

Evening Public Ledger

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ERA OF THE PROLETARIAT

THE war, so far as Europe is concerned, moves now into the era of the proletariat. The ties that bind men to obedience to government are at best tenuous.

Government rests on the consent of the governed, examples to the contrary notwithstanding, and the governed, through an agency of suffering brought about solely by a class for purposes of aggrandizement, have learned that war without their sanction is an impossibility.

Between "I, your king," and "We, the people," science has raised a great barrier, for the latter in their vastness reverse the telescope and see at the other end of it merely a puny human being, spoiled by the accident of inheritance and training.

The fakir is always a fakir. It was natural for the Prussian military caste, having fooled all Germany and hurled millions into unnecessary calamity by setting up the plea that it was a war of defense, to conclude that it could just as easily fool people who were not Germans.

When an autocracy begins to tell citizens of other nations that they ought to rule themselves and disseminate the seed of revolution, it is not rocking the boat; it is boring holes in it.

The truth is that all Europe is on the verge of collapse. It is not that guns are lacking, or munitions, or men, but the hopelessness of it has become apparent, and there is not a village in any belligerent nation of Europe that in the breasts of its inhabitants there is not a deep longing for peace, a longing which seeks utterance and when it breaks into voice will speak in thunder.

When Czernin said "America and Austria are virtually in agreement" he probably had an inkling of what the Italian drive was likely to accomplish.

This fellow Mars is after all nothing more than a servant of the snow man, who can tuck him into his bed of white and put him to sleep at any time.

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The idea that State and municipal employees are protected by the Constitution against payment of the Federal income tax is based on a firm ground. There was a decision of that sort from the Supreme Court seven years ago, but the Court itself was in disagreement. The tax ought to be levied and a new decision secured.

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PENNYPACKER'S MESSAGE OF 1905

Governor Tells of His Fight for State Regulation of Newspapers
PENNYPACKER AUTOBIOGRAPHY—No. 61
IT WOULD be an advantage if the houses had some legislation with the duty of ascertaining the relation of proposed legislation to existing laws, and of seeing that legislation is so expressed as to accomplish its purpose.

BREAKING LOOSE FROM THE CENSOR

THRILLING as the news of the safe passage of thousands of American troops to France on board the greatest liners of Germany's merchant fleet is the news that the long fight against stupid censorship apparently has been won. These princely vessels left our ports ten days ago and have been eastward bound while many Americans still believed the damage wrought to them by their interned German crews would take months to repair; but promptly upon their arrival in "A French Port" the announcement is cabled straight from that port to our newspaper offices without intervention of American censorship.

It has been the absurd, panicky practice to submit dispatches of this kind to a double and even triple censorship before they were put into the hands of American readers. Paris could read them and shout for joy, every spy in Switzerland could read them and wire them posthaste to Germany. German generals have openly sneered over their foreknowledge of our operations. Lloyd George has told members of Parliament to speak freely, as Germany knew more about American news than the Americans. When the sizzling pot of our impatience is laid boiled over and irritation vent the length of endearing with partnership the most united notion on the globe it was indeed high time to let in the fresh air of sanity.

Half a million tons of Central European shipping is now used by America and her Allies. The people can well be proud of their engineers and workmen who have so quickly restored more tonnage to activity than the Germans at their present rate of sinkings can destroy in half a year. Some of the ships are the largest, one of them—the old Venterland, now the Levathan—the very largest in the world. We can rewrite Perry's message: "We have met the enemy's efficiency and it is ours."

All the German people's woe is traceable to their years of dull submission to censorship. It seemed that we were trying to imitate that dullness. But we remembered at last that we were Americans and, thank heaven, broke free!

GOVERNMENT CONTROL OF CREDIT

ONE difficulty in the way of a free country when it goes to war is that the old habit of individual liberty has made each business enterprise a separate entity. Had our industries been one unified machine, with each firm dovetailing into another, our organizing effort would have been as easy as was socialized Prussia's. As it is, with the great majority of manufacturing plants under private financial management, the drawing off of vast amounts of capital in loans and welfare crusades has threatened to dampen the dash and ardor with which industry should plan to widen in every direction. Thus Mr. McAdoo's plan for a \$500,000,000 Government corporation to make loans to enterprises essential to the war is an important emergency measure.

As it is our expressed war policy to maintain, while fighting, our democratic institutions as much as possible, even to the extent of forbearing to take over railroads or mines until private initiative and co-operation have had full trial, it was obviously impossible to draw a sharp line between more essential and less essential enterprises. A system of preferential credit is made necessary. The more essential enterprises must have first call upon capital. They must not be made to take their chances of getting funds in the open market. A Government pool of corporate financing will obviate this. Through the rediscounting system of the Federal Reserve bank the fund of half a billion is expected to expand to about \$4,000,000,000 credit. And the Government is the most interested party, because it is only by the steady extension of enterprises that money for taxes and Liberty Loans can become available.

Revolutions are verboten in Germany, but maybe some of the people there do not know it.

