

Evening Public Ledger

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Philadelphia, Wednesday, December 7, 1921

THE TAX RATE

THERE will be a net reduction in the tax rate for next year of twenty-five cents, according to the announcement of Councilman Weglein.

This will come about through a reduction of forty cents in the tax rate for the support of the City Government, offset by an increase of fifteen cents in the tax rate for school purposes.

Now we may expect the spokesmen for the Job Combine to tell the voters that if it had not been for their insistence on a reduction the people would still be burdened by a tax beyond all reason.

Additional Policemen
Mayor Moore has secured a decided victory and the Combine Councilmen executed a prompt about face just in time to save their faces in the matter of adding 150 policemen to the regular force.

The figures Mayor Moore recently brought forward showed that relatively the city is far below the average big city in the number of policemen employed.

The Combine Councilmen saw the light but just in time. Preserving the public safety is one of the principal duties of a municipality, and it might have proved an inconvenient thing for some of the recalcitrant Councilmen to go before their constituents for re-election with records behind them of having opposed the Mayor on so important a matter.

The Oldest Deadlock
International progress in Washington and the Irish decision suggest that deadlocks are friable. In the consequent hearing of human hopes it is well, however, to inquire into the age of each vexatious impasse.

Anticipating the war out of which the seasons in the capital grew, older than the effective renascence of the nationalistic Irish program is transit justification in Philadelphia.

Perhaps Richard Weglein, who will offer a resolution in Council tomorrow with a view to removing obstacles to the operation of the Frankford elevated by the P. R. T., has been cogitating on recent work events.

Positively Peevish
The fact that the secretary general of the Chinese delegation to the Washington Conference has quit his job, leaving no successor, is full of instances where men have allowed their feelings to overcome their judgment.

Good From Evil
Samuel Untermyer has his fork in William A. Hogan, financial secretary of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, and is toasting him before the Lockwood Committee in New York.

Endowed Poets
Percy Mackaye, who was elected a little more than a year ago to what is loosely called a fellowship in poetry in Miami University, explained to an audience in this city that the creation of the fellowship is the result of an attempt to provide for men of letters an opportunity to do creative work while they are at the same time assisting in the education of others.

Progress on Shantung
In condensed communications, accounts of the special committee sessions of the Washington Conference unavoidably leave much to the public imagination. But the importance of the brief official announcements emanating from the conference should not be minimized, even though the full pictorial details are withheld.

poetry fellowships is an extension of the principle to the science, or shall we say the art, of literature. If the principle is accepted we may in time have fellowships in fiction and in the essay occupied by promising essayists and novelists who have justified the belief that they can do something worth while, and we shall restore the old system of patronage in letters under which some of the best things in English literature were produced in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

TARIFF FOR MUTUAL BENEFIT AND INDUSTRIAL COURTS

Statesmanlike Recommendations for Solving Pending Problems Made by the President in His Address to Congress

President Harding's address to Congress is a statesmanlike document. There is nothing parochial or partisan in it. It is a broad-minded discussion of the problems confronting the country and a sincere and intelligent attempt to suggest methods for their solution.

It begins with a frank abandonment of the old policy of isolation when he says that "no permanent readjustments can be effected without consideration of our inseparable relationship to world affairs in finance and trade."

This phrase, "inseparable relationship," is significant, even though it is confined in its application to "finance and trade." It involves a recognition of conditions to which only the parochial politicians have been blind.

The United States is not only in the world; it is of it also, and it must play its part without hampering itself by attempts to enforce the rules of ancient formulas that originated in a different era.

While the United States must play its part in world affairs mainly through the initiative of the Executive, the President asks for the co-operation of Congress, for "the best of intentions and most carefully considered purposes would utterly fail" without it.

The President's discussion of the tariff is as revolutionary as his discussion of the relations of the United States to the rest of the world. Indeed, his conclusions are based directly upon his view of those relations. We cannot sell unless we buy, he says, and he also says that "we cannot dwell in industrial and commercial isolation and at the same time do the just thing in aiding world reconstruction and readjustments."

