

Evening Public Ledger

PUBLIC LEDGER COMPANY
Cyrus H. K. Curtis, President
John C. Martin, Vice President
John C. Martin, Secretary and Treasurer
John C. Martin, Editor
John C. Martin, General Business Manager

BELL, 3000 WALNUT KEYSTONE, MAIN 3600
Address all communications to Evening Public Ledger, Independence Square, Philadelphia.

Philadelphia, Saturday, February 23, 1918

MOST PRECIOUS THING IN THE WORLD

MR. HOOVER threw a bomb at the complacency of this Commonwealth yesterday. "All our efforts must be doubled," he said, "to meet the absolute food necessities of our associates. Unless we do meet them, the war cannot go on."

Let every citizen drill that thought into his stomach nerves. If the food is not sent, it means but one thing, and Hoover has said it—catastrophe.

We are not alarmists. We are so confident that we shall whip the Hun and drive back the assault on human law and order that we believe the menace of an early peace to be the gravest of all dangers now threatening us.

Seventy-five million bushels of wheat and rye must be got across the ocean in the immediate future. There are no "ifs" to it. The necessity is absolute. We have that supply and we can send it unless hundreds of thousands of American citizens willfully and deliberately put into their own bellies the sustenance needed over there.

The food campaign has been so simple a movement, engendering so little sacrifice, that it is doubtless alarming to the public to have the situation stated so bluntly. But why trifle with truth? To do something we have to know what it is we want to do.

We might, in these circumstances, well be alarmed and even driven into panic were it not so plain that it is easily within our power to eliminate the threatening factor and meet the demand of the situation fully and quickly. We have but to make it a personal matter. It is for each individual to make it a personal duty to eat less wheat and see that those about him eat less wheat.

We said Thursday that the mouth is a tempter to treason, that every person who eats food which he does not need and which the armies do need is a traitor.

Mr. Hoover's drastic utterance confirms and sanctions that opinion. It puts the issue squarely up to every person in the State and in the nation. And who so weak that he cannot voluntarily discipline himself in eating when thousands and tens of thousands of other Americans are subjecting themselves to rigorous military discipline in all matters for the good of civilization?

The situation, we are convinced, has merely to be stated and its solution is assured. It is only because citizens have not appreciated the immediate and vital requirements of food conservation that they have been lax in doing their duty.

We appeal to them now, with all the emphasis of which we are capable, to save wheat as they have never saved it before; even to do without it entirely for a limited period, where possible.

We will not let our bellies consecrate themselves to the service of the Hun. They will, with our blood and treasure, must be made for his defeat.

so strong that disease will not overwhelm him and no nation is so virile that corruption will not devour it.

The politics of time brought the Russian bolt to a head and it burst. Patriots or traitors, saints or demons, Trotsky and Lenin are mere atoms belched forth from the bowels of a nauseated monster. They ride a current which they cannot direct. While they gestured and talked, dealing in an idealism incomprehensible to the Hun, it was the battle line from the North Sea to the Atlantic which kept them from being devoured, and it is that same battle line that will prevent the reach of Germany from the Rhine to the Pacific, an achievement of such titanic proportions that the hope of Baghdad becomes insignificant in proportion.

SPECIAL SESSION OF THE LEGISLATURE

THE politicians, it appears, do not want a special session of the Legislature. There ought to be none if it is to be convened only to consider the proposed prohibition amendment. We venture to suggest, however, that a great Governor, in a crisis such as the world and the nation now face, might formulate a war program for this imperial Commonwealth that would be of invaluable assistance to Washington and would put the achievements of Pennsylvania in this war on a parity with the splendid services she was able to render in others.

WORK OF SUPEREROGATION

THE connection of the Mayor with bonding companies is not secret. He has been quite open about it and has not sought to hide it. An investigation would not be out of order, perhaps, but it could not do much more than establish a fact which is already admitted. It might be more feasible to undertake an investigation to discover if there is any means by which the Mayor can be separated from one or the other of his two offices. To show that he makes money out of bonding operations would be equivalent, as far as utility goes, to establishing by investigation the existence of the sun.

