

Evening Ledger

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Philadelphia, Monday, June 7, 1915.

It is easier to buy an automobile than to maintain it after you get it.

The Cloud Upon Annapolis: THE ability of a nation to defend itself depends on the ability of the officers of its army and navy to answer instantly the unexpected questions which an enemy may put to them.

How are we to change the conditions? This is the most important trade question before the nation. The President has proposed that the Government buy ships to be operated on the unprofitable lines, but every expert shipping man has denounced this plan as impracticable.

Government construction, purchase or charter of merchant ships and their operation under government direction;

Government ownership of such vessels, but operated by private firms under lease;

Subsidies from the Government to privately owned ships large enough to cover the difference in cost of operation under the American flag and under foreign flags by the same routes; or

Subvention from the Government to establish regular mail and freight steamers on routes where it is desired to extend American trade.

The purpose of these questions is to inform Congress of the sentiment of the nation. No business man not engaged in the shipping business should answer them offhand, any more than he would prescribe for the treatment of beriberi.

At the base of the plan for a Chinese-American bank with headquarters in San Francisco and Shanghai. The plan differs from all other suggestions for increasing the intimacy between China and the United States.

While we have been struggling for years to enlarge our trade with China, and now a commission, headed by the leading men of business in all China, comes here with a plan of its own, and is ready to meet us halfway, with bank the shares of which shall be divided equally among Americans and Chinese.

Cheng Huan Chang, the distinguished man of affairs who has taken the public into his confidence in regard to the proposed bank, is evidently a financial statesman of the first order. He has been studying the financial condition of Europe and the drain of its resources by the war, and he has concluded that if China is to be developed it must look to the United States for the capital needed for the next generation.

A Fact or Two About Immigration: I agree on what to expect at the close of the war. The Secretary of Labor is convinced that the demand for workmen in Europe will be so active that there will be no reason for them to seek their fortunes away from home.

As the hotels for "gay dogs" are overcrowded in Atlantic City, a capitalist is talking of building one for just dogs.

Judge Sulzberger has been called upon to decide whether a widower is a widow if his dead wife happens to be a cigar maker.

Newport is the Mecca for diplomats this year; but every woman who wishes to have a successful season at any resort must be a social diplomatist of skill and experience.

The "overhead" charges in the cars of the Astor baby seem to be about six times the amount needed to supply food, clothing and toys. This is what comes of having to maintain a big establishment.

If ten American cowboys can secure the release of two American captives from 150 Mexican soldiers, how many American Presidents will it take to restore the value of American investments across the border?

The Chairman of the Democratic State Committee of New York, after thinking over it for six months, says the Republicans made a mistake in electing Governor Whitman. The Republicans are yet to be heard from.

LANGUAGE MAKING IN THE TRENCHES

The War Zone Has Need of a New Dictionary of Slang, but Revised Editions Would Have to Follow in Rapid Succession.

By RAYMOND G. FULLER

THERE are dictionaries and dictionaries. Of course, but unlike books in general, there are no dictionaries of all time; there are only dictionaries of the moment.

One of the favorite subjects of debate in school days is, "Resolved, That the pen is mightier than the sword." Let us see if any alliance exists between the legions of soldiers and the legions of words.

First, let us look into a dog-eared pronouncing dictionary of the place-names which have made the European war famous.

From Whitechapel to Harvard: The inadequacy of dictionaries in wartime goes beyond the matter of pronunciation.

As I sat in front of the Anna Maria warming my plates of meat, "There came a knock at the Rory O'More That made my raspberry beat."

Doubtless the context explains, but "Anna Maria" is "fines," "plates of meat" is "feet," "Rory O'More" is "door," and "raspberry" is "heart."

To MY observation the game between Pekin and Tokio is quite obvious. Whether Yuan Shih-Kai has invited the esteemed Count Okuma to play it or vice versa is a question at present not vital.

To begin with, let us not be too optimistic. If we have studied the situation and analyzed it candidly, we can, without difficulty, conclude that so long as the Government of the United States stands aloof, Yuan Shih-Kai is going to yield to the Count.

In the second place, let us dispose altogether the question whether Japan, as the Count represents her, has any reason to make her demands, and further, another question, to compel the Pekin Government to accede to them all.

China for the Chinese: So far as experience and reason can be held in view, the answer ought to be negative.

Where's Bill? "Bill too?" "The knocker in a company." "Oh! 'im—he's in Blitney."

