

Letters to the Editor

Are Women the Cause?

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—In tonight's Evening Public Ledger I saw an article where the Dr. Lynn Bowman said the reason men couldn't go straight was because the women dressed immodestly. These reformers and other men who kick on the women's dress make me sick. Look how they dress in South America and the South Sea Islands. They hardly wear anything. Do the men make fools of themselves? No, they never naturally immorally inclined in those sections.

It's not the women and the way they dress that's to blame. It's the men and their minds. And yet they say we are more civilized than the South Sea Islanders. I think the preachers ought to pay more attention to the men and help to clean the evil out of men's minds instead of picking on the women and blaming them.

Too many clothes make women unhealthy. Their bodies don't get the air and the sunlight that a person's body should get. Tell the preachers to get busy by cultivating the men and making their heads cleaner thoughts. MRS. HOWARD SMITH, Philadelphia, March 7, 1922.

Takes Rap at English Critic

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—With your kind indulgence I would like to remind the young woman signing herself "An English War Bride" that she is in the United States and not in England. And that we here over here would not write a similar letter to an English newspaper, and at the same time use the expression, "Let sleeping dogs lie still." If a shoe does not fit, one should not put it on. You do not have to remind us of the vast number of English in our midst. We are all too well aware of the fact. Proving beyond a doubt that this is the greatest country on earth. When Mrs. War Bride, do so many English come here to live?

"W. L. T." who wrote about the "regal stuff" might well have expressed the sentiment of any true American. Just let me add that the people over here generally are not trying to provoke hostilities between the two countries, for the reason that we have much more that is really worth while to look after than we are not at all interested in what does not concern us.

However, we are sick and tired of reading about the things we put behind us 140 years ago. We do not criticize the English, and I never would have written this letter if I had not been heartily disgusted with having to read over and over again articles written by pro-English, slandering our nation. Mr. War Bride, you think you are giving us a rap when you say the English were being killed while America was contemplating, but you are wrong. What you would like to hear about would have been for us to have fought the whole battle for you. When we started to fight it was America fighting. We did not cull on all our own ones and put them in the front. We all honor the brave Canadians and Australians. C. L. U. Philadelphia, March 8, 1922.

Our Savage Trait

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—In reading a book on the Indian massacres of the pioneer days I have come to the conclusion that the American citizen of today is as much blood as in the days of the Indian wars. All these years of civilization, education and great scientific developments have not produced a way to conquer the savage traits of our people.

A very respectable young woman is returning from her place of business when suddenly she is confronted by some one and either robbed or injured in a terrible way. Even a man or woman who is peacefully sleeping, unaware of any harm, is likely to be killed in cold blood. Even innocent children are killed without reason by some mad man. All these things happen daily in this little country as they do in more barbarous ways in the jungles of Africa. We have conquered the Indians, barbarians, and great nations, yet the same savage trait goes on daily in our own country. I wonder why? Is there no way to protect our peaceful-living citizens?

It doesn't seem as if the day will ever come when "Thou shalt not kill" will be observed by all. A. L. V. Highland Park, Pa., March 6, 1922.

Wasn't Interested in Wedding

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—It does occur to me that an evening paper as popular as the Evening Public Ledger could, in a more condensed form, give all the news to those who are in the front. We are not interested in the news of the world, but we are interested in the news of our own country. Why take up so much space for such news. Do the readers, the masses I mean, make such demands or is it to please a few? I take the Ledger every day and enjoy them, but surely there was enough happening on American soil of sufficient interest today to fill two or three of the columns given to the size of the wedding cake, honeymoon, etc. If they are their honeymoon and only they will enjoy it, so while they are doing so we could enjoy more thoroughly the same space given up to purely American news of the same nature. I would like to see the boys on this side receive that long expected bonus. For one, give me American news all the time. WEST PHILLY. Philadelphia, February 28, 1922.

Defends the Marines

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—If you can find space in your "People's Forum" Department for an answer to an article printed this date I would thank you very much for publishing it. In reply to J. Taylor, the ex-merchant marine, would like to ask "What is your grudge against the soldiers of the sea?" Evidently you must have one to write a letter such as you wrote. I think you will find, though, if you have ability to look into things that it was not a case of "trying down the soldiers of the sea" to put either a pair of shoes or a uniform on any of them. They were all enlisted men, not drafted men.

I am not trying to knock the drafted men, for a man knew, then, whether he would enlist or not, and a man who was drafted did his duty as well as the ones who enlisted. But the point I wish to make clear to J. Taylor is that there were no marines who did have to be "hit" to put shoes on.