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THE BIRTH OF A SINGING ARMY

ONE peculiar thing to come out of this war, if plans now under way reach fruition, will be the practice among its veterans, when they gather in whatever may be the equivalent of the cantinera of the Civil War, to sing the songs composed by the regiments while they were in training to be sent "over there."

During the Civil War, no veterans of that conflict tell us, there was no concerted effort to perfect a singing army such as is now in process at Camp Dix. What singing the men did was sporadic and the result of individual impulses. Few regimental or corps songs were of the quality of the ballads now being composed, and very few of them were deserving of perpetuation beyond the period of their creation, although some would have a special interest now to the veterans who are being inducted into the routine of camp life.

J. L. Smith, the man publisher of this city whose cantinera are perhaps as vivid as those of any of his comrades, offers as the most popular of his recollection this ditty, which was a favorite of the Fifth corps on the march:

There are eight or ten such verses, and the last ran:

The war won't last forever, some day we will march along, marching along, marching along, marching along.

But the crop of marching songs to come out of the sowing now beginning in the camps throughout the country should be big and varied.

A splendid start has already been made by W. Stanley Hawkins, director of mass singing at Camp Dix, and at a meeting of the officers in charge of singing held yesterday afternoon under the chairmanship of Captain C. K. Morganroth plans were made for the standardizing of singing in the camp.

The chief goal to come out of this first contest was the discovery of sufficient original talent in the camp to furnish all the songs to be sung by the regiments.

There's food for your imagination! Just think of a great green parade ground in the first few days of spring, under a bright blue sky, and 45,000 men, marching by a reviewing stand singing the inspiring songs of their country and yours with all the fire of strong hearts and the vigor of the country, and called for a glorious sight to see and a soul-stirring chorus of sound to hear!

Should not succeed. What is the remedy? Sooner or later one must be provided. Recently, in one of the States, an offender whose shoes, as a public nuisance, were tried for murder and acquitted. Lawlessness is the inevitable result of a failure of the law to correct existing evils.

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ROMANCE OF A WEAVER BOY

Alexander Wilson, Philadelphia Ornithologist, Moving Spirit in James Lane Allen's New Story
JAMES LANE ALLEN'S new tale, "The Kentucky Warbler," just published by Doubleday, Page & Co., is likely to renew interest in the career of Alexander Wilson, of this city, the first ornithologist to make a serious study of the habits of American birds.

Wilson discovered the warbler, the only bird which is identified by its name with the State of Kentucky. Mr. Allen in his tale has a college professor tell the boys and girls in a Lexington high school of the career of Wilson, of his visit to Lexington and of his discovery in the woods of the beautiful and melodious bird. As a result, a boy, who had no interest in his studies and did not know what he wanted to do, had his mind awakened and suddenly developed from a careless and indifferent youth into a person with a purpose in life.

Wilson was born in Paisley, Scotland, and learned the trade of a weaver. He also wrote verses, some of which were ascribed to Burns. Because of the indignation which followed the publication of a poem in which he lampooned a rich manufacturer he fled the country and sailed for America as a deck passenger on a sailing vessel. He was so eager to reach Philadelphia that when the ship touched at New Castle on its way up the Delaware he landed and walked the remaining distance. This was in 1794. He worked as a weaver for a time and peddled in New Jersey. Then he taught in schools north of Frankford, at Millstone on the old York road, and finally at Kingessing, near Gray's Ferry. He taught elocution to the boy Edwin Forrest. It was at Gray's Ferry that he met William Bartram, the only son of John Bartram, who was interested in science. Bartram had made a list of American birds, and when he discovered that Wilson could draw he suggested that he make pictures of the birds. Wilson was so successful at this that he succeeded in making arrangements with Samuel F. Bradford to publish a series of volumes of an American ornithology to be illustrated with colored plates and descriptions of the birds. The set of books was to sell for \$120, and Wilson was to take subscriptions for as many as possible. He went to New England, where he persuaded forty-one persons to agree to take the books. He got sixteen subscriptions in Baltimore in a week and seventeen subscriptions in Washington. Sixty subscriptions were obtained in New Orleans in seventeen days, a pretty good record for a book agent. Few of them nowadays can sell \$1200 worth of books in so short a time. Philadelphia took seventy copies of the book. Wilson died in 1813, when he had completed the eighth volume of his work. In order to study the birds he had made a trip to Niagara Falls and return on foot and he later went down the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers, starting from Pittsburgh in a boat in the early spring when the river was full of ice. His descriptions of the birds are poetic and filled with an intense love of nature, the same love of nature which shines through his long poem "The Forester," in which he described his walking trip to Niagara.

His prose, however, is much better than his verse, and his life, beginning in a factory town and ending in the open with a secure reputation as a man of science of undoubted parts, is one of the most fascinating in the history of the development of the study of science in America or anywhere else.

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SPROUL FOR PRESIDENT

Lancaster Editor Has Little Doubt About State Senator's Qualifications.
Pennypacker's Standard
To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:
Sir—I noticed in an editorial in the EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER that you touch upon a matter which I discussed in an editorial in the Lancaster News Journal of November 5, 1917. I believe with you that this situation affords an opportunity to elect a Pennsylvanian to the presidency by way of the gubernatorial chair.

