

Evening Ledger PUBLIC LEDGER COMPANY PHILADELPHIA, PA. PUBLISHED DAILY AT 1000 WALNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

And if I laugh at any mortal thing, 'Tis that I may not weep.—Byron. Whatever the hues of Hughes, not one of them is yellow.

It wouldn't be quite Philadelphia if a taxpayer's suit weren't begun against the workings of the port development, included in the recent loan bills. We recall vividly the success of the Dallam suit.

Senator Tillman is of the opinion that a few good battleships are far more needed than money for fake river and harbor improvements. The first thing he knows they'll be reading him out of the party.

Mr. Connelly and Mr. Ryan are in serious disagreement as to the amount of money the city could have got back from the graft-grabbers, wherefore a great many people are lamenting the fact that Mr. Ryan was not elected to succeed himself.

Who is responsible for the fantastic and misleading cartoon which has for many weeks adorned the L stations? It is called "A Dangerous Pet," and represents "Preparedness," a whelp, in the hands of a frail woman, labeled "Peace."

to accomplish this end and why his appointment would be closer to public sentiment is not clear. The final suggestion, that members of the school board be elected direct, needs promptly to be snubbed. Democracy must be watchful, but it cannot afford to imperil its basic institution, the free school, by its intrigues and the rivalries of factional position.

DOOM OF THE DODO

The mere fact that Philadelphia settles itself openly is proof that the old order is doomed. More pertinent are questions as to the strength of the creative purpose and the shaping of the new things.

We do not attack fossils. We classify them. The fitness of the dodo ceased to be a problem the moment competitors established the fact that the bird could not fly and was only able to run very slowly.

It is undoubtedly our rich Colonial heritage of dignity and proud self-sufficiency that produced this air of detachment. There were so many good things of past and present to treasure that it became a matter of inconsequence to define present evils and future dangers.

It is unpalatable, but it is true, that this note of indifference struck by the leisure class is echoed in the attitude of other classes. There is an astounding number of men who work in "well-dressed" vocations, and who, therefore, try to ape the rich. They, too, see the club window as an ideal of gentlemanly aloofness from the political mass.

That there is a big change taking place in spite of this spirit is shown by the success with which these unorganized young men have been drawn to the polls by such lonely and devoted leaders as Taylor, whose loan campaign gave the dodo a frightful black eye and chewed off one of its impotent wings.

It is not that anything really good of the Old Philadelphia and its old order must be sacrificed. The quiet streets of homes, the sense of traditional dignity, the willingness to give men of education and inherited culture a hearing, the wealth—all these are to be kept. But it is true, as Mr. Wilson never tires of reiterating, that to keep a white spot white you can't leave it alone—you've got to keep painting it.

STRANGE DOINGS

WHAT on earth is happening in Mexico? News continues to come from the border, conflicting, vague, unsatisfactory. The result of all the conferences has not been published, and no one is in a position to say that there has been a result.

The Americans in Mexico are not likely to sympathize with the natives, but the Administration must preserve the rights of the former and can do so without abridging the privileges of the others.

Tom Daly's Column

Comes Written by myself Little Poetry

CLEANUP WEEK. Whenever I am playing house With any other child My mother always says to me In accents mocking mid— "Remember always what I say 'There's time for work and time for play"

When you possess a house yourself And are a lady grown No doubt you will remember then Your mother's gentle tone— "Remember always what I say 'There's time for work and time for play"

BEAN BOUNDARIES

XIII JAMES P. MCNICHOL

Not fellow-citizens, give ear! An alike, look! Before you, here, A price, a price, a price, a price, This bean grows big every year, Through constantly contracting.

465,000,000 Strokes for Barber Born

EVERY so often it comes home to us that our column makes no appeal to those who like statistics. We are unable to concoct those things ourselves, so it starts us fairly slobbering with joy to find ready-made such a gem as this from the Stroudsburg (Pa.) Times:

Frederick W. Born, Stroudsburg's oldest tonsorial artist, has rounded out a full 50 years of service in the rather prosaic pastime of shaving stiff, stubby beards and defeating Nature's tendency to grow hair on men's heads of the length and freedom of medieval days.

