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PRILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, JULY 31, 1915.

There are not many fish that will not bite the right balt sometime or other.

#### Russia's Futile Sacrifice

FIRE day of black disaster scens to have dawned for Russia. Prepared for a sacrifice, of which none but Rusisans can appreciate the dire significance, it has been struck down even beyond its fears. What was to have been a strategic surrender of territory may turn into a rout unredeemed by tactical advantage.

The problem facing the Russian commanders in the past month has been simple. Compelled to choose between a loss of territory and a loss of men, the Grand Duke chose wisely to retire, trusting to fortified positions and re-established military morale to win bock what had been lost. So Russia stood ready to give up Warsaw.

But the invincible armles of the Teutonie allies have struck below Warsaw, and Lublin, commanding the district southeast of the Warsaw sallent, is now held by you Mackensen and his troops, while von Hindenburg has taken vital fortifications on the Narew. In two directions the Russian arms cannot retreat, and it was only for a retreat that Warsaw was sacrificed.

For a year Russia has kept the German military brain and sinew occupied. She is long-suffering, but the time has come for her Allies to help. Military exigencies join with nation-I gratitude to make a diversion in the western theatre imperative. Even now it may be too late. Russia saved France and England. What will France and England do for Russia?

Exercising the Spectres of Living Death MURDER, theft, "dope," "booze"-it is

as relative. So say the Prohibitionists, combating the "personal freedom" argument, and there is something in it. But this business of relativity goes further. It goes into the question of enforcement. In what degree is real prohibition possible? People murder and steal in spite of both laws and public opinion behind the laws. Worse still, the "dope trade" goes steadily on in the lower strata. It even seems as if we must solve that terrible problem of narcotics before probabilion of the liquor traffic is worth our attention o. before there is any possible,

plausible case for its successful enforcement. There are no words black enough, terrible enough to describe the evils of "dope," Human expression is simply staggered before the task of expressing the culminating depths of miquity in its sale to habitues, untainted men, innecent women, little children. That is the simplest and fullest truth. No voice has ever raised public denial. The whole people, even the victims themselves, admit the evil and pray for deliverance. Yet the trace goes on. Every day Philadelphia hears of some new arrest, now of venders to children, now ", branched doctors, now of venal chemists. The war against "dope" takes a hungred forms. But it always finds some spectre of living d. ath before it.

Promotition or suct wrugs is just; it is good public policy, and it does play a helpful part in their elimination. But there is something else just as necessary to any prohibitive movement, whether of theft, "dope" or liquor, and that is public health and public education. Clean up life, teach those who live it. Then problimation will prohibit.

The Press: The Chancelleries of the People TE THERE is one problem that stands out I above another in the issues raised by the great war it is that problem in democracydiplomacy. How are the nations to speak together? How are they to find a voice which will bear sympathetically the ideals, aspirations, grievances and demands of alien peoples? Yuan Shi Kai, President of the Republic of China, speaks for the newspaper as the fittest medium of national expression. "Would not much misunderstanding between nations be avoided, war even he sometimes averted," says that masterful, even Machinvennan statesman, "if one people might thus directly speak its mind to

another people?" Whatever the basic anfagonisms from which the Great War spraing, its immediate inception was undeniably the result of secret diplomacy. The peoples of all the great nations were easer for peace. They only feared sugrenation, it was the secret negotiations of the chancelleries that bred conflict, the hargainings, the trickeries, the sparring for position in possible concillations. If Servine insie, which ultimately involved all Emreye, had been put up to the public sense of Englishmen, Frenchmen, Russians and Tentana, recourse to arbitration would have hour, so speedy as to whiri away the breath

