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PHILADELPHIA, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1914.

Take Penalties Off American Enterprise FROM motives of patriotic pride the people of this country are hoping for the reestablishment of the American merchant marine, which, in the days before railroad investment outrivaled it in attractiveness to private capital, and before the Anglo-German shipping "conferences" acquired a monopely of oceanic trade, carried the Stars and

Stripes to every port throughout the seven Beas. Our commercial and shipping men. atirred by the vast opportunity thrown in their way by a war which places upon this neutral nation a real responsibility to leater neutral nations, not so fortunate as ours in business resources and prospects, are studying the problem of a home supply of ships to handle the world trade to which they have fallen heir. Congress has dickered and dallied for years, revised old laws and passed new ones, with the final result that American enterprise and ambition have been so effectively balked that today we have no merchant marine worthy the name.

As Vance Thompson points out, in his article on this page, the Government at Washington can remove the obstacles which prevent the development of an adequate merchant marine. There are several things to be done, but the first and most important step is the complete revision and reconstruction of our navigation laws. These laws have been so muddled by much tinkering that hardly anybody can say offhand what they mean, except that they heavily penalize a man for doing business under the American flag.

Relief Without Waste

RELIEF upon such a large scale is needed at home as well as abroad that every effort must be used to avoid waste. Although there are unmistakable evidences of a return to prosperity throughout the country, there must of necessity be a period in which many of the unemployed will fall to find their places in the reviving industries. These are bound to suffer acutely during the coming winter unless the community springs to their rescue.

The Emergency Aid Committee, under the guidance of Mrs. E. T. Stotesbury, has formplated far-reaching plans to meet the situation in a scientific manner. The overlapping of the efforts of philantropic individuals and charitable organizations, following their own impulses and thereby overaiding in some cases while others are left to neglect, is avoided. The committee offers itself as a clearing house and a bureau of direction, by means of which each dollar will give a full dollar's worth of relief and just where it is most needed.

m lh

Such sagacious foresight cannot be too highly commended. There are multitudes of generous men and women ready to give their full share, and even to make personal sacrifices if they can feel assured that what they may do will really be applied to necessitous cases. The character and experience of the men and women serving with Mrs. Stotesbury are a sufficient guarantee that there will be the utmost efficiency of distribution, and this fact should stimulate generosity.

Excessive Modesty

Moderation; an excess is equivalent to the wiping out of individuality. As a commercial centre Philadelphia has been long obsessed by an extravagance of reticence.

With a volume and variety of productions that any city in the world might envy, our coy Philadelphia is nevertheless not taking full advantage of the opportunity to advertise its attractions at the Panama Exposition. In these days shop windows are as essential to business as counter.

It will certainly be a shame and the source of great loss to this community if there is not adequate representation of Philadelphia's enterprise in the next national exhibition. The rest of the country is likely to take us at our own valuation.

Blind Folly

THE great war has offered scores of new industries to the United States. Many lines of manufacture heretofore dominated by foreigners are now practically extinct. In the circumstances, American capital would not hesitate an instant were there any assurance of a continuance of the protection The war assures. But no capitalist will risk bis money in an adventure which, while certain to pay dividends now, will become unprofitable the moment industrial activity in Europe is resumed.

The unscientific nature of our tariff making is revealed. Otherwise the Government would at once encourage capitalists to adopt these "baby" industries by assuring them of all necessary protection upon the restoration of normal conditions. This would not be an insurance of profits, but it would be an insurance of equal opportunity. At present, on the contrary, a splendid opportunity for the acquisition of trade is foolishly

It is a pity that agrarianism should be so blind to its own welfare as to array itself against the maximum development of our manufacturing interests.

Censorship From Within

HICAGO having determined on municipal I dance halls finds itself embarked on cenoring the dances to be indulged in. A jury of 12 woman, is to witness the latest steps as demonstrated by vaperts, and to apply this perdecick of knowledge to anything doubtful

that may develop. The nettor, it seems, we shall have always

brought forth ten times the crop of moral mentors that flourished in early Comstockian days. The necessity is to be admitted as much as regretted. Some sort of chastening opinion in the background seems a necessity of civil-

lzed life. But how much better when that opinion is public opinion, when the censorship has the moral sense of the community behind it, and how much more effective it would be if that jury in Chicago might represent, to some extent, the dancers themselves and become not an outside force, but a power from within, a curbing of themselves with their own best Judgment. That is real liberty.