I associated this line of succession with the candidacy of Senator William C. Sproull, which I think, to some extent at least, answers the final question in your very pertinent editorial.

M. J. O'TOOLE,
Managing Editor News Journal,
Lancaster, Pa., January 29.

PENNYPACKER'S STANDARDS

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger:
Sir—Having gone through the Autobiography of Governor Pennypacker before publication, may I suggest for use in your advertisements a thought which seems to have escaped attention in the many comments made upon the narrative?

This is that there runs through the autobiography consistently a standard of conduct for daily use, not on social occasions alone, or when no self-interest is involved, but for every-day application in practical affairs.

The basis of the narrative is a correct solution of the principle involved, combined with decency and propriety of method, avoidance of meanness and pettiness, aversion to moral and physical cowardice, maintenance of fidelity and a standing to the guns. To conform to such a standard, perhaps, calls for more ability and character than many persons possess, but to set it forth by example and precept, direct and indirect, should serve a useful purpose.

A very large proportion of the incidents and of the criticism of the autobiography are merely illustrations of this standard of conduct, often an application of it to some feature of understanding of what should be obvious, or in ethics, or to some act of moral cowardice or underhand behavior.

The unity of the narrative in this respect is perhaps not apt to be seen in serial publications, and I think it would be well to call attention to it. It takes on then the appearance of an amputated limb, but the feast the deliberate purpose of the writer.

PHENAMITE,
Philadelphia, January 29.

AND YOU MIGHT AD PATRIOTISM
In judging my ability
I am all out of place.
Are all out of place.
By the length of his face.

What Do You Know?

QUIZ
1. What is heliostatism?
2. What is the meaning of the West?
3. Who wrote "Ten Nights in a Bar-Room"?
4. What is a constitution?
5. Define autonomy.

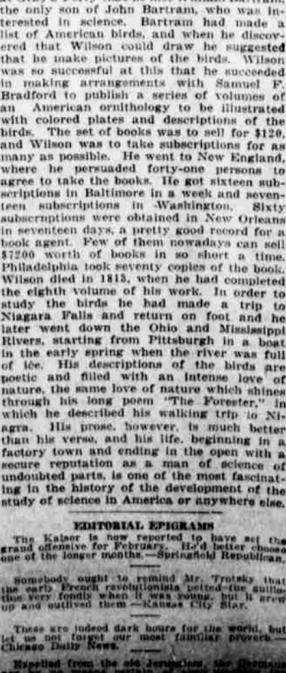
6. Who is Federal custodian of alien enemy property?
7. When was the English Commonwealth?
8. What is snow?
9. Who is Archibuteus Engesser?
10. What is a mate?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz
1. President born in Massachusetts: John Adams. John Quincy Adams.
2. Albany Congress: First general convention of the American colonies, in June, 1754. Plan of union proposed by Franklin rejected. He thought there was too much self-interest in it, and that it was not to be judged by a person's religion is not to be judged by the length of his face.

3. Orthography: the science that treats of letters and syllables.
4. Snodgrass Institute. Petrolina, is the headquarters of the Holiness movement.
5. Agricultural machinery, or tractor, of the usual distribution of land.
6. Ph. D. (Doctor of Philosophy); a degree in nature, awarded to bachelors after study in a specialty.

7. Helio, a bridge over the Grand Canal, Venice, of steel, erected by the Venetians after study in a specialty.
8. Leopold Stokowski is conductor of the Philadelphia Orchestra.
9. Heinrich Heine, German, noted for his satirical and caustic.
10. Devere's "Windmill Song" is a song of nature, written by Devere.

WHY OF COURSE WE BELIEVE IT



Little Polly's Pome

I have a flower in a pot,
A small geranium.
Which when I root it first was not
Much bigger than my thumb.

But on my bedroom window sill
I tended it with care
And watched and watered it until
It grew quite tall and fair.

Yet I was not the only one
That helped to make it grow.
Some credit to the morning sun
I must admit I owe.

Yet it was I who placed the pot
Upon my window sill
Where lots of sunlight could get
And it could have its fill.

And now I think the little thing
How full of thanks it is to me
For treating it so well.

For every morning when I wake
It sweetens all the room—
You know that's how the flowers speak
By making a perfume.

TOM DALY.

CAMOUFLAGING THE CLOCK

MUST we, then, camouflage the clock? The principle of the "daylight saving scheme we give hearty assent; as a measure and as a peace measure, too, ourselves have often practiced it, rising to see the beamship while neighbors were still seeking a more sleep, a little more slumber."

It is illogical and wasteful to sleep in daylight the morning and then to work by lamplight in the evening. We are told by experts in higher mathematics that by shifting the day's operations forward one hour, from April 1 to September, there would be effected a saving of \$10,000,000 a year. In the time of conservation and economy that sum is not to be sneezed at, or yawned at, either.

The only question is, whether to make it a saving it is necessary to monkey with the