement of its views by this paper.

Communications will not be returned unless accompanied by postage, nor will manuscript be saved.

### The Eastern Situation

*To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:*

Sir—Please allow me to refer to some of the remarks that you have made in the brief editorial entitled "The Great Eastern Mystery," which appeared in the EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER of Friday, July 8, 1921. It may sound like a mystery to the average American to realize the situation depicted by you, but it is a mystery to a man from the East to understand all that appears in the papers about Asia. To amateur writers who pose as authorities on the Oriental subjects, curiosity seekers and quick-minded journalists, with whom everything of a different nature from that of theirs is alarming, recent happenings in Asia seem as something terrible, grotesque and even barbarous, because they all conflict with the "white" man's interests.

I was very much surprised to read the remarks: "The obliteration of the white influence in Asia would mean a moral setback for the white races everywhere, and it would be preliminary to the most ominous sort of changes in the balance of the world affair," appearing in an open-minded journal like the EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER. By "world affair" I presume you mean the political affairs. That is what it means nowadays. Instead of the East and the West being knit together on cultural and spiritual bases, commercialism and political interests have won the upper hand. The peace of the world cannot be built on the sands of one-sided and selfish political interests.

You seem to be using the word "white" and the Christians of America and Europe as synonymous. Are there not "white" people in Turkey, Persia and the northern part of India, as there are in America? Are not the morals of the Christian countries themselves undergoing metamorphosis? Are the "Christian world" and the "acme of moral perfection" the same things? What we need is a mutual appreciation and a genuine understanding of the ideals of the East and the West alike. Let us not grope in the dark with the narrow self-glorification. None of us—the East and the West—can point a finger of scorn at each other—we waste time in picking faults.

You have alluded to one phrase to which I must make a passing reference. You write about "Asia for the Asiatics." It is well and good for a "red-blooded" American to proudly say "America for the American" and a domiciled Englishman who loves it Australia only yesterday emphatically declare "Australia for the Australian," but the long-inhabited children of Asia cannot say for themselves the sweet phrase "Asia for the Asiatics!" It may seem almost a paradox to imagine that the much-believed formulas (under which the strongest as well as the weakest nations of Europe can have their claims set and their rights asserted) preached by the peace harbingers have no place in Asia. For an American to say "America for the American" at the top of his voice is a glorious thing, but for a Chinese to say "China for the Chinese" or for a man from India to say "India for the Indians" is something that stinks in the nose of pseudo-prophets of peace.

It is neither a Lenine nor a Wilson who has started this irritation in Asia. The whole world is awake to the realities of life and progress. Some nations are moving at the snail's speed and others with a tremendous velocity, yet the fact remains that both have their faces turned toward the new dawn of a new era. The world's balance cannot—nay, it is impossible—be preserved by the sword. There will be peace—and eternal peace—when every soul will realize that its neighbor has as much place under the sun as itself, and its peace and security lie in preserving its neighbor's integrity. For that purpose there should be mutual interchange of what is best, purest and the highest in each other.

MANSOOKH K. PATEL.
University of Pennsylvania.
Philadelphia, July 8, 1921.

### Beautiful Wilmington Girls

*To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:*

Sir—I have read the letter of "N. B. S." in your People's Forum regarding the personal attractiveness of the Philadelphia girls in comparison with the New Jersey girls. I do not care to take up the cudgel and attack the writer in defense of the New Jersey girl, but I feel that I have been so much in Philadelphia and New Jersey, nearly, and have had the opportunity of studying the girls in both sections, that I have come to the conclusion that they cannot be compared with the Delaware girls.

You know Delaware is the State of peaches. This applies either to the girls or to its fruit. You know the most beautiful peaches that come into the market—I refer to fruit—are those with the pink cheeks and velvet skin as raised in Delaware. And just as true is the skin of its girls; their faces resembling the pink and the velvet of the peach.

Should this controversy ever develop into a try-out, let me know and I will bring a bunch of Delaware peaches (girls) and enter them, and I am willing to wage any amount of money that they will win the palm.

GEORGE T. BROOKS.
Wilmington, Del., July 8, 1921.

### Cause for Divorce

*To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:*

Sir—It isn't the lack of a gown or two or any of her personal needs that causes a woman to get a divorce. It is when she finds that she is married to a man with narrow ideas and opinions, when she finds that the man she has married does not want to do his share, that she resorts to the divorce court. Marriage is not compulsory, and unless a man is willing to take the full responsibility to support his wife and family he has no right to marry.