HUN CONTROL OF THE BALTIC

GERMAN fleets move with impunity through the Baltic. Forty-five enemy warships are reported to have reached Reval. The enormous importance of control of the sea was never more surely demonstrated than Germany has shown it in the Baltic. The situation in Russia would be subject to immediate change were the Allied fleets along the coast. That great country might yet be saved from its own folly and democracy invigorated. But the Kiel Canal seems to have done all that its builders planned for it. There is no evidence of daring submarine activity in the Baltic by the Allies.

A BIGGER BULLSEYE

GERMANY is planning to use super-dreadnoughts to prey on United States transports, according to a news dispatch. We recall Bob Fitzsimmons's celebrated dictum: "The bigger they are the harder they fall."

SICK MEN OF EUROPE

NOT less rapidly than the Germans are fighting their way through Russia the English are fighting their way through Turkey—with this difference, that in Russia what the Germans are doing is 99 per cent travel and 1 per cent fighting, and in Turkey the English are 100 per cent fighters and all the traveling is done, out of necessity, by the Turks.

Turkey and Russia are the Sick Men of Europe, but Turkey is dying and Russia has not yet reached the crisis of her disease. They are the most illiterate of all the Powers whose national strength is considerable. Turkey has been armed, munitioned and officered by the Germans, who force the Sublime Porte into battle by the threat of gunboats lying off Constantinople. Turkish generals do not often muster courage to rebel, because the punishment for disobedience in Turkey is unspeakable torture. Turkey is the abject vassal of Berlin.

On the other hand, Russia is not coerced. The mere idea that Japan should be urged to "make Russia fight" is so foreign to the spirit of Christendom that those who have had the thought have been ashamed to utter it except under a heavy coat of camouflage. The idea of coercing a nation into alliance is so hideous that nobody outside one small Prussian clique can be found to defend it.

The Kaiser is going to Riga and Warsaw. What a mastery retreat!

PENNYPACKER'S TILT WITH LEADERS

Governor and Organization Clash on Appointment of a Philadelphia Harbor Master

PENNYPACKER AUTOBIOGRAPHY—No. 84
Copyright, 1918, by Public Ledger Co.
IT HAPPENED just at this juncture that I again ran athwart of the purposes of the Republican organization. A vacancy had occurred in the position of the Harbor Master in Philadelphia, caused by the resignation of Samuel G. Maloney, who had held it for years. Penrose asked me to appoint Oscar E. Noll, but having some information concerning the career of Noll, which was not of a favorable character, I declined.

Speech to Republicans

On the 8th of June I made an address at Bellefonte, at the dedication of the monument to Andrew G. Curtin, and on the 17th presided over the jubilee in Musical Fund Hall, in Philadelphia, where fifty years before the Republican party held its first convention to nominate a candidate for the Presidency. A number of men who voted for Fremont and Dayton were present, and Alexander K. McClure made a reminiscent address. J. Hampton Moore, a small, slim, intelligent and alert man, who had worked on a newspaper and graduated to a seat in Congress, later introduced me as "our good Governor." I said:

We are met together to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the organization of the Republican party, and we hold ourselves fortunate in having the presence of the survivors of those who participated in its earliest convention and of so many of its representatives who are honored by and hold in high esteem the office of the President. Fittingly we meet within the limits of that Commonwealth in which the party had its origin and which, notwithstanding the least proportionate reward, has ever given to the most continuous and effective support. Since the election of Abraham Lincoln in 1860, Pennsylvania has never cast an electoral vote against a candidate of the Republican party for the Presidency of the United States.

The largest majority ever received by a presidential candidate in any State in America was given in Pennsylvania in 1876. It was the Republican party, which has the honor of having produced the President of the United States. The largest majority ever received by a presidential candidate in any State in America was given in Pennsylvania in 1876. It was the Republican party, which has the honor of having produced the President of the United States.