"Yes, he's worked his ticket." (Very loudly to the lady who serves them)—"Another catty o'ly, ma, s'vouse platt."

"Ah wee, ah wee" (this in answer to questions not understood). "Our cove got the wind up last night, not 'arf."

"That's nothing new, he always does." "Yes, he reckoned he saw a lot of Boches; we was standing to arms all day and night—Fan de burr, ma, please. Ah wee, ah wee-tabby an'."

Here's the key: "Blitney"—England (Hindustani, perhaps). "Knocker"—drummer.

"Working your ticket"—getting sent home for some illness or injury. "Cove"—commanding officer.

"Getting wind up"—becoming panic-stricken. "Boche"—a German. A London Times correspondent says that this word was hardly known before the war, though "alboche" of which it is an abbreviation, was fairly common.

"Fan de burr"—bread and butter (French). "Cafy o'ly"—Coffee and milk (French, too). "Tabby an'"—all right.

Slang finds a place in the dictionaries of slang, but it also, in many instances, graduates eventually into Good Usage. Wars enrich language in a variety of ways, some of them very interesting and curious.

Not a few of our common words were introduced into the English language by soldiers. A subsequent article will trace the history of some of those naturalized immigrants of the language which have a martial ancestry.

THE GULLIBLE COW: From the Christian Herald. Two little girls walking through a field were afraid of a cow. Said one of them: "Let's go right on and out as if we were not afraid at all."

"But wouldn't that be deceiving the cow?" the other little girl expostulated. "We smile at this bit of conceitedness, but we love the little girl for it. She would be uneasy in regard to David's reception of the Philadelphia, and most of us wish that like Moses, he had gone down into the Sinai country, rather than place himself in a position where he had to act as a lie.

IF THAT PACK EVER GETS HIM

ward in the consciousness of doing important service for the good of humanity.

"ME AND BETSY": To the Cartoonist of Evening Ledger: Sir—Your drawing of "Me and Betsy" of June 4 is the best I ever saw.

A LETTER OF APPRECIATION: To the Editor of Evening Ledger: Sir—Since the beginning of the European war I have read constantly some American newspaper, but in none have I found the accuracy in the first-hand news as I am experiencing in your valuable paper.

WAR A GREAT CALAMITY: To the Editor of Evening Ledger: Sir—The attitude taken by the Evening Ledger concerning Italy in general, and the Austro-Italian war at present, seems to me to be quite impartial and sympathetic.

LET US DARE: Let us have faith that right makes might and in that faith let us to the end dare to do our duty as we understand it.—Lincoln.

SEEK WISDOM: Of Wisdom! She deserts thee not, if thou Dismist not her—when most thou needst her nigh—

AMUSEMENTS: UNIVERSITY BOTANIC GARDENS: GREEK PLAYS IN ENGLISH: LILLIAN MCCARTHY GRANVILLE BARKER TOMORROW IPHIGENIA

ARCADIA: CHESTNUT Below 10th St. Photoplay—Continues. 11 to 11:30 P. M. ROSE COGHLIN IN "THE SPORTING DUCHESS"

B. F. KEITH'S THEATRE: CHESTNUT AND TWILFTH STREETS: "THE RED HEADS" WITH JAMES B. CARSON AND FAMOUS BEAUTY CHORUS

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GARRICK: 10c, 15c, 20c: 11 A. M. TO 11 P. M.: THE JAMES BARNES EXHIBITION: The Most Wonderful of Motion Pictures

