

Evening Public Ledger

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THE RIGHT VIEW OF TRANSIT
The temporary retention of William S. Twining as director of transit is reassuring evidence of J. Hampton Moore's intention to avoid haste in the handling of formidable and complicated problems.

THE RIGHT VIEW OF TRANSIT
Spectacular moves in the transit situation are decidedly out of place. The public is weary of sensationalism in this subject. Progress based on expert advice and sound principles of economy is what should be sought.

SPEAKING OF PUNCH
ONE sort of punch is going swiftly out of life. If Mr. Weglein as president of the new Council can put the other sort behind public business and public enterprises he will deserve endless credit and later a higher office.

JERSEY'S FIFTEEN PER CENT
HOPE springs eternal in New Jersey. There is ground for the belief that the bill which Governor-elect Edwards ordered prepared to legalize beverages with a 15 per cent alcoholic content will be supported by a majority in the Legislature to which the Democrats will present it in fulfillment of Mr. Edwards's pre-election promises.

THE THIRD-TERM SCARE
EVEN Mr. Wilson's opponents are willing to admit that he has the best interests of the country at heart and that he has been making to do a great service to humanity. Unless they are mistaken the third-term gossip among politicians is without sense or reason.

CAGING "THE TIGER"
GEORGES CLEMENCEAU'S announced determination to retire would hardly be affected by his election to the presidency of the French republic.

reflective of the public will since his election is by the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate sitting in the National Assembly. The session will be held in Versailles on January 17.

IS JAPAN TRYING TO MONOPOLIZE EASTERN ASIA?
She Seems to Be Taking What She Wants While the Rest of the World Is Looking the Other Way

IT NEEDS surprise no one that Japan is now said to be mistress of eastern Siberia from Vladivostok to Lake Baikal.

MILLIONS FOR NEW BUILDINGS
IN THE remarkable report of the Bureau of Building Inspection there is definite promise of some, attractive changes in the physical aspect of Philadelphia.

"THE WOMAN IN THE WAY"
THERE is no more pathetic figure than a mature woman who has never learned self-support left dependent on relatives for food and shelter.

AN UNUSUAL TRAVELER
Frank M. Riter Covered 29,000 Miles Without Missing a Train or Losing a Piece of Baggage

BY GEORGE NOX McCAIN
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as Mr. Wilson entered office the government reversed the policy of Secretary Hay and withdrew its support from American financial interests in China.

It would have none of what has been contemptuously called dollar diplomacy. As a result the development of American trade with our nearest neighbor on the Pacific has been checked, and Japan, quick to see her opportunity, has been making hay while the rest of the world was otherwise occupied.

She is not to be commended for taking advantage of her trade opportunities. We would have done the same thing under the same circumstances. But the time is coming when a policy regarding Siberia and its future must be formulated if we are to enjoy those privileges in the East which are ours and if we are to co-operate with the nations which desire peaceful development of eastern Asia with its teeming millions of possible purchasers of our products.

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AN UNUSUAL TRAVELER

Frank M. Riter Covered 29,000 Miles Without Missing a Train or Losing a Piece of Baggage

BY GEORGE NOX McCAIN
FRANK M. RITER has just returned from an unusual trip. He traveled 29,000 miles and never lost a piece of baggage or missed a train.

Frank Riter was a militant independent when some of the present day leaders were in knee breeches. The cycle of politics moves rapidly these days.

The events antecedent to his unusual journey go back to the war year. Mr. Riter is one of the most prominent laymen in the Lutheran Church in the United States.

He established permanent headquarters and a welfare rest room in Paris. He did other things of the like that were needed. He likewise made a discovery.

There were no less than fifteen Lutheran congregations in Paris about which their brethren over here knew practically nothing. They joined hands with Mr. Riter.

When Commissioner Riter returned home he reported these facts to his people. The story of the fifteen French Lutheran churches was a surprise to them.

They were the survivors of the great religious movement that had swept into France after the Reformation.

The American Lutherans invited their French brethren to send a delegation to this country. They came, a little band of five people.

Having met and known them over there, Mr. Riter was appointed their guide and friend over here. How well he did his work is told in the opening paragraph.

REFERENCE TO FRANK M. RITER AS A militant reformer stages the fact that when a roster of Philadelphia militant independents is compiled the name of Colonel George F. Mays heads the list.

He is not a Philadelphian, either—only by adoption. He has been a resident so long though that he seems always to have been here.

After being born in New York state he was raised on a farm in Venango county. Then he got into commercial life, and later into the newspaper business.

His people in Venango sent him to the Legislature for four terms, beginning in 1877. Venango county, let it be known, used to be a regular hotbed of Independent Republicans.

It fairly blossomed with them. General Willis J. Hulings, another of the fiery sort, was in the Legislature with Mays. That was in 1881.

General Hulings, who commanded in Porto Rico during the Spanish-American War, went to the Senate later and then to Congress. His propensity to kick against crooked politics stays with him to this day.

All those Venango reformers were tall, wiry, sinewy fellows. And they knew how to fight.

HOWARD HEINZ tells me he had a celebration last week. It was the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of his business.

That wasn't the interesting part of his statement though. They had delegations of workers come on from Australia, India, South America and Europe. They gave all their employees, about 3000, a banquet.

