THE PEOPLE'S FORUM

Letters to the Editor

An Insult to Patriotism

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:

Sir—Permit an ex-service man to extend his thanks and appreciation to your paper for its exposure of the sinister schemes of the Ku Klux Klan.

During the war I enlisted in the United States regular army. My services were of short duration, the armistice being signed soon after my enlistment, but the fact remains that my loyalty and patriotism were never in doubt; my sincerity was irreproachable. I am today the enviable possessor of an honorable discharge certificate, which, I take it, is a conclusive testimonial to the veracity of the preceding statement.

But regardless of the fact that I was born and reared in these United States, and am a citizen thereof, regardless of the fact that in time of war I stood shoulder to shoulder in rank and file with men of all colors and convictions in the common defense of our country against a perilous danger, the Ku Klux Klan looms up, and because of religious discrimination says: "You, who are a citizen of these United States, who fought for her defense and honorably discharged your duties, you we say are not 100 per cent American."

Behold these mighty hosts of members, 800,000 strong, heralded and proclaimed. It is true that some of them evaded the draft by hiding in shipyards, but that matters not; they are the one 100 per cent and qualified 100 per cent Americans. Who dare gainsay this? Who dare question their "patriotism"? Who dare question their "Americanism"? Who dare to question their "patriotism"? And so it is not an open secret that the only people who can claim the privilege of pure Americanism must be members of the Ku Klux Klan, is that not their fundamental principle? What else can be implied from the statement by Dr. Ridley, chaplain and propagandist of Kluxism? He says it is part of a Klansman's obligation. He is the official seal and most stalwart product of American patriotism.

Are not such professions an insult and outrage upon the sentiments and sacrifices of thousands of service and ex-service men? And is an organization that claims patriotism as its foundation and immediately shows its hypocrisy by flagrant violations of the Constitution to be tolerated in this country, dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal?

BERNARD DANE

Philadelphia, September 26, 1921.

Care in Teaching Children

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:

Sir—It is no wonder to me that older folks delight in the presence of intelligent children when I note their clear methods of thinking. Children have not that which is the curse of the older people, namely, the influence of worldly wisdom.

And so by being in contact with such of righteousness from these little ones, they, to the contrary, instill the crooked way of worldly thoughts into the little older minds in various ways. Keen natural affection displayed to children is squelched and they are told that they are not children and more, but big ladies and men.

I have noticed in little girls especially that this caution and manner method of correcting is liable to exert in a most undesirable way causing illusions that last throughout life. If we could only obey the free will and let the children acquire the knowledge from us as per the dictates of their minds, we would not all be suffering, as we are more or less, from some sort of man-made poison, probably in most cases a hand-medown from the past.

JOHN T. MOYER

Philadelphia, September 19, 1921.

Police and Reckless Drivers

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:

Sir—It would be interesting for the public to know what instruction has been given to the traffic cops regarding the reckless way in which automobiles are driven through our streets, endangering the lives of pedestrians and killing and maiming at least one a day. The stop and go signs are of some service, but they are misunderstood by the drivers to mean that they have the right to all thoroughfares when they get the sign, no matter what might be in front of them, and it often seems to the spectator that they try to show their right by making an effort to run down a pedestrian.

One thing that should be done on Market street, and that is compel automobiles to follow one another at crossings instead of sometimes running three abreast when they are given the sign. Many persons are able to get halfway across the wide street when the traffic man turns his sign and then anchor on the car tracks, when no cars are coming along, believing they are in safety, but the automobiles turn inside of the cops to make time and, as before stated, are often three abreast. This should not be allowed.

There is coming a time shortly when automobiles will have to be barred from Market street altogether with its very heavy traffic, and it seems no reason why pleasure cars should not be so barred now and only trucks and business wagons allowed on this crowded thoroughfare. But it seems to the casual observer that automobiles coming down or up Broad street all turn in at Market because it is a more interesting thoroughfare on their way east.

Only a small percentage of the taxpayers who keep up these streets and pay these traffic cops have automobiles, but I believe that the big percentage of pedestrians are entitled to all protection possible. They say people get bewildered in crossing the street. Why should they not get so bewildered the way the cars come rushing up and down? If the traffic cops were given instructions to arrest a number of these reckless drivers it might be the means of putting an end to their mad pace. Something must be done.

SAMUEL N. BRIGGS

Philadelphia, September 25, 1921.

We Need Action

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:

Sir—There is a certain question in the minds of a large number of people in the community to which no one seems to find an answer. The question is: What has caused the present business depression? Has it been permitted to express my opinion?