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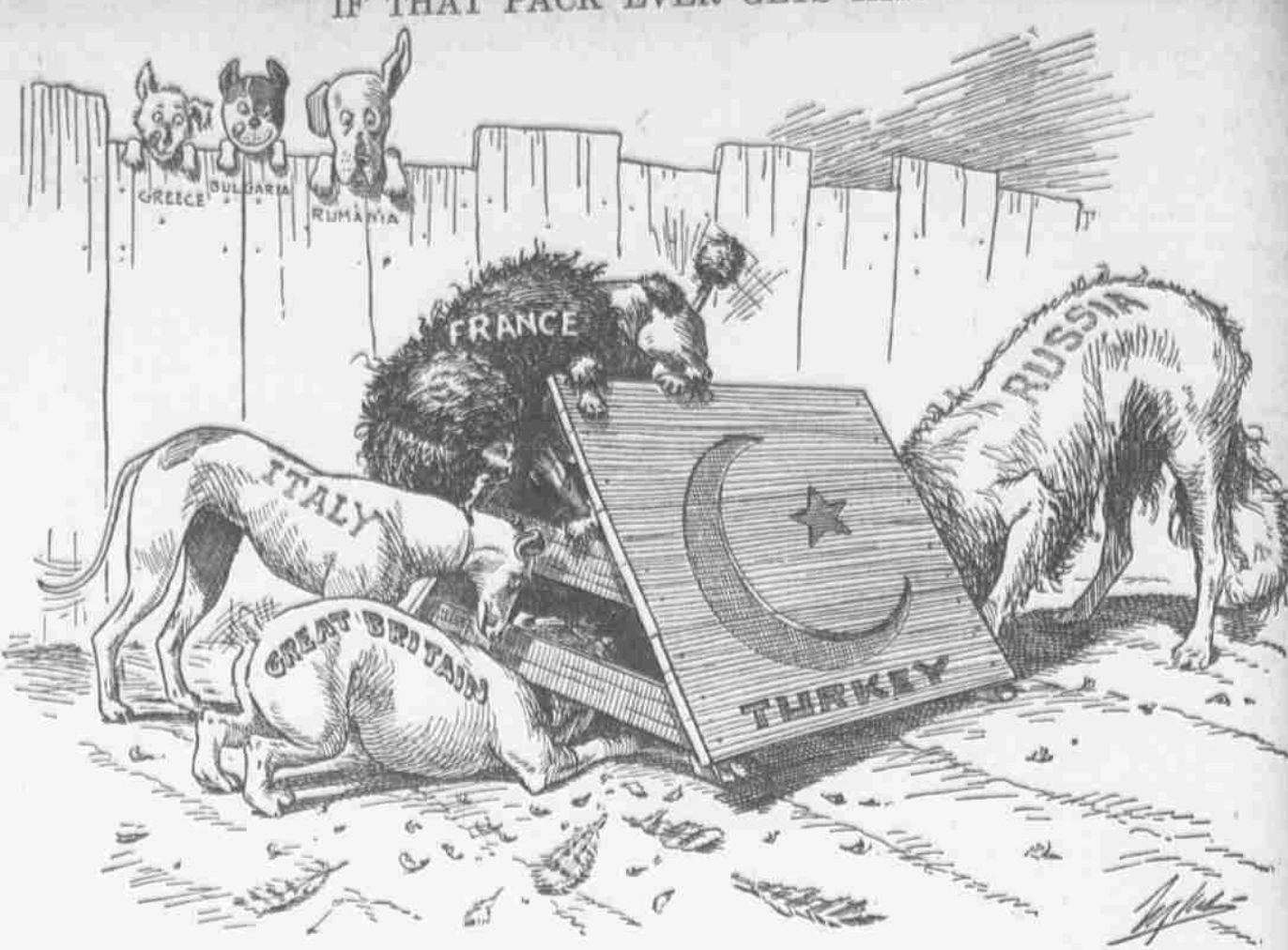
GLOBE: MARKET AND JUNIPER: PHOTOPLAYS—11 TO 11:30: CLYDE FITCH'S "FIGHTING BOB" UNIQ'S ROMANCE "WILD LIFE" PICTURES

CROSS: Daily: Evenings, 7 and 9: Keyes: 8:15: Vaudeville: MARKET STREET: BELOW SIXTIETH: THEATRE

BROAD: "KEY-RICH-QUICK" WALLINGFORD: All This Week: 25c: 234 Successful Season of Philatopian Plays: Management and Stage Directed by James J. Brady

GRAND: THE FRESCOTT'S: LILLIAN TUTT'S COLLEGIANS: JOHN & MAE BARKER: GLIDDING OBERLAND: Today 2:15, 7 & 8: LARRY & BERT'S LAUGHING PICTURES

NEW WOODSIDE PARK THEATRE: Tonight, 8:15: 10:15: The Red Peltcoat: TROCADERO: "SAFETY FIRST" AND MILE PARLOR-VOLK



"JAPAN'S SUICIDAL SELFISHNESS"

Thus the Conduct of the Tokio Government Is Characterized by General Huang Hsing—Japan Will Not Long Be Able to Fool Herself and the Western World

In the EVENING LEDGER of Tuesday, June 1, appeared an article on "What Does Japan Want From China?" by Stanhope Sams, who until recently was editor of the Japan Times, of Tokio.

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