

Evening Public Ledger

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Charles A. Frier, Secretary

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AN IMMEDIATE BRIDGE NEED

THE submission of a number of bids well within the sum available for constructing a new bridge across the Schuylkill at South street affords some reason for a commendable policy of delay.

MR. RITER'S ELECTION

AS THE new chairman of the Voters' League, Frank M. Riter will bring to the office not only the necessary qualifications of good citizenship, but also a knowledge of the practical side of politics, which is absolutely essential to leadership in such a movement as the League represents.

IRELAND'S DAY

HISTORIC tables are indeed turned when the prospects for Irish autonomy are bright in the British Parliament and are darkened by clouds of protest in Dublin. The denouement of the situation is entirely secondary to its momentous character.

THE READING WAKES UP

THE new steel coaches for the Reading Railway are said to have been ordered prior to the terrible disaster on the Newtown division. It is perhaps discreet to refrain from inquiring too closely into the company's reticence on this subject at the time of the wreck.

MR. HOOVER'S SAVING

SECRETARY HOOVER'S report, covering the first four months of his administration of the Department of Commerce and stating that the first year will show an expenditure of more than \$1,000,000 less than the available appropriation, will go far to convince the public of the sincerity of the Harding Administration in its expressed intention to enforce the utmost economy compatible with efficiency.

COTTON AND FOREIGN POLICY

IF THE cotton growers of the South are not convinced that the prosperity of the United States is intimately dependent on the prosperity of Europe it is for the reason that they cannot put two and two together. They could not sell their cotton last year because the cotton mills of Europe were idle. There was no market for their product as the people had no money. The cotton interests of agents abroad to drum

settled conditions abroad, rather than to a decreased volume of goods. In spite of this, the Latin-American division has rendered notable service to American business and the Far East division has been extended, while economic surveys will soon be made in many places abroad.

FRANKFORD "L" ROAD MUST BE MADE TO SERVE TO THE MOST

No Plan of P. R. T. Operation is Feasible Which Omits Provision for Transfer From Intersecting Surface Lines
THE point to be kept continually in mind by the representatives of the city in any negotiations with the P. R. T. Company for the operation of the Frankford elevated line is the importance of making that line serve the greatest possible number of people.

FOCH, THE UNSPOILED

THERE is a spurious emotionalism in the hero worship to which the grave and simple character of Marshal Foch lends not the slightest encouragement. In his variegated and extended American tour, the great conqueror of victory, now speeding homeward on the Paris, invited affection that was heartfelt, admiration that was profound, enthusiasm that was tremendous. But in all this display of a nation's feelings, the false glamour which has in the past surrounded other public favorites played no part.

HUMANITY, NOT POLITICS

THE Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives has promptly made a favorable report on Secretary Hoover's recommendation that \$20,000,000 be appropriated for the relief of Russian famine sufferers. The money is needed, said Mr. Hoover, if any effective work is to be done to save the starving Russians, as private contributions have amounted to only \$200,000 since August.

More Work More Pay

Samuel Untermyer is making praiseworthy efforts to stop the building trades in New York from cutting wages a dollar a day in all lines, he suggests that the present scale be continued for sixty days and that committee members discuss means of increasing labor efficiency to the extent of a two-year agreement. Some of the union rules restricting output and curbing endeavor show there is room for discussion.

Looking Ahead

Many of those who fall for the seductive charms of the Anglo-Irish peace pact know full well that it is a dwelling place of the League of Nations for announcement is made that the Irish Free State will be admitted beyond peradventure September next.

DISARMAMENT ASSURED

THE agreement reached in Washington concerning the battleship Mutsu removes the last obstacle in the way of acceptance of the naval ratio suggested by Secretary Hughes.

What Do You Know?