Can you hold it against any man, soldier, sailor or marine, who was not sent overseas? Were not men needed in the U. S. on this side as well as across? Could any man demand to be sent across, whether his outfit was ready to go or not? That might have been the way the merchant marine was operated, but the army and marine corps men had to wait for orders from Washington.

J. Taylor, I have yet to hear the marines or ex-marine who will say anything against the army men beside whom they fought. Indeed, if you try to find out about it, you will find that they all praise the infantry and artillery, not knock it.

As regards to the bonus, if you are against it, why not just come right out

and say so. I am for it, strong. The ex-service men have it coming to them, just as much as the men of other countries. France paid her men a bonus; England paid her men a bonus; the United States paid her men a bonus. Do you know that there are some of them receiving over \$100 a month now, and have been since they were discharged?

When you refer to "military and naval slackers" do you include yourself? Or were you of the merchant marine, the ones who won the war by taking the men across? If you had read "Soldier of the Sea" you would know that it was written and not let your apparent antagonism toward the "leathernecks" get the best of you. I am sure you would not have written your letter, for it was entirely uncalled for.

No doubt you are a man who does not need the money which would be derived from a bonus, so you are not caring about the men who do need it. I am sure "Soldier of the Sea" will send in his name and address when he reads that you were interested in his article. Next time, when you are ever anything, try to find out facts to write, not fiction. Don't accuse one branch of the service of taking glory from the other, when they were all in together, and for the same purpose. I am an ex-marine, served in the Eleventh Company, First and Twelfth Regiments for four years and eight months. C. D. OWEN, Delair, N. J., March 5, 1922.

Name for Fair

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—May I submit the following as a possible name for the coming World's Fair:

Fidelity—Peace—Unity 1770—Philadelphia—1926 The International Exposition showing one hundred and fifty years of progress in the Arts, Sciences and Industries of the world. E. S. Philadelphia, March 5, 1922.

For and Against Bonus

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—I am very glad to see that Legion posts throughout the country are taking up the question of the bonus, and are denouncing the Legion's efforts to fix a price for what we soldiers accomplished. I want to congratulate the Benjamin Franklin Post, No. 406, of this city, for having come out flat-footed against the bonus scheme, and those other posts in other cities that have done likewise. The post to which I belong in this city, through my conversations with a few of the members, I am sure will shortly vote against the bonus, but the time is not ripe, for there are a few loud-mouthed fellows with whom I served in France, and who invariably talk in the slanders in the line in our march to the front, who have been making a big noise in the post, and in order not to give us any dissensions we have been keeping quiet and have been gradually bringing a number of the opposition members around to thinking our way without disrupting the post.

I do not believe that any Legion man of good sense and who sits down and carefully considers the matter wants the Government to pay a small amount for his patriotism, and in return give back a receipt for a few hundred dollars for services rendered. The work that we accomplished is beyond price. It is not represented by Norman C. Rhoads, of Pottstown, Pa., for a poem entitled "In the Land of Beginning Again." I incline to believe that the bonus is the one desired. MRS. A. C. HEWITT, Philadelphia, February 29, 1922.

BEGINNING AGAIN I wish that there were some wonderful place called the Land of Beginning Again. Where all our mistakes and all our heart-aches And all our poor selfish grief Could be dropped, like a shabby old coat, at the door And never be put on again. I wish we could come on it all unaware, Like the hunter who finds a lost trail; And wish that the one that our business had done The greatest injustice of all.

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—It is high time to protest against the inconsistent and reactionary policies of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. In a current news dispatch E. H. Goodwin, vice president of the body, reports the results of a referendum on the question of a soldiers' bonus which indicates an opposition of 72 per cent of its members. The dispatch then reports a vote of 1240 to 452 in favor of "the suggestion that a national system of reclamation be initiated through former service men opportunity to cultivate the soil."

It would be of great interest to have a report on the reasons given for opposing an appropriation of cash for the reclamation project or at least to have an appropriation for the cultivation of the soil. If there is an objection to class legislation for fear that the ex-soldiers might benefit, why should there be class legislation in favor of the land owners who would be the ones most benefited by the reclamation project? There is no definite plan presented as to how or where the scheme is to be applied, but a reclamation project is a means of helping the ex-soldier is a mere subterfuge. Only a small per cent of them would be able to settle on remote and inaccessible lands, and they would be forced to pioneers and give their social increment to adjacent land held by other interests, which in turn would sell their land and appropriate to themselves the rental value of the land created by the ex-soldiers.

