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## PHILADELPHIA, TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 1915.

Riches disappear much more quickly than poverty.

## Precaution Run Mad

A NERVOUS contemporary fears greatly that the city will be deprived of home rule by the constitutional amendment permitting the increase of the city's borrowing capacity to 10 per cent, of the assessed valuation. The point raised is that funds borrowed under this authority will be available only for rapid transit and port improvement.

"It seems unnecessary to point out that the city need not borrow the money unless it wants to. It is clothed with absolute power in that respect. It will vote for transit and port what it thinks transit and port ought to have. If the combined amounts do not use all of the additional borrowing capacity, so much the better. If they do, it means that the money would have been used for these two purposes anyhow, irrespective of any limitation of availability.

It is quite true that In the event of a surplus it would be well if the money could be applied to other improvements. To hold back transit two years, however, to secure this additional advantage would be precaution run mad. The most exigent needs just now are transit and port. When they are provided for, there will be no insurmountable difficulty in eliminating restrictions on the borrowing capacity of the city, if such elimination appears to be wise.

Lies-A Chief Munition of War

TIES constitute one of the most important Li munitions of war. They nurture hate. Each national must be made to believe that his adversaries are inhuman, barbarous, murderous wretches. How otherwise could the Governments keep their pawns in the field and recruit new sacrifices for machine guns? Misunderstandings are the things wars are made of and the means by which they are continued. So all the wells of information are poisoned and lies are pyramided on lies to aggravate these misunderstandings and keep them vitalized. Great facts stand out like generals, but they are surrounded with myriad ranks of lies, soldiers of hates, true emissaries of Mars. Truth would empty many trenches that machine guns cannot clear.

Dodging Political Eclipse in Chicago TORE rising political suns have gone down in eclipse because of rum than for any other reason. When a man desirous of making and keeping friends was asked to have a drink he was afraid to refuse, and pretty soon drink had him.

The new Mayor of Chicago has apparently decided to profit by the mistakes of others, he has announced that he will not attempt to run the business of the city with the aid of alcoholic stimulants. Soft drinks and hard sense make up his program. The city will be better governed on grape juice than on cocktails. The man who uses alcohol to excess cannot hold his own either in business or in politics. Affairs move so swiftly that it is imperative that a man have his wits about him all the time if he is to keep up with the procession. Monday spent in sobering up from a Saturday night and Sunday debauch is a day wasted. A bracer in the morning, after hearty drinking at night, will not restore the stamina lost through excessive stimulation. The fittest survive, and the sober man is fitter than the drunkard. He may not be so brilliant, but he is more dependable, and it is the dependable man who holds up the fabric of business and society. The operation of economic laws, which discard the drunkard, is making temperance a necessity.

straight. If he can prove it to the satisfaction of a jury of plain ettizens of Onondaga County, the nation at large will be delighted to learn that the grandson of Thurlow Weed is an angel of light and not an expert in the game of polities as it is played in Albany and in New York in these exceedingly degenerate days. But the country does not really expect Mr. Barnes to be able to satisfy the jury that he is better than his party, or that he has used his great influence to cleanse it of the corruption which has stained its record. The verdict will probably depend on what the jurors think "corrupt" and "crooked" mean when applied to politicians and politics.

## Party or Barrel?

CERTAIN Republican leaders sold out to the liquor industry last full. They promised it immunity and a clear field in return for money and support at the polls. Of all the important Republican candidates the Governor alone repudiated this infamous alliance, refused to profit from the transaction, declared boldly for local option and offered in his own person the means whereby the electorate could veto the contract and rescue the party from the morass into which its ostensible friends were seeking to plunge it.

The vote tomorrow will show whether the party is a chattel to be sold, or a living. breathing organism, susceptible to statesmanlike and heroio leadership. It will show whether the Republican party belongs to the people or to the liquor ring. If it belongs to the latter and that fact is established tomorrow, there is a revolt brewing which will topple the whole party structure into promiscuous ruin and menace the economic rehabilitation of the nation, which is so earnestly hoped for in 1916.

## Female Suffrage a Safety Valve

 $C^{\rm ONVERSATIONS}$  on trolley cars are for all ears. "When the war is over," remarked a local politician, "there will be an influx of foreigners to this country and we'll have them all voting the straight ticket within a year." The law is against such procedure, but practice favors it. So much for practical politics.

