

Evening Ledger PUBLIC LEDGER COMPANY. EDITORIAL BOARD: CHAS. H. K. CURTIS, Chairman. F. H. WHELAN, Executive Editor. JOHN C. MARTIN, General Business Manager.

THE AVERAGE NET PAID DAILY CIRCULATION OF THE EVENING LEDGER FOR AUGUST WAS 95,818.

PHILADELPHIA, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1915.

A politician is known by the deals he makes.

"PIKERS" IN THOSE DAYS

SPEAKER REED boasted that this was a billion-dollar country, but in giving publicity to the idea he scarcely expected a committee of gentlemen from Europe to take advantage of the fact by coming over and undertaking to borrow the amount.

VICE GETS WHAT IS COMING TO IT

NO SOPHISTRIES about denying to Market street resorts the privileges enjoyed by the first-class Broad street hotels.

SPECULATING CLERGYMEN

NOW that the Rev. Dr. Newell Dwight Hillis, one of the best known clergymen in the country, has publicly confessed that he made a mistake when he began to devote his attention to accumulating a fortune by speculation of one kind or another, the rest of us can agree with him.

THE PHOENIX DUMA

THE proroguing of the Duma by the Czar and the arrest of eighteen Social Democratic representatives, among them that dauntless fighter for liberty, Tschickida, is unquestionably a great disappointment to those who saw in Russia's alliance with the politically Democratic France and England a step forward toward the democratization of the vast Slav empire.

ment. It is easy to see from those debates, perhaps the most memorable documents in Russian history, that a new power is rising in that country, a power composed of that constructive force and spirit of action which characterized the greatest of the Czar, Peter the Great, and the force of liberty, strengthened by the happy alliance with the democracy of western Europe.

THE TIME TO STRIKE

NO REPUBLICAN today need hide behind Protection in casting his vote. The point has not yet been reached when it is claimed that to vote as the Vares and McNichol command in a primary is to be a Republican and to vote against their orders is to be a renegade.

Let no man be deluded by the noise of the Organization into believing that it is time to get on the band wagon and vote with the Gang. It is, on the contrary, most obviously a time when every good Republican should go to the polls with resentment in his soul because of the manner in which the party has been maltreated and betrayed.

Were Smith the most efficient executive living, the manner of his exploitation should assure his consignment to oblivion. Had he a real record of accomplishment, still would his acceptance of the job of puppet and straw man render him unfit for elevation.

Let every man carry his conscience with him to the polls today. He need only be a real American to resent the insult that has been heaped upon him. He need only be a good Republican to know that his first duty to the party is to free it from the parasitical leadership which has been strangling it.

EVERY LINK MUST BE STRONG

NATIONAL defense can be effected only by a long chain, the strength of which is no greater than its weakest part.

Russia has been driven back on its western front because its railroads broke down. The reports from Petrograd announce that trainload after trainload of ammunition was held up on the railroads because the locomotives were not equal to the task put on them.

They ought to be instructive to every American who thinks that it is possible to improvise efficiency in a profession in which success depends on the most exact attention to details.

AFRAID OF THEIR DEBTS

As seen as the war ends, it seems, the process of paying war debts must begin. Maybe that's the reason the belligerents don't care to discuss peace—Indianapolis News.

GLANCING AROUND THE VARIED SPHERE

Glimpses of Men and Places That Figure in the News—Romantic Career of Baron Reading, Head of Allies' Loan Commission

By LUKE GUARDIAN

THE man who heads the Anglo-French Commission on Borrowing Money in America is the first Lord Chief Justice of England to wear a monocle.



BARON READING

Daniel Isaacs—Mr. Isaacs that was, Baron Reading that is—knows a good deal about the financial game. His beginnings in business were not at all promising, for after his parents had provided him with enough capital to secure a place on the stock exchange he managed to bring himself face to face with financial ruin at the age of 26.

His parents were wealthy, but the boy had run away from home and shipped aboard a vessel bound for Rio de Janeiro. He visited many foreign ports in the next few months. He soon tired of the life of a common sailor, however, and returned to England.

And then the future Chief Justice met an American girl, Miss Alice Smith Cohen, who fired his ambition anew. She urged him to study law. They became engaged and the couple spent their evenings poring over legal tomes.

Isaacs speedily won a great reputation as an expert in commercial law and bankruptcy cases, and many were the business tangles that he unraveled. His "head for business" was now proven. He entered Parliament and rapidly rose from one high office to another, though the squabble over Marconi shares threatened to end his brilliant political career.

Munitioning the Allies

The morality of "munitioning" the Allies with funds is not so very different from the morality of "munitioning" them with other goods, and there can be no doubt about the morality in either case.

Chancellor Kent, in his famous Commentaries, Vol. 1, page 142, says: "It was contended on the part of the French nation in 1796 that neutral governments were bound to restrain their subjects from selling or exporting articles contraband of war to the belligerent Powers. It was successfully shown on the part of the United States that neutrals may lawfully sell, at home, to a belligerent purchaser, or carry, themselves, subject to the right of seizure in transit.

Speaking for the Supreme Court of the United States, Justice Story, perhaps the ablest jurist the United States has produced, certainly one of the most accurate in statements of what is law, said in the case of the Santissima Trinidad, 7 Wheaton, 656: "But there is nothing in our laws or in the law of nations which forbids our citizens from sending armed vessels, as well as munitions of war, to foreign ports for sale. It is a commercial adventure which no nation is bound to prohibit; and which only exposes the persons engaged in it to the penalty of confiscation."