Thumb Prints

Signatures of famous people with thumb prints made by them. Sign. Queen of Rumania, lately dead. Ash. ... \$2.50

Lives of great men all remind us We may not escape detection, But, departing, leave behind us Thumb-prints in some great collection.

THE editor of "The Collector," by the way, seems to have accumulated more than one man's share of antipathy for Mr. Brander Matthews. Says he: "The National Society of Arts and Letters has been established by Congress. Here is a list of its members."

STILL GROPING



OUR CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

Demand From a Father Whose Boy Was Killed That Reckless Automobile Drivers Be Punished—A Lukewarm Hughes Man Now Enthusiastic—Coffee Versus Tea and Toast

This Department is free to all readers who wish to express their opinions on subjects of current interest. It is an open forum and the Evening Ledger assumes no responsibility for the views of its correspondents.

A FATHER'S POINT OF VIEW

Sir—In your timely article "Where Sir—read Mr. Pinkerton's letter in the EVENING LEDGER of the 15th inst. on the question of motor accidents, entitled "A Mother's Point of View." From her second sentence I should say it might have been entitled "A Motorist's Point of View."

I would like to state a few facts which may show why I am especially interested in this question. Last winter I was told on the telephone that one of my boys had just been killed under the wheels of a motor truck, while sledding.

After our accident I learned that many of our neighbors seriously considered prohibiting their children playing in the streets, but after such deliberations, all of them, I think I know of no exceptions, decided that the children should continue as before in this regard, though there was talk of insisting on better protection for them. What kind of mothers did they have? They had and have good, child-loving, energetic, out-door mothers; the kind of motherhood which raised a cry of protest when a child was killed on a prominent corner, unprotected by an officer and occupied by a school, at a school on a school day, with no danger signs to warn motorists to drive carefully; the kind who protest because the school had room for the first five grades for only half time, the fourth grade of which included our boy in its membership; the kind that protest when a motorist runs over a child and then explains that he didn't see a man 90 or 100 feet ahead waving and calling to him to look out, but says he slowed up at the next corner because that was a busy street much used by autos.

It has been suggested that a vigilance league be formed for mutual protection, its members to report violations of the law on the part of careless motor drivers, and each, if investigation warrants it, to be prosecuted and not be let off by some friendly magistrate, who may or may not ask the lawless one to send in \$2.50. Such an organization should interest motorists who do abide by the law as a protection against the recklessness of those who do not, and if Mrs. Pinkerton would assist in its formation and together, with other members, would report one-tenth of the flagrant violations she witnesses, her action would save more lives than any other one thing she is likely to do.

Playgrounds? Yes, and more playgrounds. I have been told that in some parts of the city sections of the main streets are roped off for children's recreation, and that they just around the corner from our house had been roped off. However, it is not too late for others; let us hope that some day recognized playgrounds will be efficiently applied wherever there is a child.

every applicant for a license should pass a rigid examination to prove his ability to handle a machine safely before it is granted. This would either eliminate a lot of cheap labor now entrusted with high speed, death-dealing machines in crowded streets or teach it a few essentials of humaneness.

I believe if one wants to help, he should help the children and old people and law-abiding motorists; the law-breaking motorists seem well able to take care of themselves. Women, as a rule, seem to be very careful drivers. The rights of humanity in general and children especially appeal to them. I hope and rather believe Mrs. Pinkerton is a credit to her sex in this respect. H. W. WETHEBELL, Philadelphia, May 21.

PREFERS HUGHES TO T. R.

To the Editor of Evening Ledger: Sir—In your timely article "Where Justice Hughes Stands," I wish to state that the same has made of me a Hughes enthusiast, whereas before I was only lukewarm, mainly on the principle of "anybody but T. R." if it was necessary to combine the delegates for Hughes for that purpose of the "favorite sons," I would be mostly pleased to see Weeks, Burton, Sherman, Crane, McCall, Lodge or Root nominated. My choice in the order given.

If those you gave are still his, and seeing the sentiment that seems to be springing up for him, nothing would please me better than to see him nominated. My sympathies have always been with all the standpatters on the map as our real constructive statesmen. If Hughes would only come out with a platform like this speech of 1903 that would be all that would be necessary. Nothing could stop it then. There is truth in the argument that the people do not know where he stands, as that speech is too far back to be remembered by but few, and that argument is the one remaining that as yet stands in his way.