It is the land of action. The much practised procrastination. A large part of the community possesses the important elements necessary to make progress in business: the inspiration, purpose, will-power, personal magnetism, confidence and practical vision. But what is the value of these without action?

Inspiration and purpose may result in the mere theorist. Will-power may mean the mere Magnetism may be used simply to attract crowds. Confidence may be kept repelled by optimism, and practical vision may be mere mechanical tinkering. And that, so it seems, is just the trouble. All these elements are distributed among the people of the community.

If all the action were used in conjunction with these elements, India would soon be the leading and a close second. But, alas, regardless of what some one said, that the people were incapable of action, action is the most active factor of the world's evolution, being always lack of action is the weak of the three R's, brains, brawn and bonac.

We expect for much of our present depression and condition of the Nation to evolve greater action, a greater variety of action and a more well distributed, new and varied activities in every direction.

W. L. LONGSHORE

Philadelphia, September 14, 1921.

In Need of a Club

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:

Sir—I note in your issue of Wednesday, the People's Forum, letters advocating the forming of a club for excessively small Scottish terriers with crooked legs, but very bad-sold, and I hope the outcome will be that the boys get their club.

But there are others, too, as the sailors, who need a club for some men of this character in a big city like Philadelphia—in fact, several of them. If the people with means would come to realize this there is not a doubt they would expend the money to a better purpose than to erect some more useless clubs in our city, the capital of it.

Now I will state my case. I am close to thirty years of age and more or less a stranger in this city. I have been here less than six months, but expect to make it my permanent home. I have a room and take my meals out. An unpleasant way of living, you will admit. What am I to do with my leisure time?

It seems impossible for me to meet the right sort of people of my own age and about the ship ones who will be companions while are these chance acquaintances of the street corners and the parks. You will agree, no doubt, meeting them at church or at the Y. M. C. A. I have tried both and both are unsatisfactory. In the Sunday school the young men go in sets and have been together for years, probably from public school days. At the various Y. M. C. A.'s there is entirely a commercial atmosphere and everything is in a hurry. Rooms are scarcely acquainted. They are a great boarding, as I have found out because I can pass my time, and have done so, in the reading room at the lectures, etc.

But that is not the whole of a lonesome young man in a big city. We need—and I am sure there is quite an army like me—something a little more organized. Little ones are together period of all sorts, including the coach club. The Y. M. C. A. and similar religious organizations where we can smoke and chat and play a game of cards or dominoes. I never gamble. So far as I can find there is no place for me to get acquainted with congenial young men who have the same desire as myself. I speak now on behalf of a club. I am safe in saying there are thousands in this same case as myself. Let us have a club.

H. F.

Philadelphia, September 23, 1921.

Frankford Needs Y. M. C. A.

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:

Sir—I was in Frankford and travelling along a street of Frankford. Every night on my way home I see young men as I pass by and I wish to go except to the movies which are tiresome. I would like to suggest that a movement be made to found a club for all fellows to go to such a place as the Y. M. C. A. structure but in that section of the city. The nearest Y. M. C. A. is in Germantown, which takes from thirty-five to one hour to get there. Hoping for some support from Frankford readers.

H. F. P.

Philadelphia, September 23, 1921.

Questions Answered

Figures on Watch Face

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:

Sir—Why is the figure 4 marked IIII and not IV on some of the watch faces?

H. W. L.

Philadelphia, September 19, 1921.

The story runs that the first clock maker filling our city was made in 1370 for the convented the king of France, Wilson Henry. Alas, he forgot to tell him he was to mark 4 as IV. It was too late to change. On seeing the error he made he was so shocked and confused that he dared not correct the mistake. The IIII instead of IV is rarely used at present.

Origin of "Darius Green"

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:

Sir—I am very fond of Tom Moore's poem, Darius Green and His Flying Machine. Can you tell me if there was any incident that prompted his composing of these verses?

CHARLES T. MOYER

Philadelphia, September 21, 1921.

When Mr. Trowbridge was asked as to the origin of the poem he said: The idea was suggested to me by an anecdote which may have been founded on fact, but was probably the fiction of a lay aviator who tried to fly wings, and replied after his fall, "I like the part of it that comes just down the lightning part." The entire action was carried and written up to the point of great glee and with hands and conscious effort on my part. The story was told me by one of the young men of our Young People's Club, which I was connected editorially, who thought I might make something out of it for the magazine. I have verses for the whole, and addressed in the next number, I think, March, 1867.