Unjustifiable Usurpation THERE are some elemental things the In-A terstate Commerce Commission has never understood and seems incapable of appreciating

The Interstate Commerce Commission was created as a Court of Equity in Commerce and not an Executive Committee to operate all the railroads of the country.

The Interstate Commerce Commission is not an extra and ultra advocate of the shippers in a suit in which the railroads and the traveling public are defendants under presumption of guilt.

The Interstate Commerce Commission is not the substitute of the Federal Government, authorized to assume a secret governmental ownership of all railroad properties.

The Interstate Commerce Commission is not the constitutional and confidential agent of pessimism, whose chief purpose it is to keep business depressed, finance disorganized and confidence disturbed.

If the Interstate Commerce Commission will confine itself to regulating abuses and removing anomalies, as was the intention of Congress when constituting it, instead of usurping the role of fiscal dictator, operating despot and legislative autocrat, the Interstate Commerce Commission may still perform good service. In its present mood of arrogation of Medo-Persian authority, it is growing to be a menace to the inalienable rights, without which our liberty and prosperity cannot survive.

Penn's Surprise

TORNELL sprung her surprise yesterday. Cornell spring her surprise yesternay. way. Two touchdowns in succession, leaving the score 12 to 10, naturally called up before Cornellian eyes visions of other "Turkey Days" when the "Big Red team" had gone home surprised, astounded and plucked. But when Cornell replied by making a touchdown off a punt, things were back to the even tenor of their predestined ways. At any rate, it was a fine "come-back" that Penn made, as fine as it was unexpected.

Is Germany Near the Turning Point? WAR news is ever deceptive. The facts themselves are always under severe question. Their interpretation is none too simple a matter. Finally, the world has seen many a beaten army turn upon a careless. overconfident foe and win to victory. But it is such considerations alone that can deter one from recognizing in the news of the last two days the turning point for Germany.

Dixmude recaptured by French marines; the menacing submarine base at Zeebrugge destroyed by the British fleet; Metz threatened by forces bombarding a town scarcely ten miles away; and on top of this, serious, perhaps calamitous German reverses in the east. While the left wing of the Russians has penetrated 50 miles beyond the Carpathians, the Czar's forces west of Warsaw appear to have inflicted on General von Hindenburg a defeat far more decisive than any hitherto administered in the eastern campaign. It may mean that, while the German offensive on the east comes to a dead standstill and threatens to turn into desperate defensive fighting, the Russians will be pressing hard on Posen, Breslau and ultimately Berlin.

In the face of the present state of the war, vith the numbers and resources of the Allies growing greater daily, it is little wonder that Prince von Buelow, the ex-Chancellor, writes a Berlin paper that he fears the war "will prove a very difficult task for Germany." Such an admission from so Influential a German is quite as significant as the fact of the Allies' victories.

Eternal Qualities

DEOPLE speak of the difficulty of accu-I rately presenting a past period in novels and fiction. Some assert the impossibility. They assume that human nature has changed. Men may have become more cultured, less warlike, their manners and morals may have changed, yes, but the inherent human qualities remain. Just as "Medea" applies to the life of today, so may the novelist and dramatist, with an understanding of human psychology and emotions and known facts, recreate the past. With such knowledge one might accurately picture ancient Carthage, Rome and Alexandria. The conversation given by Theocritus of two ladies in Alexandria, changing location and terms of speech, might take place off Rittenhouse square. It is as intimately gossipy, as enchantingly chatty as any modern tea talk. Today sometimes an Orestes appears in court, an Electra is sent to an insane asylum. And today, as ever, the frogs of Aristophanes chatter.

From the way King Albert of Belgium fights you would never guess the horrid truth that his middle name is Marte.

