

Evening Ledger PUBLIC LEDGER COMPANY... John C. Martin, Treasurer; Charles H. Ludington, Editor; John C. Martin, General Business Manager... PHILADELPHIA, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1915

cutting down those hopelessly decayed... There should be a presidential em in the Square, planted by the first President who ever participated in the national celebration of the Fourth in Independence Hall.

Be Americans First

It is remarkable that any association of American citizens should organize a national movement "to re-establish genuine American neutrality" and make their basic demand the adoption by the United States of a policy which would at once put the nation squarely in an unneutral position.

There are millions of good American citizens whose sympathies in the great war are with the Fatherland. If Germany controlled the seas and were able to give safe conduct to ships loaded with munitions of war for the Kaiser's troops, these citizens would resent any attempt to close the American market.

It is even more unfortunate that an organization should be formed to introduce into our politics the animosities of foreign nations, or to pledge candidates to a course favorable to the foreign Power or that.

Smug Apologists Instead of Leaders FORTY thousand men yesterday fought their way through snow and rain and slush to the tabernacle. Almost unanimously these 40,000 thundered their approval of the evangelist's bludgeon blows for decency.

When things have to be made possible there is always a Man. Mr. del Grella, attracted by the sign, went in one day and they put him to work. In a mauve colored silk shirt and overalls you may see him any day nailing up boxes, building tables and cupboards, hauling goods.

An Innocent Victim of Fame FAME and youth have been thrust upon the White House baby together at an age when he is too young and too weak to resist either. His youth is a concomitant of his entry upon the stage of life. But his fame is due to the accident of his parentage and the place of his birth.

Philadelphia Wants a Wilson Elm THE President was deeply moved last year by the privilege of participating in the national Fourth of July celebration here, and he will certainly be impressed by the weight of his obligation to his country when he is asked to come here in the spring to address about 4000 aliens who will secure their final citizenship papers within a few weeks.

TEARING WHITE RAGS TO SAVE SOLDIERS

The Big Neutral Enterprise of Sending Bandages to the Hospitals of War-stricken Europe—The Law of Help Put Into Practice.

By VANCE THOMPSON

I KNOW now what Ruskin meant when he said "the highest and first law of the universe" was the Law of Help. I have seen that law in operation.

No. 41 West 38th street, New York—it is not far from Fifth avenue. You will see in the shop window a great black and white sign which reads:

"SURGICAL DRESSINGS COMMITTEE." And through the window you will get a glimpse of a long counter at which many women stand—hour after hour—folding up pieces of white cloth. That is all you can see from without and it has an air of mystery.

The Surgical Dressings Committee is an outgrowth—a towering growth now—of Miss Anne Morgan's Vacation War Relief Work. It began early in November, when the reports from our American hospitals in France began to come in. What was wanted most over there was a supply of properly sterilized bandages.

So the committee was formed, with Mrs. Mary Hatch Willard as chairman and Miss Carita Spencer as secretary. They raided their own linen closets and the linen rooms of their friends. J. B. Corbin, a kindly man, who had already taken degrees in the Law of Help, gave them rent free the huge floor in West 38th street and the cellars beneath.

Many Women Volunteer

Dr. Joseph Blake, in charge over there, called for more. In addition he sent over one of his associates, Dr. J. Peter Hoguet, to act as consultant surgeon for the committee. Doctor Hoguet knows, of course, exactly what is wanted, both in the ward room and in the operating room.

Then a Mere Man Helped When things have to be made possible there is always a Man. Mr. del Grella, attracted by the sign, went in one day and they put him to work.