- 1. What possession of the United States is the largest?
2. Of what town was Charlemagne a native?
3. In what century did he live?
4. On what ticket did Eugene V. Debs run for the presidency?
5. Who was Palestrina?
6. What is the origin of the word Parliament?
7. Distinguish between ordinance and ordination.
8. Who was Nance Oldfield?
9. Which is the largest of the planets?
10. What is meant by the expression "of doubtful provenance"?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

- 1. The last two States to ratify the Constitution were North Carolina and Rhode Island.
2. Martin Van Buren, who succeeded Andrew Jackson in the presidency, was a sometimes called "Jackson's appendix."
3. The Caroline Islands are a group in the Western Pacific Ocean lying between the equator and 10 north latitude and between longitudes 140 and 160 east.
4. "Disjecta membra" are fragments, scattered remains. The expression is often applied to literary effects.
5. The symphony is the highest heaven.
6. The Cypriotes are the inhabitants of Cyprus in the Eastern Mediterranean.
7. Desiderius Erasmus, the celebrated Dutch humanist and scholar, lived in parts of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. He was born about 1466 and died in 1536.
8. A rondo in music is a composition with a leading theme, to which return is made.
9. "Lucky Roger" was the name given to the pirate flag, the favorite ensign of the pirates of the West Indies.
10. The name Jenny in spinning Jenny was thought to have been derived from "gentle" or "errupt" diminutive of the word engine.

TWO DISTINGUISHED MEN

Dr. Omwake's Story of the Janitor and Lord Reading—Destroying Our Wild Flowers—Dr. J. Madison Taylor on Self-Determination

By GEORGE NOX McCAIN

DR. GEORGE L. OMWAKE, president of Ursinus College, during a recent trip to Richmond, Va., visited old St. John's Church. Students of history will recall that it was within its walls that Patrick Henry delivered his famous speech containing the words, "Give me liberty or give me death."

DR. J. MADISON TAYLOR

DR. J. MADISON TAYLOR, professor of therapeutics and dietetics in the medical department of Temple University, has, in his article on "Universal self-determination and the brotherhood of man," particularly in this true of present-day conditions as allied to these subjects.

Origin of Tree

"Take for instance the tree, one of the chief elements of our modern celebration of Christmas," he said. "The Christmas tree can be traced back unmistakably to early Scandinavian influences. One would expect that the oak tree, which has been the early Teutonic symbol, would have been used for this purpose, but the northern evergreen, symbol of life recurrent, was used instead, because of its pertinence to the significance with regard to the nature of the festival."

EDWARD WILSON, of the State Welfare Department, directs my attention to a new note of color that characterizes performances in the various theatres and moving-picture palaces of the city.

MR. WILSON, as chairman of the Legislative Committee of the State Council Order of Independent Americans, was primarily responsible for the new law.

Today's Anniversaries

- 1786—Edward Coles, Governor of Illinois, 1822-28, born in Allegheny County, Virginia. Died in Philadelphia July 7, 1868.
1796—General Anthony Wayne, famous soldier of the American Revolution, died at Presque Isle, Pa., born in Chester County, Pennsylvania, January 1, 1745.
1821—Rufus Barringer, noted North Carolina soldier and statesman, born at Concord, N. C., died February 3, 1895.
1840—Duke of Edinburgh visited the Viceroy of India at Calcutta.
1871—Dedication of the Wheeler Opera House in Toledo, O.
1898—John S. Brown, former United States Senator from Ohio, died in New York City, born at Denmark, O., September 17, 1845.
1899—The British under General Buller were severely defeated by the Boers near Colenso.

Today's Birthdays

- Alexandre Gustave Eiffel, the builder of the Eiffel Tower in Paris, born at Dijon, France, eighty-nine years ago.
Edwin Howland Washfield, a painter celebrated for his mural decorations, born in New York City seventy-three years ago.
Louis L'Amour, noted American capitalist and art patron, born at Lyons, France, sixty years ago.
Duke of Athol, the only individual in Great Britain who is entitled to maintain a private army of his own, born fifty years ago.

FOUR POWER PACT

Perhaps it is because it is a Pacific treaty that the big stick is hidden. Washington just now has the business little telegraph office in the world.

What the Senate Irreconcilables lack in number they make up in vociferousness.