of the veteran diplomats. When nations full back on secret diplomany what do they get? At best, it can achieve good only when tuck attends the afforts of honest men to cope with evil thrice armed. At bottom it is trickery, a struggle of wife and lies, with victory to the most shandoned. Where it dictates foreign policy here and be no democraty. Even parilaneminry government becomes a farce, a mera from of subfemilie decisions already cast beman select apora. There is only one way our absoured framerous, truth as near as as busies is able to express it and there and the relicie for that truth-the press. per appell better the superior being to thesale must be

terests than any secret interchanges, and all because each move is on the boards and subject to the warment criticism and indersement that the people can give. Yet how much better could just such a problem be deaft with if public policy had long ago committed the nation's representatives to addressing both the silen and the native citisen through that wide new messenger, the dally paper, to gathering opinion from it and to expressing decisions in agreement with it. Diplomats, parliaments and people would then be in closest domestic touch, white nation would speak to nation, race understand race as will never be possible while great peace of war and peace are settled round

the chess boards of the chancelleries. The instrument of truth and peace is waiting.

#### A Giant Stride Forward

ON WEDNESDAY the Evening Ledger seld: "Quit Obstructing! Help Things Along." That is what the Philadelphia Bapid Transit Company has determined to do. "In order that public improvements duly authorized by City Councils may proceed without delay," it "withdraws any protest and objection which it may have entered in respect to the granting of the certificate or certificates of public convenience prayed for by the city of Philadelphia."

The company is right in relying on the city to protect it "fully and fairly" in arranging for the operation of the new lines. The city has never had any other intention or desire. The happy goal on which all eyes have been fixed is an agreement which would provide the public with the necessary high-speed lines, conserving at the same time the interests of the operating company. That has been the attitude of the city during the entire fight.

It is intensely satisfactory to the citizens of Philadelphia that this latest move of the company brings it into harmony with public opinion, presaging a unit system, with the climination of exchange tickets and the granting of universal transfers, as well as the quick beginning of construction work. It is a giant stride forward and marks the beginning of a new era of progress and development.

There remains no definite objection to the project from any of the parties vitally at interest. This simplifies the problem for the Public Service Commission and will enable it to give a prompt decision. When that is made, there will remain only one possible barrier to construction, namely, dilatory tactics in the courts. Doubtless, however, some method will be found of bringing the puerile Dallam suit before the Supreme Court in the near future.

Philadelphia is going to have real rapid

### A Note on Note-Making

"WHILE continents were at war, while nations sprang embattled into the fight for their integrity, the United States distinguished itself by writing notes."

That, according to certain critics, will be the shameful historical record of the year 1915. "Note-writer" has displaced "schoolmaster" as a libe at the President. Never, it is said, has the pen been so pathetically believed superior to the sword,

But history has already recorded one instance of American note-sending which ended gloriously for this country. When tore at the throat of stricker when the German Emperor was reported to have instructed his commander to "act so like a Hun that the Chinese would not dare look a German in the face again," while Russia and France and England started greedy expeditions to capture ports and mines, the United States distinguished Itself by writing a note. That note was written by John Hay. It was the note of the "Open

In letters just published, Mr. Hay's attitude on the question becomes beautifully clear. "I know it was a bluff," he says, "and that if we were called we couldn't back it up." But the bluff worked, because behind it was the same human force which stands behind President Wilson's notes to Germany.

The history of diplomatic relations which finally assured the integrity of China is an enduring monument to John Hay and to American diplomacy. Americans will pray that honorable peace between Germany and their country will be the guerdon of President Wilson,

Meanwhile there is no reason for being ashamed of note-writing.

# Summer Vandalism

HUMANE treatment of animals has been one of the significant indices of the largening of civilization. Isolated cases of cruelty crop out, however, such as the wanton destruction of watering troughs for horses, which has been occurring systematically in this city for the last few weeks, and against which the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals has registered public protest. The police department should, by all means, take active steps to stop this vandalism. Most people, after all, are guided by Coleridge's lines;

He prayeth best who loveth best All things both great and small; For the good God who made them, He made and loveth all

This may be the weather for "war game," but it ian't the right year.