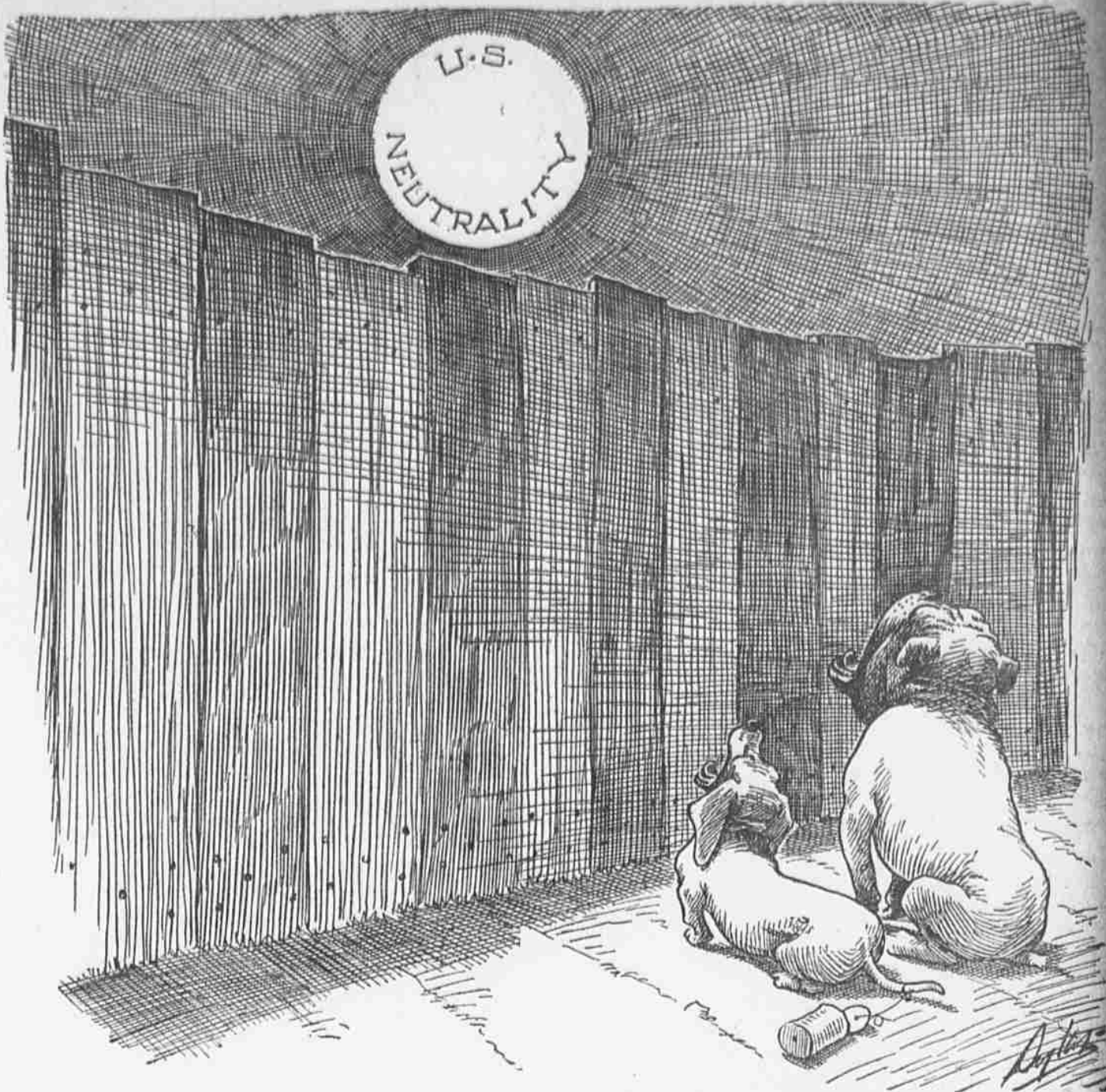
120,000 Dressings Since November 15, the date of the first shipment, 120,000 sterilized dressings, pads, pillows, bandages and all the rest, arranged in orderly wardrobe kits or operating kits. It's a fair record, eh? Most of them have gone to France, because that is where the demand came from.

German War Songs From the English Review. This intellectual sentimentalism, which the Kaiser found it so easy to play upon, is revealed in the grandeur of their martial songs and the reverence with which they sing them. "Die Wacht am Rhein," "Ewei Grenadiere," "Deutschland ueber Alles," "Heil Dir im Siegerkranz"—these are no ordinary songs of patriotism.

Jobs for the Unemployed How fast it has grown in New York alone you may gather from the fact that a second loft has been taken at No. 461 Lafayette place. And here the Law of Help takes a wider extension.

The Island of Hong-Kong. Hong-Kong is a small island, containing 37 square miles, lying to the northeast of the estuary of the Pearl River and 45 miles from Canton. The new territory, the Kowloon extension, contains 38 square miles.

"OW-OO-O!"



FEBRUARY, A MONTH OF BENEFICENCE

It Has Had an Unfortunate History, But Its Interesting Associations and Gifts to Mankind Raise It to a Position of Proud Distinction in the Calendar

"A little month."—Hamlet.

OF ALL little months February is the littlest. No wonder. In the making of the calendar, February took most of the hard knocks. No wonder, indeed, that it is a dwarfed, stunted, sawed-off month.

Once there was no February, not even in the Roman calendar, from which we derive our own. Romulus never thought of it. The omission was corrected by his successor in the Kingship, Numa Pompilius, who decided that 10 months were not enough and accordingly started off the year with January, relegating February to last place.

The Month of Purification Numa gave the month the name of Februarius, which comes from the Latin word, februa, to purify. It is the month of purification. In Roman times it had that character, and in the calendar of the holy days of the Christian church, Candlemas is the festival of the Purification of the Virgin. Lent begins in February.

On the eve of St. Valentine's Day the young folks of England and Scotland, by a very ancient custom, celebrate a little festival. An equal number of maids and bachelors get together; each writes their true or some feigned name upon separate billets, which they roll up, and draw by way of lots the maids taking the men's billets, and the men the maids'; so that each of the young men lights upon a girl that he calls his valentine, and each of the girls upon a man whom she calls hers.

Two Birthday Anniversaries February is so rich in days of peculiar interest and significance that it is hard to do it justice. February gave us the savior of the United States, the young boy who saved the world by his timely intervention.

The Red of the Apple "February comes in like a sturdy country maiden, with a tinge of the red, hard winter apple on her healthy cheek, and as she strikes against the wind, wraps her russet-colored cloak well about her, while with bent head, she keeps throwing back the long hair that flows about her face, and though at times half-blinded by the sleet and snow, still continues her course courageously."

February—February—How your moods and actions vary Or to seek or shun! Now a smile of sunlight hitting, Now in chilly snowflakes drifting, Now with icy shuttles crisscrossing, Silver webs are spun, Now with leaden torrents lapping, Oceanward you run, Now with bells for tinkling ring, "March the stars or sun! Now a blade of birdhook bring To the suffering one; Many blessings rest above you, You one day (and so on) love you! Give us Washington!