

THE PEOPLE'S FORUM

Letters to the Editor

Musical Advancement Here

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—I note in the papers the announcement that all the music organizations in this city will meet for the purpose of a Civic Music League. Nothing better could happen to the city than to have such a league formed, if it is to have such in the proper way, and if the league could see the real reason why we, as a city, have retrograded in the field of music...

A Correction

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—Regarding the notice of my father's death (Caleb S. Ridgway), in your issue of January 5, you state my grandfather, Jacob E. Ridgway, was connected with the "Home House." This is wrong, as he had never, at any time, any interest in this property. My grandfather was the head of the old Union Traction Company, in this city, and was the owner of Smiths Island in the Delaware at one time, and at the time of his death was president of the Quaker National Bank.

Critical of Prohibition

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—Commissioner Hayden has been quoted as saying: "Some seem to have the opinion that the Government is not serious, that the law is a joke and that people prefer a laugh to a law. It is a strange sort of humor, when we laugh at the Constitution." If this is a correct statement, a condition has been brought about by prohibition which is infinitely worse and more dangerous than the drink evil ever was. It corroborates the opinion in many minds that altogether too high a price is being paid for the benefits prohibition may be giving.

Inadequate Police Protection

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—It is quite true that we have inadequate police protection, and it may be for want of a sufficiently large force, but I feel, from observation, that the fault, in a great measure, lies in the indifference to their duty of many of those now on the force. I think the force needs a weeding out and all those who are laying down on their jobs should be replaced by some of the men now out of work, who would be glad for a job on the police force and would recognize their duty.

Flays the Knockers

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—Will you kindly permit me to say just a few words to some of our strangers in our midst who are so intent on knocking Philadelphia? Will one or two of them tell me why they are so egotistical as to think they have such an out-standing personality that all of our citizens, who are so busy attending to business, should come up to them on the street when they are standing around and ask them if they would not like to honor the evening with them, or perhaps, to please come and dine with them, as "you must be so young in this large city" since leaving the old "home town" and your mother's side.

Is Ours Really a "City of Brotherly Love"?

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—That's old stuff, we admit, but it holds good here. Attend strictly to your own affairs and do not work Philadelphia, where you are obtaining a livelihood, or you wouldn't stay. Try New York, a few of you, and see if they come out on the stoops and invite you into their homes as you pass on the streets. R. A. ROMANOFF, Philadelphia, January 3, 1922.

We Lack Pep

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—"Nutter Stranger" has been much interested in the roses and eggs that have been sent about relative to the City of Brotherly Love. Now, I came here from farther East over two years ago, and among the first steps in the strange city became connected with my church and took an active part therein. I think it might be useful, my doing likewise, resulting in the simple fact that we have a circle of the most agreeable acquaintances, and a quiet, clean social experience that is altogether lovely; in fact, such as we never acquired in any other city, which brings home to me the naked truth that one finds his environment as he makes them. Have been about a bit, too. Spent a few years in Chicago, but had my carfare through.

When in Home do as the Romans

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—Snap out of it yourselves and you will find that you get along with yourself and the world at large much better than when out looking for some one to take you into their drawing rooms and enjoy your wonderful conversation for an evening or so during the week and try to amuse you. "When in Home do as the Romans"

Philadelphia, a section in which I live, I have made it my business recently to walk over a considerable distance, and for several hours, a section in West Philadelphia, and in all my travels I never saw one policeman, with the exception of the traffic cop at Fifty-second and Market streets. My wife, who is home all day, states that sometimes she sees a cop pass the house, and she is sure this is true of other sections of the city.

Take the business section of the city and probably not one of those who read this letter but will remember that they have seen policemen talking to young women by the half-hour on some street corner or some doorway, or several of them have assembled at a corner to discuss—we know not what. Invariably during these discussions or flirtations, the holiday man or bandit gets in his work, and the policeman is too late to catch him.

The Director of Public Safety, no doubt, is cognizant of this, for the public generally is, and if he is not aware, then he is not doing his duty. He should appoint plain clothes men to go into every section, at least for a week, and pick out all of those men who are neglecting their work and see that they are replaced by men willing to carry out the work of city protectors.