"Peace in Mexico" has almost caught up with "Death of Menelik," and Menelik

The weather this morning synchronized quite perfectly with the "morning after" feelings appropriate to the day following the consumption of the Thanksgiving dinner.

After reading George Bernard Shaw's scathing criticism of his conduct of the war, Sir Edward Grey probably exclaimed: "Oh

Whether Russia can conquer Germany is an open question, but in dealing a knockout blow to the "demon rum" she has achieved no small victory.

If the present rate of destruction continues among the leading naval Powers, we may find ourselves with the greatest navy in the world without having built a vesnel.

It is one of the intricacles of military strategy that Japan should occupy a big slice of Chinese territory for the purpose of preserving China's neutrality.

The doctors at least, are getting a little satisfaction out of the war as an opportunity for innumerable operations that prove the ever-growing power of surgical science.

With England financing the fight against Germany, nations are able to norrow money with me Films and modern dancing have that never were able to borrow before.

WILL YANKEE SAILING MASTERS SCOUR THE SEVEN SEAS AGAIN?

Half the World Is Calling for Neutral Ships, and It's Uncle Sam's Big Chance-Two Important Problems to Be Solved.

By VANCE THOMPSON

their ships.

the Clyde

this work?

by this directorate.

One plan among many.

least so the ship men say.

things are necessary if we are to be able to

compete fairly with the sea trading nations.

In some way or other our merchants must

have ships that cost them no more than the

rivals pay for their ships. And the second

point is that they must be able to man them

at no greater cost than the rivals pay to man

Government Must Face It

Now at some point or other and in some

definite way the Government has get to mee.

those two grave issues—the Government or

the ship owners. And the merchants are

pretty well of one mind that it is a matter-

You build a ship here in any home ship-

yard you please; the additional cost of con-

to 30 per cent, over tonnage constructed in

Great Britain. Then (the second point

again) the cost of sailing that ship under

per cent, or 30 per cent, higher than if it

were a British ship. And there, as the Scot

In some way these two things have to be

made up. There must be some method de-

vised of offsetting the greater cost of build-

The merchants with whom I have had

word believe that the higher cost of ship-

building could be got over in time. It is

only a temporary Inequality which the Gov-

plants and organizations were established

and set going American industry and in-

genuity should be able to hold their own

It is only that initial cost that would weigh

too heavily upon them. Were it removed,

were the building of ships an established and

going industry, there would be nothing to

fear from the men of Belfast, Hamburg or

How could the Government step in and do

The brain of the business world is busy

with the problem. One plan which has met

The working out of some practical scheme

will be easy enough, once the great principle

of Government ald for building ships for the

flag has been accepted; and it should be

borne in mind that the expert shipbuilders

aver that this aid need be only temporary

need last only until the great plants

are in operation and the organization has

been perfected. It is only a matter of giving

the boy a good start in the world. Father

Watch Officers, Americans

There remains always that difficult second

flag. Wages are higher, you know. The

which decrees that all watch officers shall be

provision of the navigation laws changed.

These officers should be American citizens,

questionably it should-a training school for

our naval reserve. At present it costs more

to get American sailormen and officers-

American crews-because there is so small a

contingent to draw from; but it is evident

that as our merchant marine grew it would

more and more attract the right kind of

men. It seems little possible, though, that

the operating expenses of a marine under

the flag can be greatly lessened. One of the

things that makes for cost is the ample

space given to the crew, under the law; and

another is the good grade, abundant food

which must be provided. No one, I think,

has any thought of changing these good

provisions of a good law. And it is to the

Government the ship owners look to make

up this handicap laid upon them by the laws

These are the things the business brain of

We need ships to carry goods to the war-

stricken neutrals that touch the seven seas;

and, of equal importance, our own foreign

commerce is paralyzed by the war and only

a national merchant marine can set it right.

So that is the problem; and it is up to

the Government has enacted.

America is thinking about.

Washington.

ing and operating American ships.

would say, bang goes 50 per cent. at least.

as in Germany-for the Government.

There was a time-too long ago-when American ships carried more than their fair share of the world's traffic. The Yankee sailorman was known in every port of the seven seas.