This means, if it means anything, that he is asking for a tariff law that will take into account the necessities of our European debtors as well as the "policy of preserving the productive activities" at home. It is the policy which this newspaper has been saying for several years would have to be adopted if the United States were to collect what is owing it abroad. A tariff for a creditor nation must be framed in a very different way from the tariff for a debtor nation, because it must be directed toward a different end.

The remedy for labor troubles which the President recommends is that which this newspaper also has been urging. He says that the interference with the comfort and convenience of the public by industrial disputes is intolerable. To prevent such interference he would have "arbitration and judicial determination in controversies between labor and capital." But he goes further than this, for he suggests that arrangements be made for the organization of labor with limited liabilities for members of organizations as there are now corporations of capitalists with limited liabilities of the shareholders.

Other subjects are treated, but they are of less importance than these. The recommendation that the Government, while refraining from recognition of the Russian Government, supply the Relief Administration with 10,000,000 bushels of corn and 1,000,000 bushels of seed grains is a humane one, directed toward the relief of the suffering people. His suggestion that the most effective relief for the farmers will come through a development of the system of cooperative marketing rather than through laws passed by Congress appeals to common sense. And his appeal for an amendment to the Constitution which will enable Congress to tax the income on State and municipal bonds has its origin in the dissatisfaction of the Treasury Department with the habit of money to hide from the tax gatherer.

These matters will provoke wide discussion before any action is taken. As a matter of fact, we shall not get the kind of tariff or labor laws which he recommends without arguing and voting down a considerable body of opposition.

But we have moved a long way when the President of the United States puts the arduousness of his position behind two such sound propositions as Mr. Harding has put forth on the tariff and labor.

The Packers' Strike
The failure of the expected number of men to go out on strike at the Chicago packing houses on Monday, when only about 100 instead of 25,000 obeyed the orders of the labor leaders, was not a surprise. The encouraging feature of it was the fact that the workmen are showing a decided tendency to do their own thinking and are not following blindly.

The result is a particularly inopportune moment for a great strike, from the point of view of all of the parties concerned. There are too many men out of work for any type of worker, except those of the most highly skilled kind, to be able to win. The employers are now engaged in a readjustment of their businesses after the appalling economic effects of the war and they need every effort of their men as well as of themselves.

The public, too, which is always the last considered and is always ground between the two milstones in the case of a protracted strike, especially where the manufacture of a foodstuff or other necessary article is involved, has its reasons for not countenancing a strike at this time. Strikes always advance the cost of the article in the production of which the strike occurs, and the cost of necessities has not yet reached the point of cheapness after the war where the public will tolerantly bear an additional burden.

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The Chinese and Japanese delegations now conferring upon Shantung questions have confined themselves to announcing formally that Japan has agreed to "renounce all preferential rights with regard to foreign assistance in persons, capital and material stipulated in the Sino-German Treaty of March 6, 1918, and to reporting what appears to be progress in adjusting the problem of maritime customs of the port of Tsingtau."

Mr. Hanjirah, of the Japanese delegation, obliges, however, with some interesting personal and supplementary comment, in which he emphasizes the willingness of Japan to withdraw from the 200 square miles of the leased territory of Kiao-Chau wrested from Germany providing China will establish the commercial open-door policy along the railway without including in undue optimism. It may be said that the whole Shantung question appears to have been carried closer to a settlement than any observers of the Japanese attitude at Paris in 1919 would have deemed possible.

The direct-treatment method is probably largely responsible for this presumed progress. It is the signal virtue of the Washington Conference that it has not been afraid of its difficulties nor of placing discussions of them promptly in the hands of the parties most closely involved.

AS ONE WOMAN SEES IT

Plea for the Lovers of Music Who Have to Catch Trains and Who, Perhaps, Should Not Be Lectured Therefor

By SARAH D. LOWRIE

ORIGINALLY the Friday afternoon concerts of the Philadelphia Orchestra were called public rehearsals, and they were in fact the rehearsal for the real concert of the week, which occurred then, on Saturday evenings. The price of tickets for Friday afternoons was considerably less than the ones for Saturday night.