The average wife of the working man labors fifteen hours a day to his eight or ten hours. Surely she earns her clothes. Why not make a law that the man should have $1500 before he can obtain a marriage license, and then, after he has furnished a little flat, clothe himself and wife on the interest of the remainder.

MRS. L. A. T.
Philadelphia, July 1, 1921.

### Position of Husband and Wife

*To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:*

Sir—It is interesting to note how people will argue among themselves and drift farther and farther from the truth, unless they have a well-defined working basis as a stabilizing influence.

Woman was once the docile helpmate of her husband and he was the head, his word being final, and his authority was freely acknowledged. After a while came the days of chivalry, the thought of which I suppose is understood by all. But nowadays it seems woman has come to the belief that she has been downtrodden, and she is, in her belief, trying to get what is here. We read every day about the independence of women, and how they are fast becoming as well, or better, able to run the affairs of man than he himself can. We could go on with the argument and say that, if women want to be independent and equal to men, then let them go half on the expense of amusements, pay their own carfare and support themselves. (I don't know how it can be worked, as there are children to care for.)

But here we have a case of progressive argument without any basis, and we are working further from the truth continually. The truth is that the husband is the head of the wife. The wife should be obedient to the husband in all things. The only way for a woman to get love is to be lovable.

The stabilizing influence and the basis upon which a Christian nation should operate is the New Testament, and as authority for the above statements I refer to the fifth chapter of the Ephesians. It is also stated therein that woman should not adorn herself with fine raiment and gold, but with the man of her heart.

G. JAQUETTE.
Philadelphia, June 30, 1921.

### Married Women Who Work

*To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:*

Sir—In answer to "E. L. B." I would like to write my candid opinion of married women in employment. I am a single girl and have been in the business world for some time, and I cannot see that the majority of married women are any more capable, industrious and intelligent than the single girls. Do you forget, "E. L. B.," that you were single once? Has marriage made you more capable? I don't see how when you have two positions to fill—the one in your home as mistress and the other in your office. One is going to be the loser.

What is your conception of marriage? I must say that you are certainly very narrow if you can see no other future except the hollow of a dishpan. Go to the business colleges and see how many girls are ready and anxiously waiting for the call to come and show what they have acquired in business training.

Oh, how absurd—how horrible—it is to say that the young girls are keeping aged and dependents at the infirmary or home for the aged. My blood even boils to think that some one would dare condemn the single girl whose salary is probably not sufficient for herself. Think of the married woman who would be by far better qualified for this responsibility, and how many of you would turn out your old father and mother because you probably wanted to work and found them old and in the way?

Just remember, some of you married women who are working and depriving a single girl of the position you so eagerly hold fast to, that it is no wonder some girls sell their souls to shame that they might feed and clothe their bodies. Married women who don't need it, don't take this sister's place.

W. L. J.
Philadelphia, June 29, 1921.

### Married Man Wants Advice

*To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:*

Sir—I have received so much valuable information and suggestions from the People's Forum that I appeal to that public column for advice as to guide me in the future. Like so many other young men, I have been rash enough to get married, with no prospects ahead of me to support two. I was well able to support myself, but when I couldn't, heretofore, I was the only one to suffer.

I am twenty-one years of age, and was married about three months ago. The romance has, in a measure, worn off. I had enough money laid aside for a honeymoon trip and to furnish modest quarters. Then upon our return I started to look for work. Everywhere I was turned down because business was dull. I had not thought that such might be a condition I would have to face. Few young men in love do. I tried every means to get employment. Before I was married I had excellent prospects, but as soon as I got married the source of these prospects ceased, for I married against the wishes of the person who was helping me along in a business way.

After I was foolish enough to get married he let me "hoe my own row," and I have been having a hard job of it. I am thoroughly discouraged and need advice badly. After all other prospects for work seemed to fail I turned to the street cars. I found that employment uncongenial. Besides, it was mortifying, both to myself and wife. Our friends made us feel that we had taken a step backward, and I could stand it no longer and left. Now I am still in quandary as to what I shall do. I don't want sympathy, nor the proffer of a position by some philanthropic reader, nor any such present themes; yes, but I do want good, sound advice as to what a fellow like myself should do, or how he should proceed.

IN EARNEST.
Philadelphia, July 8, 1921.

## Questions Answered

### Gas Masks

*To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:*

Sir—Will you please tell me how many gas masks were manufactured by our Government during the World War?