TTHE American flag sailed to every point; haps one may get at it in this way: Two Lof the compass. You have read of those stirring days. And you know it was war that drove us out of that trade.

Will war give us back our far-faring, flagflying Yankes ships? Can we get back our lost trade-and bring new carrying tradeunder the flag?

These are the questions the best brains in the world of commerce are asking today. And with hardly an exception they answer in the affirmative. We can get back our share of the world's trade; and more than our share. It is waiting for us. More than that, it is calling for us. Half the world is calling aloud for neutral ships under our neutral flag. This is the sort of thing that should get itself said first of all. The finest thing that commerce can do is to supply a want-to answer a cry for help. That one can help oneself by helping others is only a corollary. For years the great nations of Europe have been building up trade with South and Central America, with Asia Minor and the Far East. At great outlay they did the pioneer work, while we stood idly by They created immense demands-new wants and needs-in these more or less undeveloped countries; and having created the demand they supplied it at tolerable profit to them-

Demand Is Still There

War came and the supplies stopped; but the demand for them did not stop. These folk, who had been educated up to wanting bright colored British cottons and boots and linen-who had come to find the glittering, cheap things made in Germany and Austria and France quite indispensable-yearned for them as a man yearns for his habitual cigar. And they couldn't get them; and they can't get them

England, at a cost of over a million a day, is trying to keep the trade routes open. And she is doing it in a way, as you know, in spite of the daring raiders of Germany. But even at that the war rates for insurance are so high that it is well nigh impossible for the warring nations to do business at a fair profit. It is only in neutral ships that this trade, east and west, can be carried on without loss. Neutral ships are a prime necessity. South America, for instance, is an innocent party in this war. It is the duty of the neutral nations to come to her rescue and see to it that she is not d prived of the things she needs. It is only a decent duty to see that the innocent nations do not suffer. And what neutral Power can help them? I don't think the merchant marine of Spain or Sweden can help much-not even that of Switzerland.

It's Up To America

It seems to be up to America, as the slang men say. It is the duty owed by the great neutral nation to the lesser neutral nations in their need. That we shall build up a huge, profitable trade-and hold it-is merely one of the pleasant little ways of Providence to emphasize the fact that doing good is just as sound a policy as being honest.

And for all this two things are neededbanking facilities and ships. The banks as you know have led the way. And the shipping men have begun-in a rather feeble fashion to be sure-but still it's a beginning. In the month of October, I am told, 131 ships were admitted to American registry. They are flying the flag today. And it is worthy of note that 100 of them were built in American shipyards. What that means is this: In ante-bellum days American shipmasters found it more profitable to fly a foreign flag even over homemade ships. War conditions have, to some extent, equalized things. They have given the American merchant a fairer chance at the world game of sea trading. His competitors are handicapped by war risk insurance rates as well as by the war increased cost of the goods they export. But the game is not quite an even one yet. To get a rough general idea of it take, as an illustration, the German merchant marine, which had grown to be so formidable a rival of English commerce at sea. That was artificially fostered by the Government-it was enlarged exactly as the livers of Strassbourg geese are enlarged by artificial feeding. And on that Government pap it grew and waxed big until it menaced the sea trade of England herself.

Of course that illustration points the way. The great merchants-the tall men of commerce are virtually unanimous in the opinion that Government aid is necessary if we are to seize the opportunities now offered us and as well do our trade duty by the smaller neutral States. I am trying to make this statement at once concise and precise. Per-

OUR "VISIONARY" PRESIDENT

America is a nation of "incurable dream-rs," and Woodrow Wilson responds to these

dreams with actions as well as ideals. This is the by no means unpartisan analysis that George Creel makes of the President and his

successes in the current Century Maga-zine. To attempt an interpretation of his hold upon the popular imagination in terms of strict mentality, Mr. Creel continues, is

to commit one's self to the patent absurdity that he is the first President with brains. Others have matched him in intellectual

grasp, and what sets him apart, even as it set Lincoln apart, is nothing else than an exact comprehension of passionate idealism

as the animating impulse of America.
Vision, spirit, ideals, without the ciue afforded by these dream words, Woodrow
Wilson is a blank, the United States stam-

mering and unintelligible.