Across the Atlantic in Rowboat

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:

Sir—Can one tell me if the attempt to cross the ocean by small boats, oars and sail was made prior to the Columbus voyage?

A. M.

Philadelphia, September 22, 1921.

The Academy of the Fine Arts

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:

Sir—I read an article in your paper understand the Academy of Fine Arts is one of the institutions in the city. Please give me a short history of its founding.

A. K.

Philadelphia, September 23, 1921.

In 1805 a number of gentlemen met in City Hall and formed a society for the encouragement of art. Its aim was the Academy of Fine Arts. The first president was George Clymer. The association was incorporated in 1806 under the same Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts. The Academy stood on Chestnut street on the ground now occupied by the Girard House.

Dinners and balls were assembled in the hall, and it was open to the public from 9 o'clock in the morning until 8 in the afternoon, beginning in 1806. The first exhibitions of living value were presented to the Academy by Robert Fulton.

The Consular Flag

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:

Sir—For what purpose or flag is the consular flag? I see it is a rising used at our consulates.

E. A. MORTAN

Philadelphia, September 19, 1921.

A consular flag is a blue flag with a large white star in the center surrounded by thirteen white stars.

American Literature

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:

Sir—When my American literature [illegible]

H. H. SAYES

Philadelphia, September 23, 1921.

[illegible]

Poems and Songs Desired

"Pity the Laden One"

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:

Sir—Will you please [illegible] the poem "Pity the Laden One" [illegible]

Philadelphia, September 20, 1921.

"The Old Bachelor"

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:

Sir—I read a poem [illegible] "The Old Bachelor" [illegible]

Philadelphia, September 20, 1921.

"Nothing So Royal as Truth"

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:

Sir—I am very desirous of getting the poem containing the following lines:

"No matter what men may say in their blindness,
And in spite of the fancies of youth,
There is nothing half so kingly as kindness,
And nothing so royal as truth."

W. LANNING

Philadelphia, September 19, 1921.

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.

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.

Deaths

IN MEMORIAM

HETHERINGTON. — In memory of our only and beloved son, Lieutenant SETH CALDWELL HETHERINGTON, U. S. 315th Regiment, who was killed in action in the Argonne Forest, September 28, 1918.

Sadly in loving remembrance of my beloved sister, FLORENCE M. McHUGH, who entered into rest Sept. 28, 1920. SISTER

BARR.—Sept. 27, FLORENCE, wife of Edward L. Barr and daughter of George W. and Harriet Price Thomas, aged 18 years. Relatives and friends invited to funeral, Fri., P. M., from residence, 108 Wolf st. Services at St. John's P. E. Church, 2 to 3 P. M. Interment private. Viewing Thurs. eve.

BARRETT.—On Sept. 25, 1921, HELEN G., daughter of Martin and Mary Barrett. Relatives and friends are invited to the funeral on Thursday morning, at 8:30 o'clock, from the late residence, 2826 Jasper st. Solemn requiem mass at Our Lady of Mercy Church, at 10 o'clock. Interment at Holy Cross Cemetery.

BASLER, Sept. 25, 1921, HARRY D. BASLER. Relatives and friends, also Keystone Lodge, No. 271, F. and A. M., and Aramingo Castle, No. 168, K. of P., are invited to the funeral services, Thurs., 2:30 P. M., residence, 1532 Frankford st., Frankford. Interior Remains may be viewed Wed. eve.

BENNETT, Sept. 26, Yardley, Pa., ELIZABETH G. (Lee Scanlan), widow of Joshua Bennett, aged 88. Relatives and friends are invited to the funeral, Friday, 2 P. M., Somerton M. E. Church in Yardley. Train from Cornwells leaves Reading Terminal 1:42 P. M.

BRENNAN, Sept. 24, 1921, 1106 Point Breeze ave., JAMES M., husband of Julia Brennan and son of Alice B. Brennan. Relatives and friends invited to the funeral services, Thurs., 8:30 A. M., at his late residence. Solemn Mass of Requiem at Church of Our Lady of Help of Christians, Germantown ave. and Upsal st. Interment private.

CARPENTER.—Sept. 26, Mrs. ELIZA BETH Shaffer Carpenter, late of Wilmington, Del., formerly of Lancaster, Pa., aged 88. Relatives and friends invited to attend funeral services, Thursday, 10:30 A. M., at her residence, 53 N. 22d st., Camden, N. J. Please omit flowers. Interment at Lancaster, Pa.