Opposed to Rationalists

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—Why do the laws allow rationalists to teach their thoughts to the public, attacking the Bible, trying to make the people believe that the Church is a rich man's place to spend money, and that Christ was not born on Christmas? Philadelphia, December 31, 1921.

Can They Save Uncle Bim?

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—I have been much interested in your Uncle Bim cartoon, and have enjoyed every minute of it. Just now I don't see how Mr. Smith is going to prevent the marriage between Uncle Bim and the Widow Zander unless you create another cartoon of the sort.

Should Vamp Uncle Bim

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—The only thing I can see for the Gumps is to back the election of Uncle Bim to take out their confidence one of the vamps this clever pair must know and make an agreement with her that if she can out the Widow Zander she shall have all the shares with her the simoleons when they get them in their possession. I can tell by the twinkle in Uncle's eye that he would not be averse to this. Something must be done to out this Zander woman or there will be an unhappy ending of this comedy, which at present has been turned into a tragedy. I will be willing to pose as Mr. Smith's model.

Leave Mr. Smith Alone

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—Dear readers of the People's Forum of the EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER, let me say to you to leave Sidney Smith alone. He is going to work out the salvation of the Gumps, and in his own way. He has no doubt laid out a complete plot in his mind. The Widow Zander, like most scheming widows, is bound to come to grief, and Mr. Smith knows how to handle her. I am sure. He is a just master in the art, as he has already demonstrated. I venture the guess that owing to the Widow's "distracting" habits she is playing with live coals and will eventually be burned, and the Gumps will see the light.

Rich Australian Uncle on his knees

rich Australian uncle on his knees pleading for their favor. M. L. T. Philadelphia, January 9, 1922.

Questions Answered

Washington and the Dollar To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—What is the story attached to George Washington throwing a dollar across the Potomac? I have heard of it, but never read it. HENRY T. GEDDES, Philadelphia, January 7, 1922.

"Slovenly Peter" Book

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—I am looking for a book for children published about thirty-five years ago. I am not sure as to its name any more than I am of the name of the publisher. It was made up of happy jingles such as this: "August was a chubby lad; Pat, ruddy cheeks August had; And everybody saw with joy The healthy, happy, hearty boy. But on one cold winter's day He threw away his spoon and screamed: 'Oh, take the nasty soup away! I won't have any soup today.' It seems to me that the name of the book was 'Slovenly Peter.'" G. L. S., Philadelphia, January 4, 1922.

A Little Poem

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—Please print for me or tell me where I can find a little poem which I think has the title "Three Things Which Inspire." DAILY READER, Philadelphia, January 5, 1922.

Poems and Songs Desired

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—The People's Forum will appear daily in the Evening Public Ledger, and letters discussing timely topics will be printed. To well as requested poems, and questions of general interest will be answered.

"Mist of Rhyme"

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Author of Old Song

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—I should like very much to know the composer of an old song which was popular between 1850 and 1860. The first stanza runs something like this: "Sleeping, I dream, love, dream of thee, O'er the bright waves, love, floating were we." As the sweet song passed over the sea, Thine eyes, like lodestars, beamed on me." Philadelphia, January 1, 1922.

Rise and Fall of Foreign Exchange

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—I would appreciate something pertaining to the causes for the rise and fall of foreign exchange. Is this due to the financial rating of the various countries—that is, if the European nations are working on a paper currency? Also, what imports and exports have to do with these fluctuations; for example, what relation they have to the pound sterling. INQUIRER, Philadelphia, January 5, 1922.

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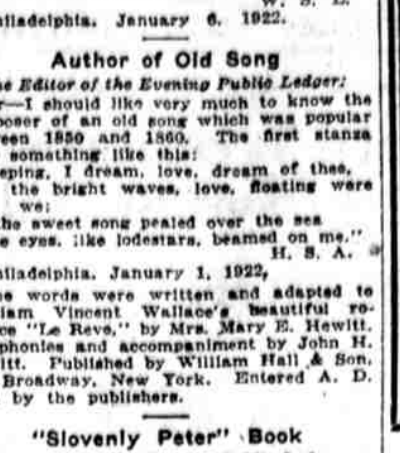
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