The soul of the many is found in the far-flung idealism of the Declaration of Inde-

pendence, not in the cautious phrases of the Constitution. False prophets and strange

gods have won no more than lip service, for deep in the heart of the nation an abiding faith in the ultimate triumph of love, justice

and brotherhood remains untouched. Finan-

cial genius may be given its sorry day of homage, yet its right to control the destinies of America has never falled to be resisted, and the great moneymakers do not live in memory beyond the reading of their wills.

What larger confirmation is needed than the breast investment in the present investment in the present investment in the present in th

he present impregnable position of Woodrow Wilson? He lacks color, exhibits no mastery

of spectacular values, makes no dramatic tours, contributes little to the thing called "human interest." that queer newspaper compound of anecdote and unconventional

incident; yet no man since Lincoln has niched himself so ineradicably in the confidence of

He has had the vision to see beneath the

CURIOSITY SHOP

The highest street in the world is Main street, in Denver: the richest is Fifth avenue, in New York city: the widest is Market street, Philadelphia, and the shortest is the Rue Ble, in Paris. The dirtiest street is that of Tchanksti, in Nankin; the cleanest is that of Tchanksti, in Nankin; the cleanest is the Via Castile, in Seville, Spain; the most aristocratic one is Grosvenor place, in London; the most beautiful is the Avenue des Champa Elysees, Paris. The narrowest street is Via Sci. Havana. Cuba, which has a width of ne more than 42 inches. Sol, Havana, Cuba, w more than 42 inches.

The "Ignoramus Jury" was formerly the title of the body now known as a grand jury, from the custom of their writing the Latin word Ignoramus—meaning "We do not know," "The evidence does not inform us"—on the back of a bill of indictment when they "ignored" it. The words now used are "No true bill." In "Collectanes Curiosa," Oxford, 1781, is a copy of a charge by Judge Allibon, at the Croydon Assizes, in 1688, in which the Judge directs the jury thus:

"If you find that anything proceeds from envy and malice, and not of due prosecution, you may acquit the person that is so wrongyou may acquit the person that is so wrong-fully prosecuted, and so justice is done be-tween party and party, so an ignoramus jury may not be of no use."

The fable says that Truth and Falsehood went bathing: Falsehood came first out of the water, and dressed herself in Truth's garments. Truth, unwilling to take those of Falsehood, went naked—hence, the "naked

CRISES IN GREAT LIVES

To Americans the name of Lafayette suggests the young, high-minded hero who sacrificed personal ambitions to help America win its battle for freedom. To France the name suggests the man who might have spared it the Revolution.

When Lafayette returned from America he was full of the fire of Jeffersonian democracy. When the National Assembly was convened in 1789, Lafayette placed hefore it a declaration of independence similar to Jefferson's instrument. Early in July, 1789, he was assected vice president of the Assembly, He has had the vision to see beneath the stagnancies of materialism down to the well-springs of an intense spirituality. He does not mistake backwaters for the living stream. The insistence that he is the last word in a well-ordered intellect, a personality as cold and remote as though Kant's "Critique of Fure Reason" were galvanized into action, is the stupidity of muddlers who have lost all touch with the siemental simplicities.

and already he saw his mission, to lead France without bloodshed, by the force of noble ideals, from menarchy to republicantism. Later, when the citizen army known as the National Guard was formed, Lafayette was chosen to be its commander-in-chief. Never had fortune, in such desperate straits, smiled so upon one man. With the National Guard he could protect Paris, could restrain the mob, could protect royalty until royalty saw its own folly.

The people of France trusted him, but they demanded to be fed. They were starving.

demanded to be fed. They were starving.
Lafayette did nothing. He tried to keep on
good ferms with court and people alike. At
Versallies the King wavered between democratic concessions and reactionary plots.
Lafayette tried to keep a middle course, but
in all the time his inaction was becoming in all the time his inaction was becoming more and more dangerous. The mob was beginning to seek other leaders. Camille Desmoulins was making his voice heard. Still Lafayette wavered and did nothing-Incapable of throwing himself whole-heartedly into the fight, he healtated and was lost. There emerged one who could set even cdy into the fight, he hesitated and was lost. There emerged one who could act. even wrongly, but could act immediately. It was Mirabeau. And with him Lafayette's crisis came to a disastrous end. It remained for Napoiron, years later, to rescue from an Austrian prison this man who could have made Napoleon impossible.