Good highways are a form of preparedness that pays either way. Doctor Nearing seems to have been very

successfully kicked upstairs. "Spot six times earth's diameter appears on sun." Germany's place, perhaps?

Capturing Central American trade is all right; but look out for Haitian variety. To playful little Johnnie Buil: Heavy, heavy, hangs over your head. Marine or

submarine? "Senator Penross urges sportsmen of the State to use their influence in obtaining great

forest domain." For whom !

Why do the Allies come to Pennsylvania for a man to bore wells? Haven't they any drill screents at the front?

Whom does the Raiser most envy this week? Why, the Canadian Premier, of course; he got the freedom of London.

# HOW EUROPE FELT ON THE EVE OF WAR

A Year Ago Today the Nations Were Preparing for the Worst and Hoping for the Best-Twenty-four Hours Later the Crash Came.

#### By JOHN LUM

AUSTRIA declared war on Servia a year ago last Wednesday. The men behind the scenes knew what this meant, but the public at large was wondering what would happen, dreading a general war, but not expecting it. The common attitude of mind was reflected in the quotations of war risk rates in London. The insurance experts figured that the chances against Great Britain being involved in a war with any continental Power within three months were five to one and that there was only one chance in four that Germany would fight with any Power; but if a man sought to insure against a war between Russia and Germany within three months he had to pay a premium of 40 per cent., or, to put it in another way, the chances of war were as five to two for peace. This was the situation as expressed in terms of insurance risks a year ago today.

Every one recognized the gravity of the crisis. A year ago this morning the London Times reviewed conditions under the headline, "On the Brink of War," and concluded that there was only one chance for peace, and that through an understanding between Germany and Russia. A distinguished international banker, however, was confident that the Russian mobilization, which began with the Servian crisis, would cease and that Germany would be satisfied. Yet every one was hoping against hope. The British fleet had salled under sealed orders from Portland on the day that Austria declared war on Servia, and the German fleet was assembled at Kiel and Cuxhaven at the same time. Mr. Asquith rose in his place in the House of Commons and issued an appeal for a truce in domestic politics, and Mr. Bonar Law, the Conservative leader, declared that whatever the domestic differences might be, "they will not prevent us from presenting a united front in the councils of the world."

#### British Solidarity

Bonar Law and the Premier a few hours previously had ridden together in the same automobile to a conference with Sir Edward Grey, the Foreign Minister, their appearance in public in this way no doubt having been arranged for its effect upon the sentiment of the world. It was a demonstration of the solidarity of the British nation.

Although no official announcement had been made of the position of the Government, the newspapers declared that there was no doubt that Great Britain had espoused the cause of Servia. Sir Edward Grey, however, did say that although the situation had not changed since the declaration of war, Great Britain was continuing to pursue our one great object of preserving the European peace."

In the Austrian capital there was a great popular demonstration in honor of the return to the city of the Emperor from his castle at Ischi. The streets were crowded with cheering throngs, carrying banners and flags, and the burgomaster pledged to Francis Joseph the unswerving devotion of the city. The purpose of the Government was disclosed in a statement from the Foreign Office that Austria "wants only peace and punishment for the Servians for encouraging anti-Austrian agitation," concluding with the declaration that "Austria will not allow Russia to interfere with these ends."

Reports from St. Petersburg were to the effect that the Russian Government had officially notified Austria and Germany that she had ordered the partial mobilization of 14 army corps, or 1,120,000 men. The gravity of the crisis was so great that the managers of the Stock Exchange decided to close it and not open for business until Monday. The foreign diplomatists in the Russian capital believed that Austria had produced the crisis with deliberate intent by declaring war without giving notice to the other members of the Triple Alliance. The Italian and German Ambassadors had been discussing the possibility of a conference for mediation, although they understood that Germany had refused to bring pressure to bear on Austria to induce her to consent to such a plan.