I say I would be pleased to see him nominated, for I now understand that he recedes against government ownership; that he recedes against the Government is based upon the principles of individualism and not upon those of socialism; that we shall not upon the activities of government so as to bring about interference with liberty or to restrict legitimate enterprise; that this is a representative government and not a pure democracy, which would be unworkable in a country of such magnitude; that except with regard to fundamental questions on matters comparatively simple it is impracticable for the electorate to express its views directly; that in this country progress cannot be made save in harmony with our constitutional system; that the Constitution in its entirety must be preserved; and that he is not in favor of punishment upon certain of the anti-trust laws because he recognizes the burden is only transferred to the public or borne by the stockholders, the innocent as well as the guilty; that he believes in a protective tariff, adequate defense, etc.

NOT A THIRD CUP OF COFFEE

Sir—Hughes and Fairbanks—November, 1914. Hughes gives me a cold potato and an onion. No, I do not buy tea, just an ice cream and a little cold weak tea. Yes, a very try. Yes, this is election day. Horrid weather! No, I won't go to hear the returns. I'm a democrat, Wilson, no doubt. Good night. ROBERT B. NIXON, JR., Philadelphia, May 21.

What Do You Know?

Queries of general interest will be answered in this column. Ten questions, the answers to which every well-informed person should know, are asked daily.

- 1. What are the Italian names for "Rome" and "Naples"? 2. Is there any connection between the word "probyter" and the word "priest"? 3. What are "stormy petrels" and why are they so called? 4. Where in Philadelphia was "Sherwood Forest"? 5. When was the telegraph first used for reporting the proceedings of a political convention? 6. What is snuff made of? 7. Why is salt put on ice when freezing ice cream? 8. Where does the Gulf Stream start and what is its general direction? 9. What two practical developments of naval warfare did the Confederate States make a legal tender in Maryland in 1732, one pound representing one penny? 10. Mount Aconcagua, South America, more than 23,000 feet, is the highest mountain of the continent. 11. Charles Palmer is the candidate for Supreme Court Justice who may have defeated Justice Walling. 12. A "white elephant" is a possession that is a liability rather than an asset. 13. Gold was discovered in Alaska in 1857, after the United States acquired the Territory. 14. Cadets are commissioned second lieutenants in the army on graduation.

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

- 1. There are 60 knots in a degree of latitude and 60 knots are the equivalent of 69 miles. 2. No man ever declined a presidential nomination after it was made. 3. Gas was first used to light streets in the United States in Baltimore in 1811. 4. The site of City Hall was at one time Centre Square. The original City Water Works once stood there. 5. Tobacco was made a legal tender in Maryland in 1732, one pound representing one penny. 6. Mount Aconcagua, South America, more than 23,000 feet, is the highest mountain of the continent. 7. Charles Palmer is the candidate for Supreme Court Justice who may have defeated Justice Walling. 8. A "white elephant" is a possession that is a liability rather than an asset. 9. Gold was discovered in Alaska in 1857, after the United States acquired the Territory. 10. Cadets are commissioned second lieutenants in the army on graduation.

The Chicago Coliseum

Editor of "What Do You Know"—Can you tell me in what building the Republican National Convention in Chicago will be held and something of its capacity, size and history? F. D. L.

The Original "Tribby"

Editor of "What Do You Know"—A friend of mine argues that "Tribby" was a real, living woman. I contended that she was a creation of fiction. Which of us is right? CONSTANT READER.

Du Maurier, in his student days in Paris, became acquainted with a young woman who, in nobility of character, clearly resembled the "Tribby" of his novel. It is generally understood that the career of this girl was the basis for the plot of the novel.

OURSELVES AS OTHERS SEE US

Philadelphia Exclusiveness and Well-being, and Their Effects. "Food Always the Fashion." Insurance Company Dinners

From "Who is a Philadelphian?" by Maxine Rhodes, in June Harper, by special arrangement with the publishers. THE tradition of exclusiveness is one of the most striking features of the Philadelphia picture. And if this exclusiveness, which keeps the well-born safely apart from the not well-born, makes it difficult for even a Philadelphian to know Philadelphia, how much more nearly impossible does it render such a task for the un-Philadelphian, who must depend upon occasional visits and casual gossip for his information.