VIEWS OF READERS ON TIMELY TOPICS

struction is estimated to be from 25 per cent. Contributions That Reflect Public Opinion on Subjects Important to City, State and Nation.

our admirable navigation laws is from 25 To the Editor of the Evening Ledgert Sir-Rural credits and the proposed organiration of a Farmers' Union were subjects to which the American Federation of Labor gave attention in its recent convention, while the National Grange of Patrons of Husbandry, in its sessions at Wilmington, discussed immigration and other matters which the Federation onsiders of vital importance to its own mem

The proposal of unionizing the farmers must meet, of course, the objection that the situation of this class of producers is economically very of this class of producers is economically very different from that of industrial laborers, and therefore the forms of organization in the two cases must differ. The labor union, which deals ernment need make good. Once shipbuilding rimarily with the relations between employers and employes, is co-operative, but its tasks are unlike those of the organizations which American farmers are patterning after Belgian and Danieli models and adapting to the conditions existing in this country. Co-operative buying and selling, in which little Belgium has given lessons to the world, is probably the most important subject in the new rural economics. But the Federation of Labor was right in deciding that "the interests of the workers in industry and agriculture are closely allied." This idea of common or similar interests is making its way in all groups of society. Its expansi-READER

Philadelphia, November 28. with favor is that the Government should form a corporation to manage this part of BUSINESS EFFICIENCY IN CITIES

the maritime work; that the Government To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: should retain 51 per cent, of the stock and Sir-A police commissioner with imagination considering the suggestion of having the olicemen light and extinguish the electric let 49 per cent. go to the public; that the management should be in the hands of a street lamps on their beats. directorate, conjunctly appointed by the two Whether the plan is put in effect or not it is significant of something the cities should be houses of Congress and by the stockholders, Business administration is only the and that the executive head should be elected

first step in municipal progress. It means bringing the cities up to the standards of comorganizations that have been current for decades. Something more is needed. The cities must go ahead with that intensive study of means and ends which industry is only now adopting under the name of "business ef-The cities must study every department, in itself and in its relation to others, to see where

savings in cash and increase in power may be effected by elimination of wastes and duplica-tions. If such scientific management is valtions. If such scientific management is unble to corporations it is just as valuable Philadelphia, November 26.

will get it back when Willie grows up. At WAR DEPLETES UNIVERSITIES

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger:
Sir-Oxford University opened its year with
only a fraction of its normal student body.
During the American Civil. War many of our
colleges were depleted and had to close their part-the operating cost under the American doors until peace returned. In some instances entire classes volunteered for service and marched to the front under their own student chief feature in the additional cost is the law

American citizens. And they demand Ameri-Oxford has always had a military organization within the university, and as Earl Kitch-ener believes that the best officers are not can pay. I do not think any one wants this those promoted from the ranks, it is probable that the collegians will all be commissioned at once. A university education is largely a pubif the merchant marine is to form-as unlle privilege, and should imply a return of pubboth in war and peace

COLLEGIAN. Swarthmore, November 26.

A NOTE OF THANKS

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: Sir-Please let me thank you and your delightful representative who reported my girls' ballad dances at the Little Theatre on the 17th. Enthu-siasm is rare, helpfulness is too often dull and a gentleman in business is too refreshing to go unnoted. Although authoritative critics laud and encourage real art effort, the crowd is slow to take any achievement that has not gone to Europe to get foreign names and starting ground. When a newspaper really helps Amer-ican art, initiative and effort, I, for one, am MARY PERRY KING. Sunshine House, New Cannan, Conn., Nov. 25.