Two million voters can assimilate 1000 raw citizens better than 1,000,000 can assimilate 500. If there is going to be an inrush of foreigners, who will be voted by some trick or other, a good way in which to counteract the menace is to double our present electorate by the simple means of extending the franchise to women. They would be a very excellent safety valve during the period of converting foreigners into good American citizens.

## "Come Over, 'Billy' Sunday, and Help Us!" FROM England comes the Macedonian cry, "Come over, 'Billy' Sunday, and help us." Yet there are men who say that the glory of oratory has departed and the power of it is no more.

Baseball slang is unknown in England, and the vernacular of London is its own, not easily acquired. That the apiness and force of the evangelist would suffer as a result is clear, yet it by no means follows that a campaign there would be a failure. Death has reaped a harvest in the island. There is menace in the clouds and England is covered with a pall such as no living men before have witnessed. It is a period in which unite all conditions that make for a revival of religion and drive humanity, terrorized and stricken, in supplication to the Supreme. The field is ripe for a harvest and there are myriads waiting to hit the trall. There is, too, a subtle compliment to America in the summons, which will not diminish good wishes for England in this country, for "Billy" Sunday has won a place in the hearts of thousands of Americans who delight to see him honored.

## GRANT'S POLICY SEEN IN ALLIES' CAMPAIGN

Battles in Western Theatre of War Indicate Intention of Wearing Down Germany by "Attrition,' Expert Declares.

## By FRANK H. SIMONDS

 $E^{\rm ARLY}$  in the war there was attributed to General Joffre a statement which caught the fancy of the world, but at the time carried very little enlightenment. Asked if the French offensive had begun seriously he had replied, "No, I am just nibbling," But in March and April the word came to have a far more serious and sinlater connotation than at first. Indeed, it seems now, to the European critics, to mean precisely what Grant described as "attrition." Grant's policy had been from 1864 to the end, as he described it, "to hammer continuously against the armed force of the enemy and his resources until by mere attrition, if in no other way," the South should be subdued.

An examination of the actions in the Champagne, at Neuve Chapelle, has satisfled Hilaire Belloc, the most eminent of British war critics, that allied strategy in the west is now undertaking a policy of attrition, which every American must necessarily associate with the methods of the greatest of the generals of the North.

To be successful a policy of attrition presupposes a superiority of numbers with the general taking the offensive. This the French, with their British and Belgian al-Ues, have. French official reports continue to place the German strength in the west at 47 corps, or substantially 2,000,000 men. But the strength of the French, Belgian and British, with the reserve formations and troops in the depots, cannot be less than 4.000,000, and is bound to grow as the British contingents arrive

## Germans Lack Numbers

The theory of Belloe, sustained by much evidence, is that the Germans now lack the numbers sufficient to maintain a reserve equal to that of the Allies at all points Thus, when the French made their great attack in the Champagne in February and March, German troops were presently found here which had been before the British about La Bassee a few days earlier. On the theory that the Germans had weakened their line in Flanders to support their troops in Champagne, the British attacked at Neuve Chapelle and won a considerable victory, despite mismanagement.

Again, and later, a violent French offensive having developed about the St. Milliel salient and German reserves having been called up, new French offensives in Alsace and about Arras won material successes, All this tends to support the Belloc theory, the theory of British and French observers generally, that German reserves are inferior in number to the French and British, and to meet a local attack the Germans are thus compelled to weaken their whole battle front

The theory of attrition, of Joffre's "nibbling," is disclosed to Belloc in the operations at Neuvo Chapelle. First, there is an enormous and measurably secret concentration of artillery at the point selected for attack. Then a tremendous bombardment, which silences the opposing artillery and destroys the enemy's trenches. Under cover of this artillery and before the enemy has recovered from the storm there is a general advance, and the enemy's trenches are occupled and organized to resist a counterattack.

