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PHILADELPHIA, THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 1915.
An old fool is merely a young fool grown up.

In Pursuit of Naval Efficiency

THE appointment of Captain W. S. Benson to be Chief of Naval Operations, with the rank of rear admiral, is a happy one. He has a record of conspicuous service. He is forward-looking, keenly appreciative of progress, a man who refuses to stand still or to permit dryrot in anything under his direction.

Modernize the Constitution

PROGRESSIVE Pennsylvanians, who are persuaded that the Constitution should be revised and modernized, will follow the deliberations of the constitutional convention now in session in Albany with deep interest. Some of the ablest lawyers in the nation are sitting as delegates there, and they are giving to the subject the serious attention that it deserves.

The Accident of Fame

CHUNTINGTON JACOBS, of Los Angeles, owes a debt of gratitude to Professor Kuno Meyer, of Berlin University, for elevating him from the inconspicuity of a Harvard undergraduate into an international name.

No Peace for a Sultan in Europe

THE Sultan is reported to be suing for a separate peace. He is not likely to get it. Nothing could have pleased Russia more than the entry of the Ottoman Empire into the conflict. Constantinople is a prize worth fighting for; worth, in Russian eyes, all the sacrifices in the Carpathians and the bitter harvest of death in Poland.

Gaillard's Paradoxical Monument

CULEBRA cut, which carries the Panama Canal through the backbone of the Isthmus, is no longer to be known by the name of the divided range of mountains, but henceforth it is Gaillard cut, named in honor of the engineer who fought and tore a channel through it.

Anti-Trust Fight Crosses the Water

THERE is no rest for the rich. The thorax are no sooner taken from their couch in one part of the world than they appear in another part. When the Supreme Court dissolved the Standard Oil Company into its constituent corporations, thereby increasing the market value of its shares, the long campaign that had been waged against it was ended.

Smash the Pullbacks Program

IT IS quite true that the whimsical arguments advanced by "Dave" Lane against rapid transit are self-contradictory and absurdly anti-progressive. He thinks that convenience is something to be avoided sedulously. But when he talks about the achievement of rapid transit as "nothing more than stealing," he is thinking, perhaps, of some former franchisees which were put through in this city.

ALLIES AT GATEWAY OF CONSTANTINOPLE

Campaign of Anglo-French Land and Naval Forces at Dardanelles Offers Interesting Parallel to Attack on Santiago.

By FRANK H. SIMONDS

FOR Americans there must be more than a suggestion of Shafter's campaign against Santiago in the new allied operations against the Dardanelles. It is true that compared with the later operation our own seems wholly trivial. At least ten times as many men as went to Cuba with the first Santiago expedition are engaged in the Gallipoli operation. Sampson's fleet was paltry compared with the Anglo-French squadrons, led by "Big Lizzy," as the Queen Elizabeth is familiarly named by the British.

Yet something of the problem is the same. Before Santiago Sampson wisely, as all observers have concluded, declined to risk his ships in forcing the entrance to Santiago—even after Cervera's fleet had been destroyed. From the outset, once the fleet was discovered, he appealed to the army to clear the way by taking the forts. After a costly experiment with the Farragut method the Anglo-French admirals have followed the Sampson precedent.

Fleet and Army in Touch

But here the parallel with 1898 stops. The British, having landed at Kaba-Tepe, are but five miles from their objective and less than a mile from a road leading down to the Dardanelles opposite Nagara. They are thus assured of the support of their warships every foot of the way, while the Americans at San Juan were without such aid. There is lacking, too, the jungle through which Roosevelt led his regiment to the ambush of Las Guasimas.

The dominating height of the Gallipoli peninsula, a rough plateau some 1100 feet high, rises from the water and attains its summit less than four miles from the British landing place and commands the road along which the British must advance. It might be compared to the El Caney position in its relation to the British flank.

The disadvantage of the Turkish position is found in the fact that the defenses were organized to repulse a fleet coming up the straits. There are therefore no permanent works on the shores of the Gulf of Saros, and the forts lie low along the straits and are commanded by the hills behind them, over which the British must advance if they are to succeed.

Land Forces' Mission

The mission of the army is to occupy forts and batteries, once they have been temporarily reduced by the guns of the fleet; prevent the reorganization of these fortifications, which follows the withdrawal of the fleet; destroy the hidden batteries, the torpedo tubes mounted on the shores; methodically complete what the artillery of the fleet has begun.

THE IMPORTANCE OF MANNERS

Manners are of more importance than laws. Upon them, in a great measure, the laws depend. The law touches us but here and there, and now and then. Manners are what vex or soothe, corrupt or purify, exalt or debase, barbarize or refine us, by a constant, steady, uniform, inseparable operation, like that of the air we breathe in. They give their whole form and color to our lives. According to their quality, they aid morals; they supply them or they totally destroy them.—Edmund Burke.

PLAYING AT WORDS AND WITS

OF THE Beggar's Opera Wolpole wrote that it made Gay rich and Rich gay. This pun made its first appearance in cold type. Alexander Pope thought so poorly of puns that he declared the pun extempore to be the only respectable kind. A pun is too trifling and too easy to make, he said, to be worth a place in literature, and when he was asked by one of the company to whom he made the remark to prove his contention he did not hesitate.