It was a rehearsal, a dress rehearsal so to speak, when the program was given without interruptions either on the part of the soloist or the conductor, and being a rehearsal it was considered to be a shade inferior to the perfection of the Saturday evening performance.

But owing to the fact that most of Philadelphia lives out in the suburbs, and also to the fact that the Woman's Committee of the Philadelphia Orchestra concentrated on having the suburban patrons of the concerts subscribe to that series of afternoon performances as being best suited to an out-of-town audience, the Friday rehearsals were eventually over-subscribed. To meet the situation, the prices were raised to equal the Saturday evening concerts, and when they were still over-subscribed, the prices were further raised to exceed the Saturday evening concert. We give this as a further appearance of reasonableness, the word rehearsal was dropped and that of Friday concert substituted.

As a matter of fact the Friday concert is a performance worth all the money and more that the subscribers pay for it, although in point of perfection it is not always so highly finished a performance as the Saturday evening concert. I am told that the time of day and the character of the audience have something to do with this. The suburban patrons of the concert does make for the added glory of the Saturday night effect.

Last year, owing to the fact that the Saturday evening concerts were almost completely subscribed for the season, the management raised the price for a series of the Friday afternoons. Possibly at some future date the evening prices may be raised above them, as they were originally.

Meanwhile the Friday afternoon concerts benefit the Saturday evening concerts in two ways: First, they make for the perfection of the second performance and, second, they absorb the majority of the suburbanites, who are dependent for getting home on trains, or on family motors, or on street cars, or on jitneys that run on schedule time.

The Saturday evening audiences are at once more leisurely and more musical, because the men that go for music—no man can be caught and held for a series of concerts who does not like music—and the women are either there because their husbands are musical or because they themselves are musical.

It is not a fashionable concert or a drop-in concert or a fashionable or a drop-in audience. From the gallery to the orchestra chairs, so that though a few persons come late from late dinners and go early to early trainings, the audience is for the most part a more satisfactory one from a musical point of view to the artists who play to it.

But the point is, neither the audience nor the musicians would be so satisfactory if it were not for the Friday afternoon concert, so long as the Friday audiences do not murmur against the slight inequalities of the musical performance of the musicians and demand for more money than is finished perfection of the Saturday evening concert, possibly the musicians, led by their somewhat temperamental and exacting conductor, might also make slight allowances for the inequalities in the perfection of the audience.

After all, yet to be musically somewhat unacquainted and yet to support and even guarantee a great orchestra is, on the whole, a step in the right direction, a longer step in the direction of art than artists would be willing to take in the direction of, let us say, political economy. And yet, you know, music is enough to sacrifice some necessity or only some luxury to go a long distance to hear it, even though your train will not be better for you and better for your community than you hear part, rather than miss the whole.

And I have one more thing to say on this subject, that is, a sincere, musical admirer of the conductor of the orchestra, it needs to be said, for it voices the belief of more than a few of his friends and intelligent admirers.

Something in his attitude toward his orchestra, a great audience that is at moments slightly verging on the disciplinary, slightly school-marmish. It is as though he were trying to make a policeman as well as a musician, a monitor as well as an artist. And this lesser part does not sit gracefully or graciously upon him. The faculty of trying to be both makes him look a trifle unattractive. During the pre-Thanksgiving days we consumed 62,280 pounds of meat and poultry, of this 12,200 pounds in markets alone a single street. We had received but four complaints.

Try to Sell Tainted Meats
And yet attempts to sell such animals to the unsuspecting persist and to such an extent that at no time can we relax our watch over slaughter-house owners, butchers, delicatessen shopkeepers and owners of country markets. During the pre-Thanksgiving days we consumed 62,280 pounds of meat and poultry, of this 12,200 pounds in markets alone a single street. We had received but four complaints.