Another Runaway Boy

Everybody knows that Baron Reading is not the only famous man who ran away from home before he was either a man or famous. Ex-Senator Foraker, who for many years was known as "the greatest bulldog in American politics," is now putting up a fight against a serious illness, but began his fighting days when he ran away from an Ohio farm to fight for the Union.

ITALY'S MUSIC IN TRENCHES

With the entrance of Italy into the Great European struggle the mandolin has been added to the class of instruments in special favor in the trenches. The mandolinists of Italy have been begging with them to be permitted to take their mandolins with them to the front, for if the Italian is an organ grinder for commercial purposes abroad, he is a mandolin player for his own affairs of love and war at home.

SOUND ADVICE



THE RESPECTABILITY OF PIRACY

Charges Against British Prize Courts Cannot Stand After Consideration of the Glorious History of the Profession Honored by Captain Kidd and "Blackbeard"

By ROBERT HILDRETH

"PIRATES!"

"PIRATES!" shout the meat packers to the British. And "Pirates!" shout the Teutophobes. It is an old name, older than "freelooter" or "filibuster" or "buccaneer." Piracy has been known since the days of Homer. The word, indeed, is Greek via the Latin. An attempt, unconscious, perhaps, has lately been made to limit the term to international law and to leave to the other words the highly important function of suggesting the romance in the splendid-sounding exploits of Captain Kidd and Morgan and Drake and Hawkins and Bonnet and Jean Lafitte.

The title is applied to those daring seamen and fighters who made life miserable for the Spanish settlers in the West Indies in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Their depredations were inspired partly by the religious conflicts of the time, but principally by English and French objection to the foolish pretensions of the Spaniards to the trade of their own West Indies. A state of maritime warfare grew up between Spain and the French and English traders, who styled themselves "the brethren of the coast."

Driers of Beef

The Spaniards richly deserved all the trouble that the buccaneers gave them. They had killed off so many of the natives of Hispaniola that at this time the island was overrun with wild cattle, and it was this fact that led to the coming of the buccaneers. How the name "buccaneers" originated is told in a curious little book written by James Burney, a brother of Fanny Burney, and published a century ago. The Caribbe Indians, so he tells us, had a way of curing meat on a hurdle, which they called a "barbecu." We have the word "barbecue," by the way, from these Indians. Under the hurdle a slow fire burned. When cured the meat was called "boucan." This word the Indians borrowed from the French, but the French and English borrowed from the Indians their mode of curing meat, and hence they came to be known as "buccaneers"—that is, "driers of beef." They had established in Hispaniola, despite Spanish opposition, a flourishing business in chasing wild cattle, curing the meat and drying the skins. "Many of the French hunters," says Burney, "were natives of Normandy, and it became proverbial in some of the seaports of Normandy to say of a smoky house, 'C'est un vrai Boucan.' The French buccaneers and adventurers were also called "filibusters." The word filibuster is merely the French mariner's mode of pronouncing the English word "freelooter."

Captain Kidd Vindicated

Where, one may rightly ask, is the ignominy of such an entitlement? We have wronged the reputation of many an estimable gentleman, including Captain Kidd. Up speaks Mr. Ralph D. Paine to set the matter right for the much-maligned captain. "Doomed to an infamy undeserved, his name reddened with crimes he never committed, and made wildly romantic by tales of treasure which he did not bury, Captain William Kidd is fairly entitled to the sympathy of posterity and the apologies of all the ballad-makers and alleged historians who have obscured the facts in a cloud of fable." Read further: "Fate has played the strangest tricks imaginable with the memory of this seventeenth century seafarer who never cut a throat or made a victim walk the plank, who was no more than a third or fourth rate pirate in the era when this interesting profession was in its heyday, and who was hanged at Execution Dock for the excessively unromantic crime of cracking the skull of his gunner with a wooden bucket."

SOME ILLUSTRIOUS PIRATES

It is pleasant to think that the first of the pirates of the New World was no less a personage than Christopher Columbus. His motives and actions on his famous voyage of 1492 were innocent enough, verily they were highly praiseworthy, but how much more laudable—according to modern standards of conduct—were the plundering expeditions on which he robbed the simple, inoffensive natives of America of their gold and other possessions and followed that up by a policy of enslaving and exterminating the people themselves. How weak-minded and soft-hearted must have been poor Queen Isabella, who charged the Great Discoverer with com-

Advertisement for 'The Birth of a Nation' featuring Gertrude Hoffmann and 'The Princess Pat'.

Advertisement for 'The Respectability of Piracy' by Robert Hildreth.

Advertisement for 'The Phoenix Duma' and 'The Time to Strike'.

Advertisement for 'The Birth of a Nation' with 18,000 people and 3000 horses.

Advertisement for 'The Princess Pat' and 'The Lilac Domino'.

Advertisement for 'Richard Buhler' and 'Sign of the Cross'.

Advertisement for 'Philadelphia Orchestra'.

Advertisement for 'Globe Theatre' and 'Coney Island to North Pole'.

Advertisement for 'Garrick and Perlmutter'.

Advertisement for 'Knickerbocker' and 'Within the Law'.

Advertisement for 'Stanley' and 'Nixon's War Brides'.