"The best fish that swims," said he, "is the cod, and if he were not so common he would be prized as one of the greatest gastronomic delicacies of the world. He is to name any other living creature which can be put to so many edible purposes. It is amazing the number of dishes you can make from the cod, and when you have exhausted him in his salted condition and begin a new round of delicacies. There is hardly anything you can't do with him. His tongue, either boiled or broiled, is a delicacy and his head is capable of treatment that places it on a par even with terrapin. I will guarantee to take a cod's head and prepare it in a manner the result of which will tax the palate of any one of you to distinguish between it and diamond-back terrapin. How do I manage it? Well, first the cod's head should be thoroughly washed in cold water and then placed in an iron kettle, with just enough water to make steam for it. It is of course, being covered with a napkin. When it falls to pieces, take out the bones—only don't remove the eyes—and place the fragments in a dish which has been rubbed with pepper, some salt, the best butter and some cream—not too much cream—and a dash of good Madeira. If you wish, and after the chafin dish has done its work, you may broil a fish which almost equals terrapin and costs many pennies less."

"That," said Megargee, in conclusion, "is my judgment, too. So let it be somewhat of cod for it will look up that old menu you'll find in your books."

SLACKERS NOT NEW

Military Service Shirkers of Revolution and Colonial Wars
SHIRKERS of military service are no novelty in American history. There is nothing new under the sun in some of the dodges practiced by contemporary slackers. When the British and the French were being organized in the middle of the eighteenth century the slacker was in evidence. A newspaper printed in New Haven during 1778 contains the following note:

"You are not to enlist any man who is not able-bodied, healthy and a good marcher, but as men of a good appearance may have complaints which render them incapable of a soldier's duty, you must give attention, that you may not be imposed upon, and take the opinion of a surgeon where there is room for suspicion."

Monday Governor Pennypacker recounts several incidents in a hour month.

Springtime in Ireland

It's springtime in Ireland, An' all the glens are green, Though here an' there A tiny flare Orange springs between; From bleak hills o' Derry An' many an Antrim glen Spring bug-a-boos An' wild "hoo-roos" An' shouts o' marchin' men.

THE KING OF ALL FISH FOR TABLE
Judgment of Bon Vivants Twenty-five Years Ago Still Unassailable

WHEN the fire-eaten tower of the old Times Building, now being dismantled by workmen, was the saucy caput upon a lively newspaper live, there was a broad plate-glass window almost directly below it, on the first floor, looking out on Eighth street, where three or four gay spirits were wont to congregate of an afternoon and discuss the topics of the town.

The general make-up of the group was subject to change, but young Frank McLaughlin was invariably one and Louis N. Megargee was always the dominating center. Megargee was then conducting his breezy "Seen and Heard" column in the Times and McLaughlin was business manager of the paper. They were both bon-vivants, but Megargee was by long odds the bon-vivanter of the two. He had eaten and drunk everything necessary for the completion of one's education in the art of the trencherman, and he was an authority upon good living. He also wrote quite an entertainingly of other things of which he knew best. He was never dull, though occasionally inaccurate. But upon the pleasures of the table he wrote mouth-wateringly and with a sure pen.

We thought of him the other day when we were discussing the possibility of whole steak soon coming to bless, or clutter, our bill of fare, and we wondered what his judgment would be. We remember breaking into his circle before that plate-glass window in the Times office, one February afternoon a quarter of a century ago, to ask what arrangements had been made for the approaching annual dinner of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick. Phil J. Walsh, the installment man, who was presiding at the time, brought up the question of the proper fish for the occasion and launched Megargee upon a dissertation which not only held his listeners in rapt attention, but later commanded a larger audience through his column in the paper.

His main theme was cod, fresh cod; and he called it the most luscious and satisfying seafood that ever tickled a palate. He told of a session he had had with Colonel Tom Ochiltree, John Wise, of Virginia; John Chamberlin, of Washington, and other high livers, at which all the fish of the sea and the rivers that flow into the same were picked apart and discussed. Chamberlin began by making out a fine case for the fish of the James River, which he deprecatingly called the "I. delaware." Tom Ochiltree's candidate was the pompano, Chamberlin of Washington, and other high livers, at which all the fish of the sea and the rivers that flow into the same were picked apart and discussed.