The soldiers who fought to preserve our form of government and to defend our lands from hostile forces have positively helped to increase the actual value of our lands, or at least to maintain the value it had, and if any class is to reap the benefit of this land value it is the soldier. A surtax levied on land values only would be a simple and just and positive source of revenue for funds with which to pay the soldiers' bonus. This is a form of tax which cannot be shifted. It would create no burden on the community, as it would only be diverting into the public treasury a part of the economic rent which belongs there and is now being appropriated by individuals. The rent of the land belongs to the people. The soldiers' land belongs to the people. They should get their bonus out of the rent of the land. J. PEER, Philadelphia, March 6, 1922.

Questions Answered

First New York Elevated To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—Please inform me of the year when the first elevated railroad was opened in New York City. W. L. S. Philadelphia, March 6, 1922. It began operation in 1877, on the Ninth Avenue line.

From England to India To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—How long does it take to go from England to India? Philadelphia, March 8, 1922. The overland route is the shortest from

Great Britain to India. The itinerary is from England to Paris, Lyons, the Mont Cenis Tunnel, Molins, Brindisi, then by steamer to Port Said, through the Suez Canal and the Red Sea to Bombay. This trip takes about three weeks.

National Debt of Philippines

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—Please state what is the national debt of the Philippines. How many inhabitants of the islands are illiterate? S. E. Philadelphia, March 8, 1922. The bonded debt of the Philippine Islands Government is \$22,000,000. The debt of the City of Manila is \$6,750,000. According to 1918 statistics, 80 per cent of the population over ten years of age was illiterate.

To Locate Resident of Trenton

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—I am trying to locate a resident of Trenton, N. J., and would like to know if I must go up there to do so. Must I go to Trenton to see a directory or is there any place in this city where I could find one? I have written to the address where this party lived three years ago, but my letters were returned "address unknown." The person belongs to the Knights of Columbus. In this way I could learn his whereabouts through this organization? I would like to locate him without going up there if possible, but if it is necessary, could I go up on Sunday and how should I go about looking him up? MRS. B. D. Philadelphia, March 2, 1922. If you are sure the person you wish to find lives in Trenton, you could locate him in the Trenton City Directory, to be found at the Postoffice, Ninth and Chestnut streets, and probably in almost any public library. If you do not care to make the trip, probably a letter addressed to the Trenton Postmaster will bring the information desired.

Technical Query

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—If you fire a pistol five feet from the earth, and in a straight line with it, and at the same time drop a bullet from the same height from the ground, which will hit the earth first? H. A. MOORE, Philadelphia, March 6, 1922. This is a little too technical for the layman who is not an expert on a subject of this character, so we turn the problem over to our mathematical readers for a solution.

Poems and Songs Desired

"Palme and Robert Burns" To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—Can you furnish, or some reader supply, the full text of poem "Palme and Robert Burns" published several years ago. Also the author's name. It contains these lines: "Excelsior both, they tore the tax, Imposed by kings from freeman's backs; So did they both improve the age In which they were engaged to wage." This is all I remember. J. B. ELLIOTT, Primos, Pa., March 5, 1922.

"Two Prisoners"

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—I will appreciate it if one of your readers would send in a poem which has the lines: "Two prisoners looked out behind the bars, One saw the mud and the other saw the stars." MARY T. CHASE, Philadelphia, March 5, 1922.

"Hope Knows No Fear"

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—I am very anxious to secure a poem that contains the following stanza as a part: "Hope knows no fear, fear knows no hope, And earth is heaven to those who trust, While sulen skies around those who grope For vision in the dark." HAROLD T. CAMPBELL, Philadelphia, March 5, 1922.

"Beginning Again"

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—I wish to request by Norman C. Rhoads, of Pottstown, Pa., for a poem entitled "In the Land of Beginning Again." I incline to believe that the bonus is the one desired. MRS. A. C. HEWITT, Philadelphia, February 29, 1922.

Bonus From Rent of Land

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Could be at the gates like an old friend that waits For the comrade he's gladdest to hail.

We would find all the things we intended to do But forgot, and remembered too late; Little written, unspoken, little promises broken, And all of the thousand and one

Little duties neglected that might have perfected The day for one less fortunate.

More than patient lips could explain. For what had been hardest we'd know had been best. And what had seemed lost would be gained For those isn't a sting that will not take wing When we've faced it and laughed it away. And I think that the laughter is most what we're after In the Land of Beginning Again.

So I wish that there were some wonderful place Called the Land of Beginning Again. Where all our mistakes and all our heart-aches And all our poor selfish grief Could be dropped, like a shabby old coat, at the door And never put on again. "H. M. J."—I should like to learn the words of the old hymn to which the following lines: "C. L. F." would appreciate it if a reader would send in a poem which contains following lines: "There's an engine in the roundhouse, Steam and coal, Panting and puffing and ready to go, Filled in the sand box," etc.

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