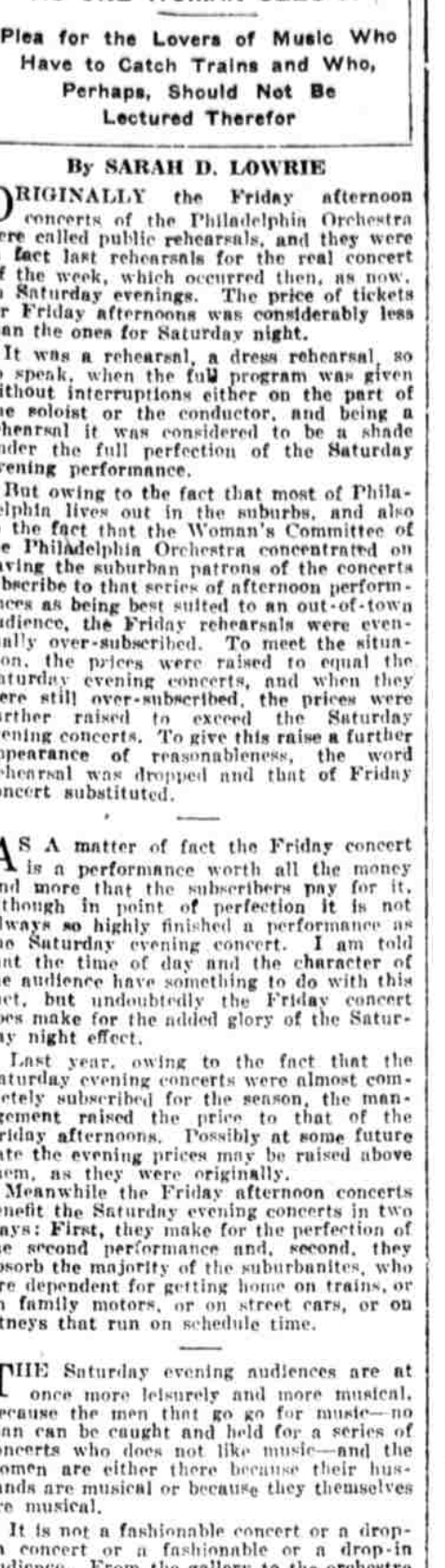
Many Tricks Are Uncovered
"Ruses of many sorts are practiced to deceive the inspectors. One of the simplest is the little trick of trimming out portions of the carcass that may show tubercular lesions. Such devices seldom succeed for the reason that any deviation from the accepted method of dressing is a sign of suspicion to the trained inspector. Butchers who practice these devices too often are served with notice that another such offense will result in the removal of their licenses."

Goat Meat Sold Here
"Of goat meat of which little is sold in Philadelphia and which we occasionally find masquerading as mutton" 175 pounds; of beef, 95,416 pounds; of pork, 10,924 pounds; of mutton, 23,700 pounds; of veal, 4190 pounds; of poultry, 131,467 pounds; of game, 21,422 pounds; of fish, 1,174,456 pounds; of shellfish, 61,064 pounds. Although the sale of horse meat has been legalized, there are no horse abattoirs in Philadelphia.

Today's Anniversaries
1642—Mary Stuart, Queen of two countries and claimant to the throne of another, died in Scotland. Executed in England, February 8, 1587.
1757—Dwight Foster, one of the early United States Senators from Massachusetts, born at Brookfield, Mass. Died there, April 20, 1829.
1838—Thomas Carlin was inaugurated Governor of Illinois.
1839—William Henry Harrison was nominated for President by the Whig National Convention at Harrisburg.
1842—Many factories plundered and burnt in Canton, China.

1857—Zachariah Chandler took his seat as United States Senator from Michigan.
1880—Buenos Aires was selected as the permanent capital of the Argentine Republic.
1896—John R. Fellows, Congressman and author, died in New York City. Born at Troy, N. Y., July 20, 1832.
1900—President Wilson presented his message to Congress.

"LET'S GET GOING!"



NOW MY IDEA IS THIS!