NATIONAL VIEWPOINT

The Federal Council of the Churches of Christ The Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, which proposed the day of prayer for peace, observed October 4, is planning to extend 'the good will and sympathy of the Christian churches in America," through prominent clergymen, to the churches of Europe, including belligerent countries. After all a most fundamental fact, in spite of all this war business, is that the peoples of the various nations have vastly more in common, as human beings, than they have in disagreement as followers of different flags. The Federal Counlowers of different flags. The Federal Council is a proper body to help emphasize this neglected truth.—Springfield Republican.

The flag has not been saluted. There is no assurance of peace. Except for our naval force we are in no position to fulfil our engagements with foreign Powers. Setting out to establish constitutional government in Mexico, we are leaving Mexico to its own re-sources at a time when its internal affairs are more chaotic than they were when we inter-fered with them. Have we served the Mexicana? Have we served ourselves? served mankind?-New York World. Have we

The check which the Minnesota Minimum Wage Act has received in being held unconstitutional by an inferior court is chiefly significant as showing how little the tribunals of one State are affected by the decisions of another.

Appeal to the State Supreme Court will determine if the interpretation of such laws is
really different in Oregon and in Minnesota.— New York Evening Post,

We don't think ourselves that Bernard Shaw is a profound philosopher, a social prophet, an excellent dramatist. We have found fault with Shaw and have been impatient of his eternal paradoxes and fallacious processes. But we admit that Shaw is salt, Attic sait, in an Anglo-Saxon world of too much utility. And we re-joice when Shaw stirs up complacency and prods hypeerisy, when he pitchforks stupidity and flavs respectability. He is a tenic, and as tonic, not as a social eavior, does us good --Minneapolis Journal

TO THEODORA

Sweet maid, the passion of the ross I lay not at your feet;
The coelest flower that apringtide knows
I deem a gift more meet.

A flower whose virgin whiteness glows Adown the path we trace. While yet the naked hawthorn throws Prophetic shadow-lace.

A flower whose fragrant whispers say That tender constancy And truth and henor far outweigh All passion's ecutasy.

Sweet maid, I pray thee, have no fear To wear my April flowers; And haply, when fair June is here.

The rose, too, shall be curat —Mary Lawson, in the Outlook

SCRAPPLE

Contraband of War

When peace has been busted wide open and the nations of the earth are engaged in shooting at each other with whatever is handy, the contraband of war gets into the war reports with great regularity.

A contraband of war is a commodity which

A contraband of war's a commodity which would help a country in its nefarious work of reducing the population of its neighbors. When an article has been declared contraband any warship is entitled to run up the fing, give three cheers and grab the ship which carries it.

By this means steel, copper, automobiles, wheat and other articles are being kept out of Germany by England at the present time.

of Germany by England at the present time. They would also be kept out of England if the English fleet would kindly look the other way long enough to let the German fleet get out of the Kiel Canal and begin to roam the ocean picking up chance acquaintances with the American merchant marine. When a nation has enough cruisers it can

When a nation has enough cruisers it can be very officious about the contraband-of-war business and can keep the freight steam-ers of the world bobbing up and down on the high seas while its officers hunt for salt-petre in the stokehold and examine the offi-cers quarters for signs of mules. Thus war hecomes a calamity even to the noncombat-ant. However, we should bear the contraband-of-war rules patiently and endeavor to establish contraband of peace, which would be a much more useful thing all around. If United States cruisers could examine every incoming steamer for smuggled foreign husbands, new Argentine dances, Ellior Glyn novels, French gowns and Partsian come-diennes, and could declare these contraband of peace and liable to seizure, fumigation and sale, the cause of happiness would be greatly promoted in these parts and this country ould become even more emmently desirable as a place of residence.