Every time a Broadway restaurant is raided by prohibition enforcement officers some bootleggers chuckle derisively.

Tomorrow's fateful meeting at the Navy Yard will hardly seem complete without the presence of Russ Ship Scrapper Hughes.

It must be a source of considerable chagrin to Mr. Hearst that the world remains calm when he throws his daily fit.

The president of Vassar College says woman is fifty years ahead of man. This may account for the way he chases after her.

Demosthenes McGinnis declares that the Four-Power Treaty is so darned easy to understand it ought to be darned hard to break.

Opponents of the Anglo-Irish pact put themselves open to the charge that they hate England more than they love Ireland.

The idea of a Limitation Armament Conference, explained The Wise Guy, is to prove that a martial Cock of the Walk is stop-cock.

"Why not let bygones be bygones?" ask some proponents of the Washington pact when their attention is called to excerpts from past speeches.

Times may be hard, but Germany has not yet reached the point where she'd be willing to swap her prospective moratorium for China's consortium.

"To the victor belong the spoils," remarked Marshal Foch, as he applied the stowing away of his half dozen packing cases of presents.

There is shrewd suspicion that a city-operated motor bus feeder for the Frankford "L" will have sufficient traction to pull the P. R. T. into line.

Christmas turkeys seem determined to fly as high as the Thanksgiving birds. Those who can't hit 'em with a pocketbook may, as usual, fall back on pork chops.

A parrot screaming "Help! Murder! Murder!" scared a burglar from a Philadelphia home. He may, therefore, expect a movement to substitute Doll for Fido in the home.

Civilization is a traffic sign on a road. It may get many bumps, but it is a mighty hard thing to overthrow. This should be at once an instruction and a consolation to the pessimists.

A Brooklyn woman has had her husband arrested for talking so much that she's unable to sleep. Feminist literature may presently be enriched by a revised edition of "Curtain Lectures."

Lloyd George and Hughes will admit that this thing of framing peace pacts is a dog's life. "Like it or leave it," says Lloyd to the Belfast. "Shall a poor Mattie be slain?" Tokio asks of Washington.

A ship laden with toys for the children of Vienna has just left New York. Just a little odd, to say the least, that we should be understanding Santa Claus for Central Europe while most of the toys we send come from Austria's nearest neighbor.

Three companies of the Kansas National Guard have been called out to protect strikers in coal mines against attacks by the women relatives of striking miners. If you can think of any tougher job than that of these soldier boys you have a vital imagination.

What has happened to China so far in the Washington Conference does not prove that the millennium has arrived; but when a helpless nation is given access, instead of being played for a sucker by the strong, there is at least some slight indication that the world is growing better.

Testimony before the Lockwood Committee in New York disclosed the fact that six Italians and three Jews had been paid by the Plasterers' Union for working on St. Patrick's Day. This is probably an error. They were fined because they had the money and could be forced to pay; and one way as good as another.



NOW MY IDEA IS THIS!

Daily Talks With Thinking Philadelphians on Subjects They Know Best

DR. EDWIN MILLER FOGEL

On Christmas Customs

WHEN Father journeys down to the corner to select a Christmas tree; when Mother climbs to the attic to retrieve the colored globes and tinsel decorations from their year-long exile, and finally, on the great day itself, when the flowing bowl of convivial eggnog is passed from hand to hand among those members of the family duly qualified by age and experience to partake, how little it is suspected that these amiable customs of Christmas time had their origin in the dim reaches of a pagan and unregenerate barbarism.

Origin of Tree

"Take for instance the tree, one of the chief elements of our modern celebration of Christmas," he said. "The Christmas tree can be traced back unmistakably to early Scandinavian influences. One would expect that the oak tree, which has been the early Teutonic symbol, would have been used for this purpose, but the northern evergreen, symbol of life recurrent, was used instead, because of its pertinence to the significance with regard to the nature of the festival."