"Think of it for a moment, and determine whether any man except a military dictator like Caesar or Napoleon ever had so complete and general a grip upon mundane affairs! In the first place, Mr. McAdoo is very closely associated with the President. He is the director generalship of about all the public business and finance not otherwise controlled by the Administration.

Mr. McAdoo is director general of all the railroads of the country. He became such a virtue of the President's exercise of his war power. The President proclaimed that war emergencies necessitate the taking over of the railroads by the Government, and whereas they had been operating under the direction of hundreds of presidents, elected by their various stockholders or directors, Mr. McAdoo, as the President's pen, became the president of them all. Congress enters into the railroad dictatorship only to furnish the director general with ways and means which he deems essential to the performance of his trust.

Mr. McAdoo asks for \$500,000,000 with which to establish the Director General's supervision and control of railroads which he proposes to use, plus the resources of the railroads so far as they shall continue to be used, for the purposes of operation and maintenance. Congress has been discussing this phase of the question all week. It probably will be favored by the Director General by the Government, but in the end it will likely give Mr. McAdoo his \$500,000,000 appropriation, together with the other powers he seeks to bring railroad transportation up to its highest state of efficiency for war purposes. There is a dispute on between railroad systems and so-called short lines as to which will be favored by the Director General, but the Washington understanding is that while the big roads are not averse to the temporary Government dictatorship, the small roads, which cannot prove up as war auxiliaries, are fearful that unless they receive Government aid they will be forced to give to their stronger competitors.

From what has already been stated one would think Mr. McAdoo, with his duties at the Treasury, at the Federal Reserve Bank and as Director General of all of the great American corporations, would have been busy to the hilt. The Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. McAdoo, with his duties at the Treasury, at the Federal Reserve Bank and as Director General of all of the great American corporations, would have been busy to the hilt.

"ER-R, WHAT WAS YOU PLANNIN'?"



M'ADOO HOLDS "THE BIG STICK"

He Will Dominate Investment Market and Can Prevent State and City Loans for Public Improvements

Special Correspondence Evening Public Ledger
WASHINGTON, Feb. 22. BY ALL odds the biggest man in Washington just now—the President only excepted—is the Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. McAdoo. Born in Georgia, educated at the University of Tennessee, a lawyer in Chattanooga until 1892, when he removed to New York, where he continued the practice of law, but soon gave over to the installation of the Hudson River tunnel system, Mr. McAdoo has easily become the most powerful member of the present Administration.

During the present week he has been the center of all discussion in the Senate and House in connection with the railroad control bill and the bill to create a War Finance Corporation, which, if it passes substantially as written, will place in Mr. McAdoo's hands the director generalship of about all the public business and finance not otherwise controlled by the Administration.

"The Big Stick"
No musing of words about it, the War Finance Corporation is to be the "big stick" over the investment market, even to the extent of withdrawing support from new issues of State, county or municipal loans or public improvements, if, in the judgment of the Secretary of the Treasury, head of the Federal Reserve system, Director General of Railroads, and chairman of the War Finance Corporation, such investment might tend to divert the financial resources from war channels. Assist a water power company whose power banks no longer accept? Yes, if that company's needs can be proved up by the War Finance Corporation as being helpful in the prosecution of the war. Assist a company which desires to construct and operate a tourist line in Yellowstone Park? No, probably not. That might be held to be non-essential. Help the railroads? If they cannot obtain money to meet maturing obligations, yes, if by such advances transportation for war purposes may be facilitated.

Such, in a general way, is the meaning of the new War Finance Corporation. There is a great deal of concern about it, and much complaining on the part of investors who think their rights to do business may be invaded or temporarily denied; but the consensus of opinion is that Mr. McAdoo will have his way. The President is behind him and the people are supposed to be behind the President.