In the Civil War the Federal Government

declared Negroes to be contraband of war, and thus struck a vital blow at the Confederacy. The European nations have done a more deadly thing. They have made a con-traband of war out of war news, and a puzgled world has to guess from week to week whether the Russians are in Petrograd or in the last ditch, and where the Germans are advancing, on Paris or Berlin,-George

To Maud

"She never kicked"-this was the epitaph We carved above her final resting place. And all the cruel goadings of the staff. The bludgeonings she got, in sad disgrace, She took in patient calm, nor ceased to laugh, With more of noise than harmony

grace. In short, through life she always held the pace: "She never kicked" when she was gi'en the

Her way was fraught with undeserved Her road was always thorny, never smooth, And she was subject, all her life, to rule

Of many masters, yet she always chose The kindly way; and so we say, to soothe Her shade, "She was a good, hard working mule." First Prize, Please

Fond Mother—Can't you manage to give my son one of the prizes at the exhibition? Teacher—Your son will stand no chance; he obstinately persists in idleness. Fond Mother-Oh! but then, if that's so,

you can give him a prize for perseverance She Didn't Mean It Old Gentleman (who had just finished reading an account of a shipwreck with loss of passengers and all hands)—"Ha! I am scr-ry for the poor sailors that were drowned!"
Old Lady—"Sailors! It isn't the sailors; it's the passengers I am sorry for. The sailors are used to it."—Exchange.

Of Course Some persons ask, in deep surprise, Who keeps the doctor fake, the quack; To answer one need not be wise, Who but the hypochondriac?

More Or Less

Guest-Mrs. Jones, your roast is simply delicious.

Mrs. Jones-Oh, yes, my husband always buys the best; he is a great epicac.

G. K. Chesterton on the Weather

I do not know if other people are made like me in this matter; but to me it is al-ways dreary weather, what may be called useloss weather, that slings into life a sense of action and romance. On bright blue days I do not want anything to happen; the world is complete and beautiful, a thing for contemplation. I no more ask for adventures under that turquoise dome than I ask for adventures in church. But when the background of man's life is a gray back-ground, then, in the name of man's sacred supremacy. I desire to paint it in fire and gore. When the heavens fall man refuses to fall; when the sky seems to have written on it, in letters of lead and pale silver, the decree that nothing shall happen, then the immortal soul, the prince of the creatures, rises up and decrees that something shall happen, if it be only the slaughter of a policeman.—From "Tremendous Trifles."

Add Alliances JOF FRE NCH no longer stands alone. An English paper

A Real Horror

One horror of warfare that fills us with woe, And even impels us to plot.

Is the knowledge that jingoists driven to go To the front will escape being shot

During the Training

It was Private Smith's (whose number was 254) first church parade, and, having done a good deal of marching, he was naturally feel ing the effects of it during the service. He had not been in church long when the reverend gentleman announced the hymn: "Number 254. 'Art thou weary, art thou languid?" Private Smith shouted with a loud voice:

"Not haif!"-London Opinion. Trapped

"Dick," said his wife, as she poured the breakfast coffee, "did you get any mail this morning "Nothing but papers."
"Did you post that letter I gave you yester-

"Certainly." "Strange you haven't received it. It was ad-dressed to you."

The Babbling Fool There are some people who take it as a personal grievance that there are only ten commandments and only seven deadly sins. They spend their very virtuous lives in a mad endeavor to fill in what the Bible left out, and prepare wonderful moral budgets full of "Thou shalts" and "Thou shalt nots." If they escape murder by their thirtieth year they usually set up as prophets. At 50 they

they usually set up as prophets. At 50 they die.

But for me there is quite enough virtue in this world aiready. Far too many green and pleasant paths are fenced in, with a moral "Verboten" or "No Trespass" sign in front-"Verboten" or "No Transas" sign in front. There seems to be a general impression that the more things an age forbida, the more virtuous it is. Whereas it is, or should be quite clear, that the opposite is true. If the next generation will have it that a man must not drink, and the one after it that

the next generation will have it that a man must not drink, and the one after it, that he must not amoke, and the following one that he must not sanoke, and the following one that he must not eat, sleep or play tennia, these prohibitions will not make them moral it will make them immoral. Because these prohibitions will prevent a man from exercising his free choice, and without choice, where can morals exist?

And the moral of this is: Away with moral precepts. Let us teach our children to do as they please, and hope and pray that they will please to do right. And if the little beggars refuse, let us cheerfully throw the blume on some one else—we'll find some one, surely—and thank Heaven that when we were children, things were differently arranged.