But that wasn't the interesting part of it. Business firms are doing that somewhere in this country every day or so. But here was the unusual thing:

When they began to arrange for the banquet they couldn't find a caterer who would undertake the work. A banquet to 3000 men and women? Nothing doing.

They didn't have the equipment. It was no buffet affair. It was a regular honest-to-goodness, "sit down to it" feast. Think of the table outfit needed!

Then Mr. Heinz took the job in his own hands. He had one of his men buy 40,000 pieces of china, he tells me, all the necessary silverware, nappery and table furnishings and hired hundreds of waiters.

The banquet was held in a great room in one of their own buildings half as big as City Hall.

And there were no food regulations to interfere or muss things up either.

THERE were several faces sadly missed at the Newspaper Veterans' dinner to Mayor-elect Moore last Monday night.

James Rankin Young was one of them. He has lived in Washington since his retirement from government service. He was a member of Congress for two sessions.

He is best remembered by his delightful "S. M." letters in the old Evening Star. "Jim" Young was every public man of note in Pennsylvania from a period following the Civil War. And he knew how to write about them, too.

HARRY SHROFF BROWN was absent also; "Harry" of the newspaper world of twenty-five years ago.

In the late sixties he deserted journalism and went in for a managerial position. He has lived in New York and abroad for over two decades.

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"OH, SURE, I EXPECT TO ENJOY YOUR COMPANY!"



THE CHAFFING DISH

Recall
ALONG the upland roadway dance the swarms of bounding bet; A few impassive clouds are faint and high; The bowlders round these cedars are not hampered by men's feet.

THE Forty-niner
OH, MY HEART is turning backward to the scenes I used to know. When the redskins roamed the prairies and my blood ran light as wine;

THERE were deserts that we crossed that seemed to be the gates of Hell; There were skeletons along the way that seemed to cry "Beware!"

THEN the mountains loomed before us, austere, warning us away— What a train of graves we left to mark the passage ere we crossed!

OH, MY HEART is turning backwards to the days of long ago. When the prairie schooners rumbled and men died without a sign;

AN OAK TREE has fallen and choked up the road. But nobody comes or cares; And nine old bean poles lie cluttered with moss.

THE road is more a watercourse than pathway; Brunella's blue pagoda lifts in vain; The leaves sink down into the earth that made them.

COME back to Catharine street, watcher for vendors! Back to see Marie wade out through the storm; Back where Joe's chalk marks are wet on the pavements.

THE banquet was held in a great room in one of their own buildings half as big as City Hall. And there were no food regulations to interfere or muss things up either.

THE road is more a watercourse than pathway; Brunella's blue pagoda lifts in vain; The leaves sink down into the earth that made them.

COME back to Pine street, to Vine street, to Lombard! Back to your pavements the cool winds call; For you must be snug in the City of Houses.

OUR hearts are won when not aware. We know not how we know not why— We breathe a soft, delighted sigh. Glad captive of her viewless arm.

HIS FATE is blest beyond compare. Whatever his station, low or high. The lucky ether she makes her care: If pen or brush he deigns to ply.

UNLESS she smile no thing that's rare. When absent haunts the memory's eye; Unless she waves her wand the snare Of loveliness will empty lie.

WHERE doth she bide? Al, she is shy— With love and gold the woeful swarm; With no man can her favor buy, Mysterious, elusive Charm.

THE New York Sun says the New York crowds were strangely silent. Hadn't yet realized what struck them.

THE mummies proved that they knew how to put color into a gray day. Well, anyhow, wood alcohol doesn't taste like the first one after breakfast; their books read as though William McFee had written

THE old Council has retired permanently behind the green screen.

THE LOOK
AS I were climbin' Jacob's Tor, A soldier lad came ridin' down; He stopped and passed the time of day An' asked how far to Plymouth town.

I told him, that were all; he took The path that goes toward the sea. I turned to watch him out o' sight— An' he were lookin' back at me.

He waited. Like a stone I stood, Shamed to be caught, yet somehow bound To give him look for look; his ps Moved as to speak, but made no sound.

It seemed a lifetime we did look: As drounin' folk may do, they say, I thought of every little thing I'd ever done. He rode away.

Tremblin' and smilin' I did sit, And watched the larks an hour or more Fly up against the golden light. Wi' songs I'd never heard afore.

Jan's heavy breathin' by my side— All else be quiet and still. I fret An' long for day. How can I sleep When years do make my pillow wet?

—Gertrude Pitt, in the Bookman, London.

THE fact that the fact that Philadelphia has a people's administration should be worthy of note is worthy of note. It is a sad commentary on local political history.

What Do You Know?
QUIZ
1. What is the largest city in Siberia?

2. What statesman in American history was especially known for his skill in making compromises?

3. Who was John Leech?

4. What type of ship was the Maine, which was blown up in Havana harbor in February, 1898?

5. When did Great Britain abolish slavery?

6. How many kings of France were named Louis?

7. Why are the islands off the Florida coast called keys?

8. What is sorrel?

9. When did the peace conference in Paris formally convene?

10. Of what country is the present Dowager Queen of Great Britain a native?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz
1. The "Coal Sack" is a part of the southern heavens in which no stars are visible. This vast black gulf, according to the judgment of the human eye, lies near the Southern Cross.

"Magellan Cloud" is another name for it.