# Paris Hoped for Peace

There was hope for peace in Paris a year ago this morning, for the public learned that the French Minister of the Interior had announced the receipt of encouraging news from Berlin.

"The situation is now better than has generally been supposed," said he. "It is permissible to foresee a moment when negotia-

#### tions may enter into a way leading to a favorable solution.

A distinguished diplomatist explained to the American correspondents that the healtation of all the Powers of the Triple Entente and the Triple Alliance, except Austria, to take the responsibility of a general war was due to "the clear vision given them in the last five days of the absolute breakdown

of European civilization." "After all," said this unnamed expert, "the astute diptematists and war lords of Europe firmly believe the great war that is coming not by our generation or the next, will be between the Orient and the Occident. They know the Orient firmly counts on the breaking up of our civilization to bring them world

supremacy, But whatever they may have been hoping for, the French were preparing for the worst. Business was almost suspended and the people were laying in large stocks of provisions for use in the event of a siege. There were umors of mobilisation orders; but they were not verified, and the newspapers announced that the situation was growing graver as the hours passed.

#### Berlin Was Not Optimistic

The observers in Berlin had little doubt of war. They were nearer the moving spirit of the great tragedy than those in the other capitals. On the night of July 30 it was admitted that the issues would be decided with in 24 hours. Peace or mobilization of the Germany army would be arranged within that short space of time. The Lokal Anzeiger issued an extra in the afternoon announcing that the entire German army and navy had been ordered to mobilize; but within 20 minutes another extra was on the streets, in which it was explained that the first one had been circulated "through a gross misdemeanor" and that the report of mobilization was incorrect. Yet it was incorrect only in the purely formal sense, vas evident to the correspondents that Germany was ready to take the field at an hour's notice and that preparations for provisioning it had been completed.

This was demonstrated when the officials of one of the Embassies ordered 10 barrels of flour from a wholesale provision firm, only to be told that no such order could be filled, as everything had already been commandeered for the army and navy.

Germany did not yet say officially that she would declare war if Russia's preparations were not stopped. She only was threatening to retaliate with a counter-demonstration; but it was openly admitted that such a demonstration would be equivalent to a declaration of war. The newspapers were saying that Russia must finally be made to understand that Berlin was no longer inclined to view with indifference the "continuous rattling of Russian sabres in Germany's face" and that only the plainest speaking on her part, perhaps at the eleventh hour, could preserve Europe from Armageddon."

A conference presided over by the Emperor and attended by the Imperial Chancellor, the Foreign Secretary and the War and Navy Ministers, the Chief of Staff of the army and the Chief of the Admiralty Staff and other high officials had decided that Germany was ready and that the moment had arrived for asking Russia pointedly for an explanation of the meaning of its movement of troops.

### So Passed July 31

The temper of the Russian capital, to which reference has already been made, was very different from that of any other centre. There was great enthusiasm for war, and it had gained strength in the two days that had passed since the British fleet had sailed from Portland under sealed orders. The newspaper correspondents had been officially requested to announce to the world that the order for a partial mobilization had been issued merely as a reply to the Austrian declaration of war on Servia, a country in whose fate Russia is vitally interested.

And so July 31 passed a year ago. The next day, August 1, 1914, Germany, having received an unsatisfactory reply to its pointed question from St. Petersburg, declared war on Russia. And three days later both France and Great Britain declared war on Germany.

And peace may come as quickly as war.

### STRANGE BEASTS A mollycoddle's something weird, Like scrients of the sea, Or wangtumwoofuses so feared, Whatever those may be A mollycoddle likes to nurse His indolence so tame. A wangtumwoofus is much worse: You know it by his name.

No wangtumwoofus has been known To roam this land so free, But if one ever should be shown How awful that would be! shocking name until each mind A terror strange will bring. Until we wake with joy to find There isn't no such thing!

Even If He Admits the Futility of Telling Other People How to Enjoy a Vacation and Where to Go, Nothing Can Stop Him From Offering Advice.