## Counter-attacks Costly

So far the losses may be held to be fairly equal. But now the enemy, bringing up his reserves, endeavors to retake his old positions under fire of an artillery still superior and an infantry occupying his old trenches. Here he suffers very great losses, and his casualty list at the end of the fight exceeds that of the Allie was the case at Neuve Chapelle, if the British figures for German losses be accepted; that is, if it be believed, as Field Marshal Sir John French insists, that the German loss was nearly 20,000. The British was 13,000. But the German claim is that their own loss was but 6000. To support the British figure is the "eyewitness" assertion that nearly 3000 Germans were buried on the field after the fight. At St. Mihiel, if the French bulleting are necepted, and they have the air of accuracy lacking in the German, because they give in detail the ground captured and the time of taking with circumstantial particulars, while the German statement is merely a general denial, the procedure was the same The French seized the heights of Les Eparges after sharp fighting and then beat off a long series of counter-attacks which cost the Germans a terrible loss. This is again confirmatory of Beiloc's theory and an example of Joffre's "nibbling." Now, in the Civil War, Grant's policy of attrition in Virginia was supplemented after his army went south of the James by a second method. Week by week he stretched his lines easiward as his reinforcements came up. Lee, compelled to extend his lines

in the same way, finally stretched them until, as ho had long expected, they became too thin, and in the last days of March Grant broke them in three places and opened the drive to Appomattox. Unless the Germans can presently bring forward new reserves it must be clear that Joffre's tactics will have a similar result.

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**新新教室的**在1995年1月19日的日本社会社会社会社会会会和新新会会

At Neuve Chapelle the British actually penetrated the German lines. Conceivably, to judge from British reports, had the reserves been well handled more than local advantages might have been gained. French success in the last few days in Alsace is another indication of the weakening of German resistance. But above all the failure of the Germans to take the offensive anywhere in the west in recent weeks seems to demonstrate that they lack the numbers for anything but defensive fighting, and even here are hard put to it, as all the recent struggles would indicate, to hold their own.

## No General Offensive

If this interpretation of allied strategy be true, if the Germans in France are actually and permanently to remain inferior in numbers, then instead of any general allied offensive all along the line, the "spring drive" so much advertised, what is to be expected is a long series of "nibbles," of operations wholly similar to those in Champagne, in Flanders, in Lorraine and in Alsace. So long as allied losses do not exceed German, the cost to the Germans will be greater proportionately, and the time must come when they will have to retire to shorter lines, presumably behind the Meuse and the Scheldt.

Meantime the immediate effect of this strategy is to pin down in their positions all the German troops in France, save the small reserves which are hurried from danger point to danger point, and there can he no shifting of army corps cast and west

# "WATCHFUL WAITING" IN APRIL, 1915

LEGISTANA

## Startling Facts From Riddled Mexico for Complacent America. Famine and Pestilence Likely to Be Added to Chaos and Anarchy in the Bankrupt Country.

## [This is the first of two editorial articles written by an Evravia Lergen staff corre-pondent, who was sent to the Mexican border to study conditions.]

A NECESSITY, NOT A LUXURY

 $A^{\rm CLOSE-RANGE,~unprejudiced~view~of}$  the Mexican situation can lead to but one conclusion-that is, that every hour of postponement of intervention means an additional hour of cumulative horrors and tortures for the Mexican people. By the Mexican people we mean the submerged 85 per cent, in whose behalf, it has been proclaimed, the Administration's policy of watchful waiting was framed.

Live along the Mexican border for a few months newadays and your blood will boll at the very mention of watchful waiting, Cross over into the festering and revolution-blighted provinces and you will see and hear things that will make you yearn for the mailed might of a Kaiser. You will see the widely press-agented liberators, Villa, Carranza, Zapata and all the rest of them in their true light, as so many All Babas scourging the country with unorganized and unrestrained bands of marauders, burning and pillaging and looting, and exchanging this loot and pillage for American-made shot and shell. You will hear of monasteries and nunneries sacked and outraged, of scores of villages razed to the ground, or transformed into temporary intrenchments for the sort of border warfare that was characteristic of the Dark Ages.