W. S. L.
Philadelphia, July 5, 1921.

The War Department says that prior to the signing of the armistice the United States manufactured 5,250,000 gas masks, 4,000,000 of which were sent overseas.

### The Elder Patti

*To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:*

Sir—Was Carlotta Patti older than Adelina Patti and of what nationality were they?

A. L. T.
Philadelphia, July 5, 1921.

Carlotta Patti was three years older than her sister Adelina. Their parents were Italian. Carlotta was born in Italy, while Adelina was born in Spain. Carlotta Patti had a soprano voice of unusual compass, of a clear and silvery quality, and was a brilliant coloratura vocalist. Owing to a slight lameness she did not sing in opera, but appeared on the concert stage.

### Rockefeller's First Earnings

*To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:*

Sir—How did John D. Rockefeller make his first money?

B. L. R.
Philadelphia, July 5, 1921.

John D. Rockefeller says that the first money he ever earned was made by raising turkeys when he was seven years old. His mother gave him curds from the milk to feed them, and he kept an account in "Ledger A," which is still in existence.

### Delightful Vacation Trips

*To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:*

Sir—Will you kindly tell me what you think is the most delightful vacation trip in the New England States?

H. L. FARR.
Philadelphia, June 30, 1921.

This depends very much on the kind of trip you enjoy. If you like a trolley trip, New England offers many such trips. You can go from New York to Boston by trolley, and the trip should be taken in different stages of about thirty miles a day. The places to stop en route would be at New Haven, Hartford, Springfield, Worcester, and then Boston. From Boston you can go to Portland, Me., or in a dozen directions to places of historical interest. If you have gone far enough in New England when you have reached Boston, return by trolley or train to Providence, and thence go to Newport, R. I., by trolley or boat. At Newport you can spend a few days that will be filled with interest.

Another enjoyable trip from New York is to go by boat to Boston, boats leaving New York every afternoon at 5 o'clock. When you reach Boston you can spend several days in visiting the historical places and then return home by trolley. If you want to extend your trip, you can go from Boston, by boat, to Portland, Me., or over to Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, or to St. John's, Newfoundland, or to Halifax, Nova Scotia.

If you want to go further into New England, from Portland go north to the Maine Lakes, either the Rangeleys, the Belgrades or Moosehead Lake. Or go to the White Mountains, stopping particularly at Fabians, at the foot of Mount Washington. There is a very delightful section of New England in the western part of Massachusetts, known as the Berkshire Hills. This section is well covered with trolleys and is easily accessible. If you want to remain near the coast, from Providence, R. I., pass over to Buzzards Bay and go down for a week among the "quaint Cape Cod folks." You can go to the end of the cape at Provincetown. All these trips are inexpensive. Full particulars will be given of any of these trips after you have made selection.

### Pronunciation of "Tidioute"

*To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:*

Sir—There is a place in the State of Pennsylvania spelled "Tidioute," the pronunciation of which is disputed among several friends. Kindly publish the correct and accepted pronunciation of the name.

J. W. GRAY.
Pottstown, Pa., July 3, 1921.

Tidioute is pronounced as if spelled "Tiddy-oot."

### Origin of "Red Riding Hood"

*To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:*

Sir—Please give me the origin of the story about "Little Red Riding Hood," and was it founded on an incident?

D. L. J.
Philadelphia, July 3, 1921.

The legend of "Little Red Riding Hood" is found in many countries, but comes to use from Perrault's French version, which he probably derived from the Italian stories of Straparola and the "Pentamerone."

### Max Ehrmann's Prayer

*To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:*

Sir—Please publish, complete, Max Ehrmann's prayer, which contains the lines, "And I come not within sight of the castle of my dreams, teach me still to be thankfull."

G. S. LEWIS.
Philadelphia, July 3, 1921.

A PRAYER

Let me do my work each day, and if the darkened hours of despair overcome me, may I not forget the strength that comforted me in the desolation of other times. May I still remember the bright hours that found me walking over the silent hills of my childhood, or dreaming on the margin of the quiet river, when a light glowed within me and I promised my only God to have courage amid the tempest of the changing years. Spare me from bitterness and from the sharp passions of unguarded moments. May I not forget that poverty and riches are of the Spirit. Though the world know me not, may my thoughts and actions be such as shall keep me friendly with myself. Lift my eyes from the earth, and let me not forget the uses of the stars. Forbid that I should judge others, lest I condemn myself. Let me not follow the clamor of the world, but walk calmly in my path. Give me a few friends who will love me for what I am, and keep ever burning before my vagrant steps the kindly light of hope. And though age and infirmity overtake me, and I come not within sight of the castle of my dreams, teach me still to be thankful for life, and for time's olden memories that are good and sweet, and may the evening twilight find me gentle still.

