

Evening Ledger

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PHILADELPHIA, TUESDAY, MAY 4, 1915.

Only the idle have time for repining.
Now for the Shovel!
THE official count of the vote in the transit election has been certified. There is now no obstacle in the way of Councils. It can at once begin the procedure necessary to make Thursday's verdict effective. This it probably will do, for apparently there remains no organized opposition to transit. Leaders of the Organization, as well as the Blankenburg Administration, are committed to the project. But there must be no waste of time if actual construction is to be begun this summer.

It is important, too, that the House this week pass the loan amendment to be submitted to the voters next November. That will assure ample financial provision for the entire transit undertaking.

Pennsylvania Joins the Procession
PENNSYLVANIA has put itself in line with the most progressive humane spirit of the times. If the child labor bill before the General Assembly had failed to pass every citizen of the Commonwealth, who thinks more of the protection of the coming generation than he does of a dollar, would have been deeply disappointed. The vote in the Senate by which the bill was passed fairly represents the state of popular opinion. There are 44 people, out of the Senate as well as in it, who favor the measure, to every six who oppose it.

committees in charge of the convention will do their best to make them feel at home, to impress upon them the fact that there is a new spirit inspiring the business community, and that all men in all trades are working together to make the city and its products more widely known.

We can hold out to them the hope that when the convention comes here again it can meet in a hall built and arranged for the special accommodation of such great industrial gatherings.

Patient and Tacitful
NEVER in time of national peace has the Department of State been burdened with so many and delicate situations as now confront it. For partisans there is no neutrality save in assistance to their cause. It is possible to steer a neutral course, but it is not possible to avoid caustic criticism.

It is peculiarly a time when insistence on technical rights would be supreme folly. Allies and Germans alike have disregarded our neutral status on the high seas. Our lawful commerce has been interfered with by both, our ships seized or destroyed and many outrages perpetrated. The commerce of neutrals with neutrals has been interrupted. Yet wisdom has counseled patience. With all Europe at war, it is no time for this nation to lose its head and rush into the conflict.

It would be idle to deny that the sinking of the Gulfstream introduces a serious factor into our relations with Germany, assuming that she was sunk by a German submarine. It was an outrage which this Government earnestly sought to avoid, by pointing out to Berlin ahead of time the serious consequences likely to follow. Nor can the United States withdraw from the principles then asserted by it. The flag must be protected at any cost.

We are, however, dedicated to the principle of arbitration, and during the last year the folly of plunging into war before exhausting the last resources of diplomacy has been emphasized. It behooves the nation to give to the President its sincere support, to strengthen him in his efforts to keep the ship of state on an even keel, to be as patient as he is in the consideration of events, however wanton and ruthless the acts of belligerents may have been or may be. The nation has no chip on its shoulder. It is not looking for trouble. It is seeking to avoid it.

Washington cannot afford to be weak in its demands for reparation when the responsibility for the sinking of the Gulfstream is established. It can afford to be tactful and patient. That is what it will be if the policy heretofore followed since the war began is adhered to now.

Tragedy of the Doctor's Wife
THE Tragedy of the Doctor's Wife is the title which should be put over the story of the murder trial now in progress at Mineola, L. I. The wife of Doctor Carman was jealous, and set up a dictograph in his office connecting with her own room. A few weeks or months later a woman patient was shot dead in the office, and the wife, connected with the case by the electric wires between her room and the place where the crime was done, was charged with the murder. She may be innocent as the newest babe which her husband has assisted into the world, yet the case remains the tragedy of the doctor's wife, how deep a tragedy only the sensitive wives of other doctors can understand.

Not a Member of the Family
WHEN the Interstate Commerce Commission decided that a son-in-law is not a member of his father-in-law's family to the extent of being entitled to ride on a family commutation ticket, it illustrated the extent to which Government regulation has been carried. The decision grew out of the election from the train of the son-in-law of Wesley W. Gage, of Ridgewood, N. J., who had refused to pay his fare after Mr. Gage had vainly offered his family ticket to the conductor. The dispute was carried to Washington, with the interesting result indicated.