## Refugees in Texas You will learn of tens of thousands of

driven into the wilderness like so many

bands of normad Indians. Texas has given

shelter to at least 100,000 refugees, and

every little group of these that has crossed

the Rio Grande had a tale of wantonness

and barbarity to tell that should shock the

sensibilities of the most case-hardened

watchful waiter in the universe.

tion or another for selfish reasons. You will find innumerable exiles with a grievance that has naturally warped their judgment. A few years ago these exiles were in the great majority of instances bitterly opposed to American intervention. They believed that some strong man would arise and restore order, or at least a semblance of order that would permit of a concentrated effort toward reconstruction. But this idea has dwindled and vanished until it is now the carnest desire of many of those who were formerly most bitterly opposed to intervene tion that this Government should at least adopt a strong moral policy of police intervention.

O

#### Bullets C. O. D.

We have had it dinned in our ears that the Mexican people would rise as one man; that all the warring bands and factions would unite for national defense the moment a squadron of American troops crossed the bonder. There are few apologists for watchful waiting who still entertain this notion. There would have to be strong leaders and capable leadership for national defense even in a far more highly civilized country than Mexico. There would have to be available large resources in munitions of war for defense. Of this resource there is a hopeless scarcity today. Even with all the leniency we have exercised in the matter of allowing arms to be shipped in, the magazines of the revolutionists are virtually empty. Only C. O. D. shipments are going over the border,

#### A Bale a Shot

WHEN the Queen Elizabeth shoots one of her big guns 400 pounds of cotton disappear from the face of the earth. A hale a shot is approximately the rule. This has not yet exerted any very great effect on the cotton market; but the cheapness of the staple has resulted in an extension of its use. It is quite probable, therefore, that before the war is over, cotton, too, will respond to the situation and yield a fair profit to the producer. The United States can never expect to get full profit from this great crop until its own factories use most of the raw material. There is not, however, anything hopeless about the cotton market, which has been gradually improving and is likely to continue to improve.

#### **Crooked** Politics in Court

TF COLONEL ROOSEVELT libeled William Barnes when he called him a bipartisan boss, joined in an alliance between crocked business and crooked politics fighting to maintain corrupt and machine government, then the Colonel is not the only man in New York who has libeled Barnes, and he not the only man in the Union who has been guilty of libeling political bosses in other States.

Mr. Roosevelt's defense, so far as it has been made known, is justification and privilege. He insists that Barnes has been responsible for crooked government in the State, and that the crookedness has run through both parties by mutual agreement or addition, division and silence. There is a impression that this condition has prevailed for years. Independent Repinilicana and independent Democrats have mitted with indignation whenever they have thought of it.

Mr. Barnes sues to vindicate his personal oner and insists that there has been nothis corrupt in his political career. He lays cross on the words "corrupt" and "crooked," and he within to prove that he is honest and

## Common Sense on the Full Crew Question

THE overwhelming majority by which the House passed the full crew repeal bill does credit to the sound sense of the legislators on this economic proposition. The bill, instead of ordering the railroad companies to employ a specific number of men on each train, empowers the Public Service Commission to regulate the number of men to be employed.

The bill that was passed is sound in theory and in practice if we are to regulate the railroads by Public Commissions. The conditions of railroad operation vary from time to time, so it is impossible for any Legislature, however well meaning, to lay down a hard and fast rule regulating the number of men to be put on every train. The experience of the railroad companies themselves is a safer guide in such matters than the opinion of the law makers in Harrisburg. And if it is thought necessary to induce the railroads to profit by their experience the Public Service Commission is the proper body to be commissioned with persuasive powers.

The situation in Mexico seems to be that when one army is destroyed 20 bands of bandits spring into being.

Roosevelt wants the jury in Syracuse to understand that when it comes to denouncing Barnes, he is a standpatter.

So far as the Frank case is concerned, the Governor of Georgia is very likely to overrule the United States Supreme Court,

"Billy" Sunday thinks that it should read. "A minister, a dog, a cheatnut tree, the more you beat them, the better they be,"

Recent athletic history may have nothing to do with it, but it is interesting to know that entrance to Yale will be a little easier hereafter.

Mr. Roosevelt may not be able to prove what he said about Mr. Barnes. The public knows a lot of things about Mr. Murphy that the laws of evidence would never let into court.

The rapid transit company would not have got one-half of the nickels spent for jitney rides on Broad street Sunday. The new enterprise has created new business out of nothing, and it is misleading to say that every nickel paid to a jitney driver comes out of the pockets of the street car owners.