Responding to the challenge, "Make one on keelhauling," he replied: "That is indeed putting a man under a hardship."

Tom Hood and Theodore Hook were both famous punsters. They once made a wager as to who could make the best pun offhand. Charles Mathews was to be the judge, and the loser was to pay for supper for the trio. The agreement was made as they were walking together along a London street. A signboard advertising beer attracted their attention by its spelling, "Beer Sold Here."

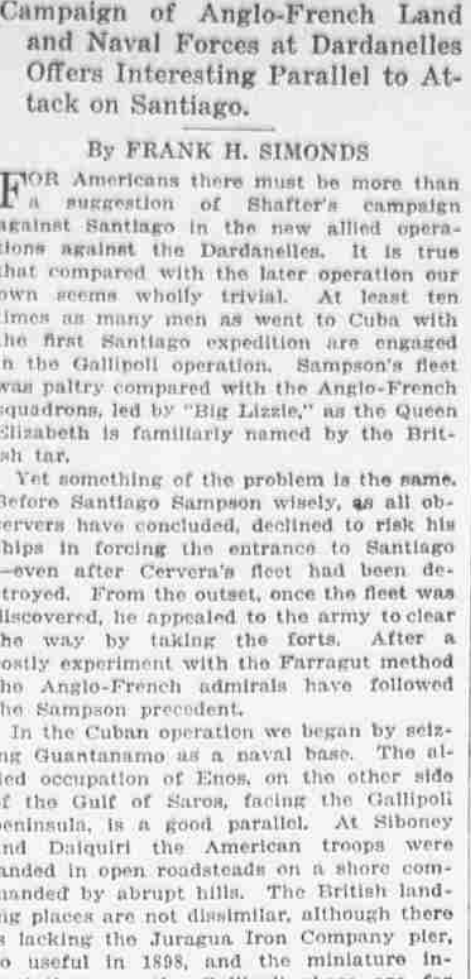
"Oho!" cried Hook. "I suppose that beer is his own brain!"

"Good!" said Mathews, and, turning to Hood, he added, "You'll have hard work to beat that."

"I dare say he'll do it, though," said Hook, "for you know, he carries more than two faces under one hood. Don't you, Tom?"

At that moment, turning a sharp corner, they came upon a small, tumble-down house standing

OH, IF I WERE ONLY JOSHUA!



COLE'S GOOD FIGHT FOR CHICAGO

Six Men, 20 Years Ago, Founded the Municipal Voters' League, Which Has Won a Great Victory Against Corrupt Politics—Their Weapon Was Publicity, That's All.

(By special arrangement with the New York Evening Post.)

LESSONS more than local lie plain upon the face of the record of the Municipal Voters' League of Chicago, which last night celebrated the 20th anniversary of its founding. It is virtually unique in its character, in its fidelity to purpose and in its achievement, which is summed up in the phrase now current in Chicago, "The city has the best Board of Aldermen in twenty years."

When the Municipal Voters' League was founded Chicago was in a bad way. Its city government, generally speaking, was in the hands of a gang of politicians of the worst type, and had shuttled between one so-called party organization and another, without obvious reason why plain citizens should care a rap which of them might be in control.

BE AN AMERICAN

Half the world is busy fighting the other half. Hatred and malice toward another is spreading through Europe as poison spreads through the human system—blasting, withering, destroying. The United States has kept out of trouble so far. But millions of this country's inhabitants have kinmen across the sea—fathers, mothers, sisters, brothers, or more distant relatives.

ANDERSON'S RECORDS EXPOSED

How was it done? The process was so simple as to be almost laughable; so simple and so easy that it can be duplicated in any other American community—any community that has the right sort of brave and unselfish men to put it into operation. Just publicity—that is all. Each year for 20 years this organization has fearlessly and ruthlessly taken stock of the candidates for the Board of Aldermen, fine-combed the record of each and told the people, without regard to party affiliation or other extraneous considerations, what it discovered.

STIMULUS FOR OTHER CITIES

The work has been absolutely a volunteer work, spontaneous in origin and tributary to the interests of no national party, no class or clique, no politico-business interest. It has held strictly to its purpose, refusing all side issues, all collateral temptations. The city of Chicago as a great business enterprise, deserving the best of its citizens and demanding a high degree of capacity and honesty in its administrative directorate—that subject the league devoted its efforts.

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IT WAS THE EARLY SPRING

(Translated from the Russian of A. K. Tolstoy.) It was the early, early spring. The grass was young; above no stream A sultry air was quivering; Of green the forest did but dream. The shepherd pipes, with tuning soft, Had begun their tale to tell: The slender fern had not yet defied Its fleecy coil in woodland dell. It was the early, early spring; Still fine and thin the birchen shade; I caught the smile that, hovering, At last beneath those eyelids played! The smile—it said my love had won— That smile thine eyelids strove to veil O life! O budding wood! O sun! O youth, O hope, that could not fail With tears my eyes were glistening, So tender soon thy lovely face; It was the early, early spring; Faint birchen shade all round the place, This was the morning of our day, O love! O love! so strangely bliss! O life! O wood! O sunny ray, O life! O birch tree's thrilling scent!

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