Toddy seems to be able to make people think that Barnes is the defendant in the libel suit.
The High School ball players decided that "Billy" Sunday was not judicial enough to be an umpire.
Twenty-four Councilmen are going to San Francisco to guard the Liberty Bell; but who will guard the guards?
Woman suffrage is endorsed by the Baptist ministers. They know with what success the women engage in religious work.
It has been suggested that if we wait until the war is over we can throw into the subway plenty of men who know all about digging trenches.
When Joe Cannon says he has household's knee does he mean the country to understand that he acquired it cleaning house in his own district?
There seems to be a widespread impression that Huerta is planning to edge up to the Mexican situation, with the intention of becoming part of it.
They planted a walnut tree at the christening Sunday so that it might be understood that the baby is a descendant of a man who would like to be called the successor of "Old Hickory."

FAGGED-OUT PHILADELPHIANS

There Are Many in the Congested Sections of the City. Children Who Have No Place to Play.

By EDWARD YATES HILL
THE duties connected with my parlor of the "Old First" Presbyterian Church, on Washington Square, during the last ten years, have taken me into almost every street and byway of downtown Philadelphia. There is no kind of home, lodging house, boarding house, lodging place, hotel or den with which I have not become more or less familiar.

A minister who obeys conscientiously the legitimate calls upon him to visit the sick, help those in trouble and serve where death has come will gain a first-hand knowledge of the social conditions in his field. It was to systematize and make accurate for use the general information gained in this way that I undertook to investigate more scientifically the great section lying between Broad street and the Delaware River and from Poplar street (900 north) to Oregon street (2700 south).

It was unnecessary to make any tabulation of the places of evil found among these people. They are everywhere and may be taken for granted. Go where you will, the squalor is at hand, and easy of access are all the other evils which the saloon suggests.

As Sad as War
There are certain causes of evil, however, which no one who would understand these people dare overlook. Wholesome life cannot exist where the physical structure of the part of the city where these people live is rotting down. Philadelphia has on her comely body some dreadfully ugly, putrid sores. There is nothing in modern history quite so sad, save the butchery and agony of war, as the way in which leprosy spots the old parts of great cities.

Take the case of the four northern wards of this district under review, the 11th, 12th, 13th and 14th Wards. The population of those wards is today only about 2000 less than it was 20 years ago. They have been growing in population since 1900. In 1880 the population was 65,818; 1890, 65,793; 1900, 62,277; 1910, 66,017. Thirty years ago these wards were covered with the choice, clean, lovely homes for single families. Since that time factories and all sorts of industrial establishments have spread out over perhaps one-third to one-half of the territory, and yet the population remains substantially the same. Think what a packing-in of people! It means that the nice homes have first become apartment houses, then descending through all degrees of the rooming, hall, bed-room, cheap lodging varieties until now hundreds of them are tenements needing every sort of fumigation which a people bent on decency should give them. The most congested rooming-house section above the business section runs along for three squares on either side of Vine street. In and around this Tenderloin are the homeless, shiftless, unambitious and defeated. For the most part they are fagged-out Americans, who have gone deeper and deeper into hopelessness.

Trolley Dodgers
Now the sad part of it is that many good, earnest people, especially working people, feel that they must live in this district because of the easy access to their places of employment. There are over 8000 school children in the four wards above mentioned. The Vice Commission found 1542 children between the ages of 6 and 16 living in a district four blocks square in the very heart of the Tenderloin. In the same 16 blocks there were in all 2500 minors. Think of the acquaintance, the intimate daily familiarity, with the worst phases of humanity thrust upon these children through their entire formative period! These children when not in school, when not in the houses such as they are, must be in the streets. And it almost paralyses belief that in these four wards, with their 66,000 people, there is not one open square, no place to play, not a chance anywhere for an uninterrupted game. These children must dodge trolleys all the days, look to the police for their monitors when out of sight of their mothers and find their only quiet retreats in noisome alleys and blind courts and other dark, unventilated holes bordered by cheerless and cozy brick walls.

Overcrowded Acres
Below South street in this district is a population of at least 200,000 (190,704 in 1910). The greatest density is in the 2d Ward, where there are 129,232 people to the square mile. Compare this with Germantown, with 14,000, or with Swarthmore, having 2000 to the square mile, and the contrasts in the conditions under which people live in this urban world will be felt keenly. How pitiful is the life of the children! Below South street there are only four open spaces, and in the whole district only eight open spaces for public use, even including Independence and Washington Squares.