One of the finest tributes paid to the late Colonel Nelson, of the Kansas City Star, appeared in a proposition used by a young reporter in describing his relations with his employer. He wrote, "It is a privilege to have served beside him." He might have written "under him," but what a world of difference there would have been in the meaning and in the revelation of the spirit in which a great editor did his work!

in France or from France to the Russian front, as in the past. This, so far as it is possible to judge, has already happened. In sum, recent events seem to confirm the views of official and unofficial observers that the Germans have been put on the defensive permanently in France, and the ablest British critic, Belloc, finds warrant for the belief that the strategy of Joffre is really an imitation of Grant's method, which ultimately disposed of Lee, a policy of attrition, for which "nibbling" is but a cuphe-

THE SOUL OF THE CITY From the Ohio State Journal

Citics have souls, says a well-known writer-that is, cities that amount to much have-and thus the writer goes on to say:

What is the great essential of a city with a soul? It is a citizen with a soul-hundreds of thousands of him-a soul above mere receptivity. self-seeking and accumulation; a citizen who reflects upon what he can put into his city, not upon what he can get out of it.

If a city has not a soul it is because there is none in the city that have. It is the soulless people who make a soulless city. But note what is required to make a city with a soulcitizens who reflect upon what they can put into their city, not upon what they can get out of it. Let every man be his own judge how much soul he is putting into his city.

14 feet in size. It had evidently been con-

structed for temporary occupancy while gath-

ering rice. Wah-ha-gun-ta was asleep, hud-

died up on his little heap of hay. Over his

reating place, in the form of a canopy, had

His appearance was that of an extremely

aged man. His frame was wasted, his face

deeply wrinkled and his short hair white. While

he responded in his native tongue to the ques-

tions put to him, he evidently understood Eng-

lish. He said that a number of years before

he had been able to speak English fluently, but

that his memory was falling and he had for-

gotten a great deal of his English. He do-

clared that he remembered distinctly, how-

ever, the shower of stars, said to have occurred

about 105 years ago. As Wah-ha-gun-ta asserts

that upon good evidence he was 5 years old at

that time, he is certainly not less than 110

He added: "I was born and raised over by

Pay-kay-ga-mah, south of Grand Rapids. I

have lived here upon the Leach Lake Reserva-

tion for about 40 years. I was down in south-

ern Minnesota during the Sioux massacre, when

the Sloux killed more than 400 Chippewas,

heing about 3 years old at that time. I can

remember it well. There was no St. Paul or

Minneapolis, but a little settlement of about

five or six buildings below the falls. The lead-

ing man's name was Pah-de-gree. His mission

was to get the Sloux and Chippewas to agree.

landed just below the falls with a lot of sol-

been hung some sheets.

years of age.

diera."

## AN INDIAN HOLDS THE AGE RECORD

WHO is the oldest living person in the world? A possible answer was given two years ago in the annual report of the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society. At that time Wali-ha-gun-ta, Chief Firemaker of the Blackfeet Indians, was reputed to be 131 years old. Since then the Bureau of Indian Affairs has been endeavoring to learn more about this interesting human landmark. Walter F. Dickens, an official of the Indian Service, last summer made a trip to Ball Club, Minn., the home of this Indian, for the special purpose of interviewing Wah-ha-gun-ta. While he did not absolutely establish the exact age of the object of his journey to Ball Club, he did bring back an interesting pleture of the closing days of a person who is certainly to be numbered among the most ancient of men.

He found the old man, who also is known as Ke-we-tah-gis-shig, and more prosaically as John Smith, lying on a bunch of hay piled on . the ground in a small birch bark house at the north end of Mud Lake, about 10 or 15 miles southwest of Ball Club. Ball Club is a small station on the Great Northern Railroad, about 30 miles east of Cass Lake. Mud Lake, which is three or four miles long and about one and a half miles wide, is, as its name suggests, especially adapted to the growing of rice. As a matter of fact, it is practically one great rice field. Mr. Dickens, accompanied by an interpreter, crossed the lake in a canos, reaching the camp about # o'clock in the evening. There were neveral families of Indian rice gatherers at the camp. The birch bark hovel in which Wah-ha-gun-ta was living was about 12 by

It is not worth the toll of American lives it might take to intervene, is one of the patent arguments of the watchful waiters. mism, as the casualty lists disclose. What about the tell of lives that is being taken with American-made ammunition that our Government facilitates in its passage over the metals to Brownsville, to Laredo and to El Paso, permitting the agents of our manufacturers to sell to the highest bandit bidder for cash. There is a smug answer to this. Oh, let the gangs shoot each other up, and we will soon be rid of them. On

the same complacent theory, Mayor Mitchel, of New York, might open up a little ammunition bazaar and invite the gunmen of the East Side to come and arm themselves with the latest styles in automatics, so that they might all the more swiftly destroy one another, or he might distribute sticks of dynamite to the children on the playgrounds of New York to play pitch and toss with.