Responsibility wears well with Mr. McAdoo. He keeps his public engagements, appears cheerfully before committees of the House and Senate, speaks freely, and answers inquiries in rare good humor. He appears to be confident of his every move. No man in public life who comes before such powerful bodies as the Ways and Means Committee of the House and the Finance Committee of the Senate is more adept under cross-examination than Mr. McAdoo.

NEW REPUBLICAN LEADER

Hays Said to Be the Right Man in the Right Place

THE election of Hays is the ending—in the center of practical political controversy—the internal battle which broke in 1912. Hays has finally swung to him the powerful office of national chairman. The simultaneous resignation of the Progressive advisory committee and of the standpoint executive committee demonstrates how timely was the recognition of the need for getting together. Mr. Hays will now have a hand to name an executive committee that should reincarnate some of the old Progressive virtues of intelligent aggression—Chicago Evening Post (Ind. Rep.).

The enthusiasm aroused throughout the country by the election of Will Hays as chairman of the Republican national committee is characterized by a political conservatism of many years' experience as unprecedented. However this may be, certainly it is that we should have to go a long way back to find a chairman who has assumed office under happier auspices, or who is held in greater respect and admiration by the members of the party.—Pittsburgh Chronicle Telegraph (Rep.).

KULTUR IN NEBRASKA

It is to be said for the Nebraska German schools that thus far none of the more drastic measures for the suppression of other than the language of Kultur, as applied for instance in Poland, has as yet been adopted in Poland little children who are from ignorance of any save their native tongue or from inadvertence repelled to the Herr Professor in Polish were kicked in the face with the fist in the face. Sometimes they were knocked down with chairs. A jocular way of dealing with them was lifting them bodily up by the ears until the ears were laid torn from the head. Now and then a little shaver—even frantic by torture struck bodily through a window, leaving a trail of blood behind him. Deaths from cerebral inflammation now and then occurred. In Nebraska the Herr Professors have as yet adopted these methods. They tell their children who speak English in German schools. Sometimes they are expelled, as in Nebraska the Herr Professors have as yet adopted these methods. They tell their children who speak English in German schools. Sometimes they are expelled, as in Nebraska the Herr Professors have as yet adopted these methods.

What Do You Know?

- 1. Who is the First Lord of the British Empire?
2. What is meant by red letter day?
3. Who wrote "The Excursion"?
4. Who were the Roundheads?
5. Where is Vitebsk?
6. Identify Poor Richard.
7. Who were the Nine Worthies?
8. When was the Declaration of Independence?
9. What is the meaning of "Old Folks"?
10. Which State is the Old Dominion?

Whether Germany is fighting for her existence or not is clear; the Kaiser is fighting for his.—Savannah News.
The recommendation of a food substitute usually carries a patriotic rise in the price of the substitute.—Ohio Farmer.
Through blizzards and blundered, brutality and death in public life who comes before such powerful bodies as the Ways and Means Committee of the House and the Finance Committee of the Senate is more adept under cross-examination than Mr. McAdoo.

One advantage of a supreme war council of three is that it would leave one man on the job and two men on the sidelines.—Chicago Herald.
A line on the western front has been broken. The secretaries of the United States Army and Navy are busy to the hilt.

WHY CROCODILE TEARS DO FLOW

And now the crocodile has cried.
The crocodile has cried, and now the crocodile has cried. The crocodile has cried, and now the crocodile has cried. The crocodile has cried, and now the crocodile has cried.

THAT'S RIGHT, BLAME IT ON THE WEATHER

That's right, blame it on the weather.
That's right, blame it on the weather. That's right, blame it on the weather. That's right, blame it on the weather.

MONDAY GOVERNOR PENNYPACKER RECOUNTS SEVERAL INCIDENTS IN A HOUR MONTH

Monday Governor Pennypacker recounts several incidents in a hour month.
Monday Governor Pennypacker recounts several incidents in a hour month. Monday Governor Pennypacker recounts several incidents in a hour month.