The multitudinous children! Think of it: 9615 babies were born in these 11 wards lying entirely within the district in the year 1913.
A high percentage of infant deaths would be expected, and it is no surprise that tuberculosis, every year except one since 1904, has headed the list of the mortality tables prepared by the city's Bureau of Health.
The chief question, the one, big, burning question running through all the investigations I have been able to make in this old part of Philadelphia, is this: What are the Protestant churches doing to meet the needs of this vast field? The answer is another story.

A MAN
Was Christ a man like us? Ah! let us try if we then, too, can be such men as He!
—Matthew Arnold.
THE MOTTO OF QUARRELS
Weakness on both sides is, we know, the motto of all quarrels.—Voltaire.



SAFETY FIRST; THEN SETTLEMENT

THE COST OF EUROPE'S WAR

Is "the Economic Waste of War" a Fallacy?—The Answer Can Be Obtained by Mixing Sense With Optimism.

THE prophecy was made in the early weeks of the present strife that its magnitude and its mighty destructiveness would speedily bring the fighting nations, or at least some of them, to the end of their economic ropes, and that they would be forced, accordingly, to an early peace. Thus far the course of events has not given the strongest support to this expectation. The several governments have never found it easier to raise money. In Germany co-operative credit had been developed before the war to such a point that it constituted one of the chief distinctions of German efficiency, and it has since been utilized with startling success by a government whose second war loan reached a total of \$2,225,000,000, the world's record.

It is quite as remarkable a fact that the quantity of money lying idle in the market enabled Great Britain to negotiate huge loans in London without disturbing rates. Of conditions in England a well-known financial writer says: "The shipbuilding industry was never so prosperous, there is relatively little unemployment in London, the woolen mills are working double time, the iron works are busy, and the demand for coal exceeds the output of the mines." The same writer adds, and his belief seems to be well based on information which has recently become public through several reliable sources, that "even in Germany" business conditions in general are good.

Capital and Gumption
As for the neutral countries, the United States has begun a new era of prosperity such as it has never known before, and in considering the late history and calamity howling we have to consider also the characteristics of domestic politics. Argentina is worse off. Argentina is taming a wilderness, as America had to do, and is still exceedingly dependent on foreign capital. Her situation is by no means inevitably hopeless, for there is plenty of loose capital for all her needs if only its owners can be inoculated with sufficient gumption to lend her assistance. American gumption, perhaps, would be just as efficacious in Argentina as the end of the European war. If capital is liquid in Europe it looks like impotence for the American business man to blame the war for whatever he falls to do. But there are certain psychological elements in the situation which are plain as a pikestaff.

History contains some interesting suggestions concerning the relation of war and business. It was predicted that the Napoleonic wars would leave Europe bankrupt, but Europe, while paying off its debts, grew rich so fast that in Macaulay's words, "the growth could almost be discerned by the eye." After the Franco-Prussian War, the world believed that France would be overwhelmed by the immense indemnity imposed upon the nation, but the country so easily paid off and so rapidly advanced in prosperity that only the strategy of Emperor William I, who on this occasion accomplished Bismarck's severest defeat, prevented the Iron Chancellor from sending his armies forth again to crush completely the fortunes of France. Our Civil War and the Spanish-American War were each followed in this country by an almost miraculous business expansion.

It is dangerously easy to rest arguments on historical chronology, and one of those critics of the theory that

war is economically wasteful has gone so far as to assert that the cost of war is negligible because war has occurred in spite of the cost. He fails to weigh the causes of war. He forgets the difference between offensive and defensive war. He ignores his favorite authority—history. Our Civil War, for instance, was not materialistic, but it certainly was costly.

Earthquake a Mixed Blessing
In the case of the present conflict what does it signify that there is little unemployment in London? There are so many jobs in the army that it would be strange if the jobs left at home went begging. What does it signify that the shipyards, the woolen mills, the iron works and the coal mines are busy? The market for their products is only answering the demand of a carnival of destruction. To create a prosperity should Philadelphia pray for an earthquake or a fire? Either would result in great industrial activity, but either would be decidedly a mixed blessing! What does it signify that the governments of Europe are finding it easy to negotiate loans? For one thing, it signifies that while the gun and ammunition manufacturers contributed heavily—they who are as far from the firing line as they are from the poverty line—the tradesman and clerks and laborers and skilled artisans gave of their scant substance and then marched out to do the nation's fighting and dying. It signifies that financial patriotism may be a very different thing from financial prosperity.