## Lessons in Killing

The warring factions in Mexico have only a comparatively small nucleus of bad men in their ranks. The bulk of these so-called armies have been recruited with peons and the sons of peons, who in the beginning were herded like goats. Deadly weapons were placed in their hands and they were instructed how to kill. It is a primitive impulse to kill as it is a primitive impulse to pillage and destroy. There is a joy and exaltation and romantic fascination in robbery and piracy. Every man who has been a boy realizes this, and if it were a custom under our modern processes of so-called civilization to provide our children with lethal weapons we would soon arrive at the same conditions of chaos, anarchy and bloodshed that now obtain pretty generally throughout Mexico.

Our press dispatches are constantly reporting revolutionary battles of one sort or another. The majority of these dispatches come out of Washington, and Washington gets them from the press agents of the various factions or from the scattered remnants of our consular service in Mexico, and these dispatches are censored over the wire by the leaders and officers of whatever particular hand of marauders happens to be in command of that particular locality at the time. In the course of one day we will have three versions, each one contradictory of the other, of a single alleged engagement.

Of course, there is a vast amount of dibut it turned into a massacre. The steamboat vergent testimony coming out of Mexico every day. You will find in all the border towns fugitive Mexicans who favor one fac-

and in order to obtain these C. O. D. ship the submerged 85 per cent, who have been ments some scouting party must raid a few more cattle ranches and sack a few more haviendus. The tribute that is being levied upon towns and cities is being paid nowadays for the most part with promises to pay The feeding and clothing of the bandit armics has sapped available cash resources pretty well down to the vanishing point.

#### The United States Threatened

There is a deeply rooted impression among exiled Mexicans nowadays that there is a deadlock in our cabinet over the Villa-Carranza row. The Villistas are confident that the President favors the "liberator" and his announced socialistic sympathy for the submerged \$5 per cent. The Carranzistas aver for their part that they have won our Premier, William Jennings Bryan, to their more respectable cause. Now that Huerta has come back to our shores, there is some trepidation in both camps for fear that he may explain away the slaying of Madere and obtain some sort of sovereign absolution.

The entire situation is a dreadful muddle The holocaust of war in Europe has distracted our attention from it with the result that the majority of Americans have entirely neglected to consider the sufferings and atrocities that are continuously being inflicted upon a neighboring nation of 16,008-000 people. They are menaced this year with an unprecedented corn shortage. Famine and pestilence may stalk ansone them as an additional affliction, and it will find them in a state of anarchy and chast with nothing that really resembles a svi ernment to take measures for relief ast safety. And pestilence is also likely to sold menace our own borders and cause us 10 erect a quarantine barrier against starving and desolate and bandit-harried refutites To meet all this we have only the one dreaff official solution to offer-Watchful Waiting-

#### PERSEVERE

Make the best of everything, think the best of every one, hope the best for yourself, do as I have dono-persevers -George Stephenson.

EARLY SPRING IN IRELAND Here's the lodge woman in her great cleak com-

ing. And her white cap. What foy Has touched the ash-man? On my word, he's

humming A boy's song, like a boy! He quite forgets his cart. His donkey grass

Just where it likes the grass. The red-coat soldier, with his medal, raises His hat to all whe pass: And the blue-jacket sailor-hear him whistis

Forgetting Ireland's ills; O, pleasant land-(who thinks of thern or this

tie?)

Upon your happy hills. The world is out! Beliave me, life can be a merry maiter.

And common folk polits, And all the birds of beaven one of a feather.

And all their voices rhyme, They sing their merry songs, like one, together

In Primtose time. -Sarab M. B. Platte