

THE PEOPLE'S FORUM

Letters to the Editor

"Murderous Incendiary"
To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:

Sir—Referring to the timely and vigorous editorial appearing in your issue of October 6, under the heading "Murderous Incendiary," write to assure you that the fire insurance companies, through the organization known as the National Board of Fire Underwriters, have been for more than a year past operating with the Fire Marshal's office in the investigation of the numerous fires of incendiary origin, which have occurred in this city.

In these investigations there have been facts developed which indicate clearly the guilty parties, but in a great number of cases these facts did not appear to the authorities as conclusive legal evidence, and consequently no arrests were made.

The insurance companies recognize the severe and alarming conditions caused by what is known as firebugs, and are and will be exceedingly anxious to secure the co-operation of the authorities, commercial interests and the public generally in their efforts to break it up, and will welcome the valuable assistance that can be given by the press.

JOHN R. MORTON,
President National Board of Fire Underwriters.
Philadelphia, October 7, 1922.

Traffic Light on City Hall Tower
To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:

Sir—Your editorial on "Confused Traffic Lights," published in the EVENING PUBLIC EDGER of October 2, prompts me to inform you that it has often occurred to me while riding on North Broad toward City Hall that the signals of our present traffic lights, working with the other signals would help the traffic officers on all crossings not having signals and would be a great help to drivers coming toward City Hall.

R. L. PHILIPSON,
Secretary Organizer, Hobo Labor College,
Philadelphia, October 6, 1922.

The Old-Time Religion
To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:

Sir—Certainly no one would thrust this country back to the conditions that obtained a generation or two ago, but who among us will deny that we could, in a nation, reach back into the past and bring into the present a few of the things that our fathers and mothers had, and which we have neglected of late years. Time was when the family altar was the rule, not the exception. In that time the family Bible was far more than a mere ornament or family record. Its well-thumbed pages testified to a spirituality and piety of devotion that served the pioneers to sacrifices of which the present generation of Americans knows nothing.

Around that family altar in the days long gone by, father, mother and children knelt in humble devotion and gave to God and inspiration that gave them to splendid deeds and sacrifices. In many cases they were not content to leave to an hour of Sunday school once a week the religious training of their children. In those days men and women daily lived their religion, and were members of the church militant. Doubtless we have more polished persons from the pulpits today than our fathers and mothers, but who is there to assert that their cargo of heart, soul, a clearer summons to better living, a more conviction of brotherly duty, than were carried by the simpler sermons of Peter Cartwright, Racine John Smith and the circuit riders immortalized by Edward Eggleston?

Might it not be well to re-establish the family altars in this republic? Would we not profit as a nation if we again turned upon man-made laws and customs and sought to go back to the plain and simple teaching of the Carpenter of Nazareth? That way lies help for the solution of our national ills. Not in the quarrels and arguments of theologians, nor in creeds and dogmas; not in religious strife and bickerings, but in a study of the Book of Books, around the family altar.

JOHN C. HARRIS,
Fox Chase, October 5, 1922.

The Hobo-Labor College
To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:

Sir—In the EVENING PUBLIC EDGER of Thursday, October 5, appears the heading "Hobo-Labor College—Only Needs Zipper, Yell," etc., etc., an article calling attention to the "Hobo-Labor College," 1932 Ridge ave-

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Knowing the EVENING PUBLIC EDGER to be a representative and influential journal in our city, standing for a square deal for everybody, we feel quite certain your good folks in charge will find space for this brief letter in the "Hobo-Labor College," 1932 Ridge ave-

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