Cannon and Dress Suits
The promulgators of the theory that war helps business, who assert that "the fallacy of economic waste is refuted by all modern history," inform us that the expenses of war are not much greater than the total expenditure made through myriad agencies in time of peace for permanent and unproductive things and that the enforced economies of war time balance the ledger. "In an economic sense, is the purchase and maintenance of an expensive automobile any less wasteful than the purchase and maintenance of an artillery gun carriage, provided the cannon is not used to destroy life or property? Is a military uniform a less productive investment than a dress suit? Is the movement of troops en masse more wasteful of wealth than the annual heira of the working millions of this country for their summer holiday?"

Can you beat it, this narrow delimitation—"In an economic sense?" Presumably the uses of industrial products are not to be reckoned. We make a distinction between life and the use of life—why not make a similar distinction when we come to compare the cost of war activities and the cost of peace activities? Presumably, however, a war is justified by the economies it necessitates!

THIS YEAR'S HOME TRAVEL
From the New York Times.
First and foremost the aggregate expenditure of American money for pleasurable living and traveling in Europe has probably been between \$100,000,000 and \$200,000,000 a year of recent times. The effect economically and financially is the same as if that amount of luxuries were imported in the way of trade. This year, for the first time, that vast sum will be spent in this country, or what is not spent will be saved, which may be even better. And such of it as is spent, up to the whole of it, will be a very fine investment. People will see America who were never west of the Orange before; many will see the Panama Canal who but for the necessity of traveling this year in their own

READERS' VIEWS

What the People Think of War, a Convention Hall, the Governor and Cleaning Up.
To the Editor of the Evening Ledger:
Sir—Philadelphia has at last sent a God-fearing Governor to Harrisburg; one that knows his duty and has the backbone to do it. How it must thrill the hearts of every independent man and woman all over the great State of Pennsylvania to have a man the likes of the State that knows no boss but God and his duty to his fellowmen. Such is the Hon. Martin G. Brumbaugh.
JOHN B. MIDDLETON, Philadelphia, April 30.

WAR AND EVOLUTION
To the Editor of the Evening Ledger:
Sir—There is a disposition to connect the issue of the present European conflict with the supposed factors of evolution. The theory of the survival of the fittest, though no one is so ignorant of the true criterion of fitness—has made such a strong appeal to the popular imagination that it lingers as a fact when it is no longer tenable even as a theory. The insolvency of the theory of evolution, of which the survival of the fittest is a principal ingredient, is now as manifest that it is upheld by the mere weight of ill-concealed scientific sophistry. Evolution is one letter only in the alphabet of creation. More and more research and experiment advance are its limitations made evident and its shortcomings emphasized. The theory holds today only a shadow of its former authority, and is maintained to avert a confession of ignorance most galling to the modern intellect. Its natural offspring, the mechanistic conception, in slowly and certainly sucking the life-blood from religion, reveals how far an attractive theory can go in undermining the spiritual teaching of centuries.
WALTER SONNEBERG, Philadelphia, April 30.

SITE OF CONVENTION HALL
To the Editor of the Evening Ledger:
Sir—As there is at the present time quite a discussion as to the location of the Convention Hall for which I understand Councils have appropriated a certain amount of money to be expended, the Northwestern Business Men's Association, and doubtless other prominent citizens, request of Councils that the hall shall be built on the first site which was originally suggested, to wit, Snyder's Woods. I attended the meeting in the City Hall on Monday and listened attentively to the arguments pro and con as to location, etc. Some three years ago when the building of the hall was advocated by our late Mayor Reayburn, Snyder's Woods was the site which was almost decided on, but there were some financially big business interests centrally located who strenuously opposed the site referred to and pointed out to the Mayor and the Common and Select Councils the feasibility of a more central location for the hall. Our house co-operating with other business interests got hundreds of thousands of dollars from business houses including Walnut, Market, Chestnut and Arch streets, and many other wonderful country lots. Also, it is a great stroke of luck for the Pacific coast expositions. Many will go there because "there is no place else," and will afterward go less to Europe.

ONWARD
Beneath this stony arch,
Nought resteth or is still;
But all things hold their march
As if by one great will.
O'er one, move all;
Hark to the footfall!
On, on, forever.
Yon sheaves were once but seed;
Will ripens into deed;
As cave-drops swell the streams,
Day-thoughts feed mighty dreams;
And sorrow tracketh wrong
As echo follows song.
On, on, forever.
By night, like stars on high,
The hours reveal their train;
They whisper and go by;
I never watch in vain.
Moves one, move all;
Hark to the footfall!
On, on, forever.