CASEY, Sept. 24, MARGARETTA, wife of W. A. Casey. Funeral services Tuesday, 8 P. M., at Baptist Church, Wayne Junction.

CLOUGH, Sept. 27, LILLIAN, wife of Lewis Clough. Relatives and friends are invited to the funeral, Wed., 11 A. M., at her late residence, 1619 Wyoming ave. Interment private.

CROOKS, at the Chester Co. Hospital, Sept. 27, [illegible] Crooks, son of John and Elizabeth Brooks, in his 34th year. Relatives and friends invited to funeral services at the residence of his parents, Edgemont, Del., on Fri., 30th, at 2 P. M. Int. Birmingham Cem. Autos will meet trolley cars at Edgemont after 10 o'clock.

DEVLIN, Sept. 26, 2960 N. Sydenham st., CATHERINE, widow of Louis Devlin, aged 69. Funeral Thurs., 2:30 P. M., residence of her son Frank L. Brown, 3025 N. 24th st. Int. Northwood Cem. Remains may be viewed Wed., 8 to 10 P. M.

DOUGHERTY, Sept. 25, ALLEN, husband of Mary Dougherty. Relatives and friends invited to the funeral, Thurs., 2 P. M., 426 Lexington ave., Roxborough. Int. private. Friends may call Wed. evening.

DRUMMOND, Sept. 26, ANNA, widow of Thomas Drummond, aged 78. Relatives and friends invited to the funeral, Thurs., 2 P. M., residence of her son, Thomas, 1811 Ellsworth st. Int. Mt. Moriah Cem.

FOULKROD, Sept. 26, ROBERT H., husband of Ella Foulkrod. Funeral services and interment at Lancaster, Pa., on Thurs. Friends may call Thurs. eve. at his residence, 5824 A st., Tacony.

FAIRLEY, Sept. 26, KENNETH, son of the late Robert and Jane M. Fairley. Relatives and friends are invited to the funeral services, Fri., 2 P. M., at the residence, 2217 S. 15th st. Int. Mt. Moriah Cem. Remains may be viewed Thurs. eve.

FLEMING, Sept. 24, JOSEPH, husband of Ellen Fleming. Funeral Thurs., 2:30 P. M., residence, 238 W. Ontario st., Northwood. Int. Mt. Carmel Cem. Remains may be viewed Wed. eve. after 7 P. M.

FIGGERS, Sept. 25, 1921, [illegible]

FARRY, suddenly, of Kate Shaw, of Foundation Relatives and friends of the Sheridan's Relief Fund are invited to the services on Thurs., at 2:30 P. M., at the residence of her father, 3316 Ridge ave. Interment private. Friends may call Wednesday evening.

GALLAGHER.—Sept. 25, ANNIE, [illegible]

GEIGER.—Sept. 26, MARIA, widow of [illegible]

GILDESLEEVE.—Sept. 26, MARY, wife of [illegible]

HENRY.—Sept. 27, 1921, ANNA HENRY. [illegible]

HERON.—Sept. 27, ANNA L., daughter of [illegible]

HOLLOWAY.—Sept. 26, ROBERT, husband of [illegible]

JOSEPH.—Sept. 26, [illegible]

KEYS.—Sept. 26, [illegible]

LAWS.—Sept. 26, JOHN K., [illegible]

MAGUIRE.—Sept. 24, ROBERT MAGUIRE, [illegible]

MAHONEY.—Sept. 24, JAMES, husband of [illegible]

MURRAY.—Sept. 27, 1921, THOMAS, son of [illegible]

NEIGER.—Sept. 26, [illegible]

PARKER.—Sept. 26, [illegible]

PHILLIPS.—Sept. 26, [illegible]

PHILLIPS.—Sept. 26, [illegible]

RUNNSPERGER.—Sept. 26, [illegible]

Tours, 1 P. M., at 912 [illegible]

SCHAFFER.—Sept. 26, [illegible]

SCHWEIGHOFER.—Sept. 26, [illegible]

SCHWEIGHOFER.—Sept. 26, [illegible]

TOURS.—Sept. 26, [illegible]

WEBER.—Sept. 26, [illegible]

WILDE.—Sept. 26, [illegible]

WILSON.—Sept. 26, [illegible]

WOLF.—Sept. 26, [illegible]

YOUNG.—Sept. 26, [illegible]

ZIEGLER.—Sept. 26, [illegible]

ZIEGLER.—Sept. 26, [illegible]

ZIEGLER