Long our second largest city, and even now our third, Philadelphia is nevertheless, in the strangest fashion, for most Americans a terra incognita. It is conveniently situated, and yet almost inaccessible, the through trains run round it and not into it. It makes no effort to attract the stranger. It advertises its historic attractions, it sets no Broadway ablaze, it beats no tomtoms. Of all our American towns it is the most self-contained. It has almost none of our traditional eagerness for and sensitiveness to criticism. There is in it nothing of the hurrah-boys' brigadoocio which so often marks our American "civic spirit." Philadelphia does not assert that it is in any way an admirable town; it merely feels that Philadelphia exists, always has existed and always will exist, and that in its confused, tumultuous and vulgar way this is one incontrovertible fact, the one solid rock where there is a sure foothold. The true Philadelphian neither admires nor dislikes New York. He simply does not know that New York exists. The great lady who metropolis with difficulty to remember the metropolis as "the place where one goes to take the steamer for Europe" was expressing with a concisely satirical exaggeration the actual Philadelphia feeling.

The Southern Note

Though the social recognition thus gracefully extended to London and Paris is denied to Boston and New York, it might possibly be granted to the ancient aristocracy of the South. You feel instinctively that lovely, proud, faded Carolina Charleston is perhaps the only American town with which Philadelphia would feel at ease. Indeed, the Southern note in Philadelphia is unmistakable. It is to be found in the spacious look of the old houses and in a certain lightness of architectural design in the public edifices of Colonial days. Independence Hall is sumptuous. You have only to compare it with Boston's old State House and its frugal, chastened beauty to realize that Philadelphia is by comparison a rich, care-free city upon a fat Southern soil. This softer note is the Philadelphia ladies, and in the pleasant presence of a well-mannered black population and a generous, fat cuisine.

Food is always the fashion in Philadelphia. The Philadelphia air is everywhere redolent of good living; even the stranger arriving at the railway station instinctively thinks of the nearest restaurant and the next meal. Today the proudest hostesses of America have their terrapin brought from Philadelphia. Even the metropolis, greedy and luxurious at table, speaks with bated breath of the feasts of Lucullus served by the Delaware; it is left for Baltimore sitting in the profusion of tribute which her great bay of Chesapeake pours upon her, alone to dispute culinary pre-eminence. Tradesmen throughout the country recommend their establishments as "Philadelphia Markets," while "Philadelphia Chickens" and "Philadelphia Ice Cream" are terms used as a guarantee of excellence and richness. Marketing is a serious affair where eating is serious. It is not so long ago that the most dignified Philadelphia gentlemen, topped with heads of households, themselves accompanied the market basket on its morning round.

The traditions of the Philadelphia cuisine are not only preserved around the sacred kitchen ranges of the best families, but are kept up by various public organizations ostensibly devoted to other purposes. There is something suggestive of the banquets of the London City Companies in the dinners, for example, of the Philadelphia Insurance companies. And pleasant customs have grown up through the long Philadelphia years. The insurance company which is popularly and prettily called "The Green Tree" is dining—and dining well—when the new came of the death of Washington, and to this day a toast to his memory is drunk each month by the assembled company.

Geographical Restrictions

A famous and agreeable example of Philadelphia's geographical restrictions as to the district where people may be led. You may search the world without finding anything comparable to the feeling in Philadelphia concerning the regions north of Market street. To the dweller in the permitted quarter of "Chestnut, Walnut, Spruce and Pine" streets, the mere existence of creatures in that outer darkness seems incredible—with the one curious exception to be noted, that if you belong to certain old Quaker families you may live in Arch street, just over the border. Otherwise the northern districts might be desert land, where a colony of rich people have built their palatial marble mansions.

The only thing that can wholly get out of existence in Philadelphia is Philadelphia itself. If one pessimist says it is dooming in the tremendous exodus to happy homes in the fat, well-wooded valley that lies correctly along the Main Line. The trolley cars have made the narrow old streets of the town pedestrian. But the motor arrived just in the nick of time to keep country life from being really country life. These uncolony people think nothing of driving twenty miles to town to dine and dance, for the time being at least, it is only as Chestnut, Walnut, Spruce and Pine streets had been extended into the green suburbs. There their solid citizens and their grave demeanor still hold on, and Philadelphia is still Philadelphia.