Daily Talks With Thinking Philadelphians on Subjects They Know Best

EDWARD E. BEHRENS, V. M. D. On Safeguarding Meat

IT IS not perhaps generally known how large a part in the work of guarding the public health is played in the inspection of meat, fish, fowl and game. But, says Dr. Edward E. Behrens, chief of division of meat and cattle inspection of the Bureau of Health, constant vigilance is the only sure prevention of contamination.

"I do not think," says Dr. Behrens, "that the average citizen gives much attention to the measures that are taken to safeguard him on this very important side.

"Inspection begins at the abattoir, and to this important work a graduate veterinarian is assigned, for a knowledge of anatomy and of the bacterial and parasitic infection is necessary to enable adequately to examine all the glands and organs in which diseases are known to show themselves. The diseases that we find most frequently in food-producing animals are tuberculosis, measles, hog cholera (a form of typhoid fever) and occasionally anthrax. It is not necessary for me to point out the danger to the public health from an animal infected with any one of these diseases being sold for food.

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SHORT CUTS

Lloyd George's task, as seen by extremists, was up hill and down dail.

How is a pessimistic world going to survive the absence of an Irish queen?

Perhaps the Bambino would like to seek it to the jurist for working at more than one job.

Round about 1950 the world will appreciate the big things now happening in Washington.

Santa Claus can't get in the game with out your help. Ant for Santa. And do your Christmas shopping now.

A recent Forum speaker but eluded the fact that the way to run a city is what everybody knows but nobody hears.

Congressmen will now proceed to develop astigmatism by keeping one eye on the matter at hand and one on next November.

China might with better grace protest against foreign rule if she more fully recognized her present need for foreign guidance.

We have momentarily postponed our tears, for the reason that we can't decide whether to let them flow for Fatty Ruth or Babe Arducke.

The Paris Journal's description of Washington Conference efforts as a "neutralization of rivalries" is apt and, let us hope, prophetic.

Forty Goucher College girls agree that there is no such thing as a perfect man. The truth they tell is deplorable, but Cupid may attend to their case later.

John D. Rockefeller, Jr., had to borrow a frock coat before he could call on the Emperor of Japan. Had he been a poor man he might not have been able to afford the lack of one.

Joseph W. Powell, president of the Emergency Fleet Corporation, says the six American battle cruisers now in course of construction can be converted into fast passenger vessels. This is a better method of disposal than making junk of them. But the great fleet of idle ships at Hog Island asks ugly questions.

What Do You Know?
QUIZ
What are the four most popular names in the United States for male children?
Who was Clement Scott?
What is a brusseter?
Who was the author of the Souffler?
When and where was the Battle of Crecy fought and who were the belligerents?
Who is the present Governor of Porto Rico?
How old is Woodrow Wilson?
What is the correct form of address for a duke?
Where is the River Severn?
When was Halley's comet last visible to the naked eye?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz
1. A gale is a bark blowing down from a port on which attackers are exposed to the wind.
2. Henry Cabot Lodge is chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.
3. A moratorium is a period during which an obligor has the legal right to delay meeting an obligation.
4. A consortium is a legal term, meaning a fellowship, a partnership, a union.
5. Two famous ravens in literature are the one that perched above the bust of Pallas in Poe's poem, and Grieg, the poet and companion of Barnaby Rudge.
6. Sir William Temple was a distinguished English diplomatist, statesman and author. He was a member of Parliament, a negotiator of a peace with the Netherlands in 1674 and Ambassador to the Congress of Schwegen. His work "Observations Upon the United Provinces," "An Essay on Government," "An Essay on the Present State and History of England." His dates are 1628-1699.
7. The Island of Guernsey, one of the Channel Islands on the coast of France, belongs to Great Britain.
8. Pompano is a highly esteemed food fish from the Southern Atlantic and Gulf coasts of North America.
9. The chief ingredients of scrapple are pork, chopped herbs and Indian meal.
10. A polygon is a figure with usually more than four angles or sides.