HUMANISMS

By WILLIAM ATHERTON DU PUY

WILLIAM EDWIN Root, who sits in the conference of nations in Washington, first became Secretary of War under McKinley, twenty years ago, and while in that position he was in line to a study of the problems of the army. He had not gone far until he dug into a book which had been written by Brevet Major General Emory Upton shortly after the Civil War, and which up to that time had been given little attention, but which has since come to be recognized as one of the greatest military treatises ever written.

EVENING MYSTERY

NOW ragged clouds in the west are heaping. All the bridges seem a-sweeping. And lo! in thin green distance flowers. The moon, the blossom of lonely hours. The moon she lightens on a myriad meadows. And her rays wander among wood shadows; And her last of sunset's down. She has made a new world of her own. Old farm houses with their white faces. And their ghosts have taken their places; Even the signposts like grim liars. Point to losing brakes and liars. Tired birds roosting are not yet sleeping. And str and mitter at the wild eyes peeping. And sheep will not let silence lie. But glare about the hilltop sky.

SHORT CUTS

Perhaps it is because it is a Pacific treaty that the big stick is hidden. Washington just now has the business little telegraph office in the world. What the Senate Irreconcilables lack in number they make up in vociferousness. Every time a Broadway restaurant is raided by prohibition enforcement officers some bootleggers chuckle derisively. Tomorrow's fateful meeting at the Navy Yard will hardly seem complete without the presence of Russ Ship Scrapper Hughes. It must be a source of considerable chagrin to Mr. Hearst that the world remains calm when he throws his daily fit. The president of Vassar College says woman is fifty years ahead of man. This may account for the way he chases after her. Demosthenes McGinnis declares that the Four-Power Treaty is so darned easy to understand it ought to be darned hard to break. Opponents of the Anglo-Irish pact put themselves open to the charge that they hate England more than they love Ireland. The idea of a Limitation Armament Conference, explained The Wise Guy, is to prove that a martial Cock of the Walk is stop-cock. "Why not let bygones be bygones?" ask some proponents of the Washington pact when their attention is called to excerpts from past speeches. Times may be hard, but Germany has not yet reached the point where she'd be willing to swap her prospective moratorium for China's consortium. "To the victor belong the spoils," remarked Marshal Foch, as he applied the stowing away of his half dozen packing cases of presents. There is shrewd suspicion that a city-operated motor bus feeder for the Frankford "L" will have sufficient traction to pull the P. R. T. into line. Christmas turkeys seem determined to fly as high as the Thanksgiving birds. Those who can't hit 'em with a pocketbook may, as usual, fall back on pork chops. A parrot screaming "Help! Murder! Murder!" scared a burglar from a Philadelphia home. He may, therefore, expect a movement to substitute Doll for Fido in the home. Civilization is a traffic sign on a road. It may get many bumps, but it is a mighty hard thing to overthrow. This should be at once an instruction and a consolation to the pessimists. A Brooklyn woman has had her husband arrested for talking so much that she's unable to sleep. Feminist literature may presently be enriched by a revised edition of "Curtain Lectures." Lloyd George and Hughes will admit that this thing of framing peace pacts is a dog's life. "Like it or leave it," says Lloyd to the Belfast. "Shall a poor Mattie be slain?" Tokio asks of Washington. A ship laden with toys for the children of Vienna has just left New York. Just a little odd, to say the least, that we should be understanding Santa Claus for Central Europe while most of the toys we send come from Austria's nearest neighbor. Three companies of the Kansas National Guard have been called out to protect strikers in coal mines against attacks by the women relatives of striking miners. If you can think of any tougher job than that of these soldier boys you have a vital imagination. What has happened to China so far in the Washington Conference does not prove that the millennium has arrived; but when a helpless nation is given access, instead of being played for a sucker by the strong, there is at least some slight indication that the world is growing better. Testimony before the Lockwood Committee in New York disclosed the fact that six Italians and three Jews had been paid by the Plasterers' Union for working on St. Patrick's Day. This is probably an error. They were fined because they had the money and could be forced to pay; and one way as good as another.