THE VIGIL
Have patience; it is fit that in this wise
The spirit purge away its proper dross.
No endless fever doth thy watches toss,
For by excess of evil, evil does.
Soon shall the faint world melt before
Thine eyes,
And all life's losses cancelled by life's loss.
Thou shalt lay down all burdens on thy cross
And be that day with God in Paradise.
Have patience; for a long eternity
No summons woke thee from thy happy sleep;
For love of God one vigil thou canst keep.
And add thy drop of sorrow to the sea.
Having known grief, all will be well with thee.
—George Santayana.

KINDNESS
What then is a kindness? It is the art of doing a kindness which bestows pleasure and gains pleasure by bestowing it, and which does its office by natural and spontaneous impulse. It is not the thing which is done or given, but the thing which is done or given, that must be considered, because a benefit exists not in that which is done or given, but in the mind of the donor or giver.—Seneca.

AMUSEMENTS
A R C A D I A
CHESTNUT, Below 10th St.
Photoplay—Continued
10 A. M. to 11:30 P. M.
ROBERT EDISON'S
"THE ABSENTEE"
ADDED ATTRACTION—TODAY ONLY
CHARLIE CHAPLIN
IN HIS FIRST COMEDY
"BY THE SEA"
GARRICK—Today 10c, 15c, 25c
CONTINUOUS 11 A. M. TO 11 P. M.
Wonderful Photoplay Production
WILLIAM FARNUM
Edward Sheldon's Masterpiece
THE NEW GOVERNOR
LYRIC TONIGHT AT 8:15
LAST TOMORROW & SAT. 7:15
TONIGHT'S THE NIGHT
ALL-STAR ENGLISH CAST
LAUREL DE FLEUR FAY COMPTON
EMMY WHELEN MAURICE PARKER
ADELPHI LAST 7 TIMES
Oliver Morosco Presents J. Hartley Munnsey
PEG O' MY HEART
450 GOOD BALCONY SEATS \$1.00
400 GOOD FAMILY CIRCLE SEATS \$1.00
Next Week "Kitty MacKay"
DUMONT'S THE RIDDLE OF THE WEDDING
Trocadero
Walnut & 6th Sts. Twice Daily
Floralita
FRAN SEDWITSKY PRODUCE

B. F. KEITH'S THEATRE
CHESTNUT & TWELFTH STS.
A \$50,000 SENSATION
SPRING
FASHION SHOW
20—BEAUTIFUL MODELS—20
Splendid Supporting Bill—Ruth Reynolds, Toby Claude & the Columbia Quartet, The Voluntarys, and Others.
FORREST Popular Mat. Tomor.
The Season's Brightest Operetta
The Lady in Red
SPARKLES WITH MELODY, LAUGHS AND THE DANCE
CHESTNUT STREET OPERA
Home of World's Greatest Photoplays
L E B D A I L Y
11 A. M. to 11 P. M.
A. S. & B. B. B. 10c, 15c, 25c
"GRAUSTARK"
GLOBE MARKET & JUNIPER
11 A. M. TO 11 P. M.
THE DUMAS BAR
IN DUMAS' MASTERPIECE
THE CLEMENCEAU CASE
There, Fri., Sat.—"THE HIGH ROAD"
THE MARKET ST. ABOVE 18th
Stanley 11:00 A. M. to 11:15 P. M.
David Balsara's "The N. N."
Coming Thursday, Friday, Saturday
Fritz Koff in "PRETTY MISS SMITH"
CROSS KEYS IN THEATRE
THE SUPERB PHOTO-SPECTACLE
"THE ETERNAL CITY"
Mat. Daily, 10c; Evenings, 7 & 9, 10c, 15c.
BROAD Last 5 Evgs. Again & Sat.
Ned Wrayburn's SHE'S IN AGAIN
Smart Comedy
Popular Price Wed. Mat. Best Seats 15c.
NIXON'S "The Security Girls," Mary and Billy Hart; Gaiety; Four; Marjorie; Famous; Today 7:15, 7:45; Ruth & Kitty King
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Walnut & 6th Sts. Twice Daily
FRAN SEDWITSKY PRODUCE
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