## Poem and Songs Desired

### A Copyrighted Song

*To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:*

Sir—Will you kindly send me or publish in the EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER the words of the song, entitled "Just As Your Mother Was," a song first published about four years ago.

EDWARD A. McGILL,
Federal Board Training Center,
Pocono Pines, Pa., July 2, 1921.

We could not print the words of this song without securing permission from the author or publisher, as it is copyrighted.

### "In the Days When I Was Hard Up"

*To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:*

Sir—I will appreciate it if you will print in your People's Forum the words of the old song, which contains the following words:

"In the days when I was hard up,
For want of wood and fire;
I used to tie my shoes up,
With little bits of wire.
When hungry, cold, cast on a rock,
Could scarcely get a meal," etc.

W. W. G.
Philadelphia, July 5, 1921.

### "Mary"

*To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:*

Sir—I am inclosing herewith the poem "Mary" for the People's Forum.

ZETT.
Philadelphia, July 5, 1921.

MARY

Old Adam thrilled at Eve's fair name
In ages dim and hazy;
And when Mark heard Cleo referred,
His captured heart beat crazy.
Yet for the life of me I can't
See why they had to rave and rant;
There's just one word I like to chant—
It's Mary!

Now Solomon was known as wise
And, some say, quite romantic;
Yet if his dames had different names
It must have made him frantic
To hear each one and feel his heart
Give one wild beat, then burst apart,
But there's just one that makes me start—
It's Mary!

King Ferdy had his Isabel;
Perhaps he called her Issy;
While Juliet, it's safe to bet,
Kept Romeo quite busy.
Now all these chaps would prance and rave,
Just couldn't make their tongues behave,
But there's just one to which I'm slave—
It's Mary!

Oh, names may come and names may go
In rapid-fire succession,
And since the birth of this gay earth
It's been a grand procession.
Yet out of all there's ever been,
From old New York to quaint Pekin,
There's one that makes my fool head spin—
It's Mary.

### Words of Old Song Wanted

*To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:*

Sir—Be so kind and let me have the words of the song, "It Is Not What You Used to Be, It's What You Are Today."

A. B. GRIFFIN.
Philadelphia, June 30, 1921.

### "The Lady in Crepe"

*To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:*

Sir—I am sending you herewith the words of the old college song "The Lady in Crepe" which was recently requested by "R. T. L."

There came to the Cape
A lady in crepe,
Of whom you may not hear.
She wrote herself down
In the visitors' book
As "The lady from Gardinier."

And with her was seen
A lady in green,
Of whom you may hear more;
Her husband was drowned
In Long Island Sound,
So sea green weeds she wore.
And when with a clang
The dinner bell rang,
To the banquet hall they sped.
They sat remote
At the table d'hote;
The boarders, they sat at the head.

The boarders proud
Laughed long and loud,
Loud laughed each little child,
As they ate their chowder
They laughed the louder,
But these neither laughed nor smiled.

There are four more verses of this song which describe how the drowned husband of the lady in green grasps her fish line and pulls her down into the sea with him.

K. L. W.
Philadelphia, July 7, 1921.

"J. C." writes: "What do you mean by shaking your head?" is a line from a poem by John G. Saxe, called "The Puzzled Census-Taker."

"A Reader" writes: "Can any one locate for me a poem written during the Spanish-American War, which has this line: "It's God's aimighty moment to make an end of Spain."

Miss Lucille Harder asks for the poem entitled "The Passion Flower," which contains these lines:

"He who is dead won't feel the loss,
But he who loves must bear the cross."

Beatrice Monaghan asks for the words of the song entitled "The Lass from the County Down."

"W. L. S."—The lines quoted by "W. R. G." are from "With the Tide," written on the day after Theodore Roosevelt's death by Edith Wharton. They appeared originally in the Saturday Evening Post, and may be found in William Stanley Braithwaite's "Anthology of Magazine Verse for 1919."

The People's Forum will appear daily in the Evening Public Ledger, and also in the Sunday Public Ledger. Letters discussing timely topics will be printed, as well as requested poems, and questions of general interest will be answered.


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