THE UNMITIGATED VACATIONIST

#### By SAMUEL HARRIS

ONE of the least mitigated of pests is the toen couldn't duck the ball from the man who comes back from an early vacation and goes about town voluminously describing the delights and wonders of his trip. The usual retort in such a case is to remark:

"I can still look forward to my days off, while yours are over and gone."

But any vacation that is a vacation has three parts; anticipation, vacation and remembrance. So what's the use of brag and envy and repartee? Besides, one man's meat is another man's poison, or, being interpreted, no two men can possibly have the same vacation. They may go to the same place and do the same things, but their vacations differ. It depends, of course, on the men themselves. Philosophically stated, a vacation is subjective and not objective. Therefore it is arrant folly-or arrogant, if you like that better-to tell a man how to "vacate." The nearest you can come to a rule is to paraphrase Horace Greeley's advice on specie payments and say, "The way to va-

cate is to vacate." Some asseverate that this can be done by staying at home. I will not dispute them, though my wife would gladly do so; neither will I deny that railroad travel is thresome and expensive. Everywhere I went this year I had to pay more for my tickets than ever before, and it seemed as if baggage agents were never so exasperatingly fussy about rules and regulations. This confession may be a tribute to baggage agents, but it's nothing in comparison with the pecuniary tribute I paid to one of them in consequence of a hot day argument. By the time a certain member of their fraternity had explained, to my great dissatisfaction, all the rules and regulations on file at his office and had reached the question, "What is the value of your trunk?" I was ready to shout, "One thousand dollars!" I did shout it, too. The moral is, don't exaggerate. It costs money. The worst of the matter is that false valuation of baggage is a criminal offense.

#### "Ain't Nature Grand!"

But all the trials and tribulations of travel are forgotten once you arrive at Silver Lake. In fact, Silver Lake is 15 miles from the nearest railway station, while Philadelphia, New York, Boston and Chicago are millions of miles from Silver Lake. Good riddance. And don't lay the flattering unction to your souls that the difference between Philadelphia and Silver Lake is the difference be tween city and country. Those ingenuous urban sentimentalists who sing of the country in terms of "little rivers" and "fleecy clouds" and "green pastures" and "helpful hills," who, in short, praise "scenery" and "the ministry of nature," have fallen into that sort of egotism which thinks that all these things are provided for "him who has been long in city pent" and by nobody else are duly appreciated. Their mistake be on their own heads! "Ain't nature grand!"

Such people may not know it, but country life is quite as intensely human as city life, only the modes of it are different; and as for "scenery," rural folk are by no means deaf and blind to its appeal. I could tell you of a farmer's daughter who often at close of day climbed to a hilltop near her home to watch the beautiful process of sunset. I could tell you of a country boy who knew the joys of little rivers and fisherman's luck on equal terms with Henry Van Dyke. I could tell you of a country parson who drove his Morgan span through the neighboring towns and counties with as much pleasure at getting away from his study and the village and the tasks of his parish as the banker. who runs away to Europe to refresh his body and soul. This was the very parsonnow ablding in a mansion prepared of old for his coming-of whom Robert Hildreth tells a remarkable varn:

"Conducting morning prayers in front of a lakeward-looking tent he overheard a whisper among the group of campers. "There's that loon out there by the point.'

you are in your own home town. "'Amen!' was the next word spoken, and

That happened at Silver Lake, but people don't go there to hunt or fish. They can bunt or fish, or both, if they want to, but it isn't obligatory. I am not going to describe the attractions. They are only to be known by getting the Silver Lake habit, and, moreover, the people who spend their vacations there wouldn't like the place spoiled by advertisement. Their great fear is that the hotel property will fall eventually into the hands of some enterprising young man who will make Silver Lake a summer resort When I was there a little while ago the guests numbered about 20, and that was considered about the desirable limit. The war, by the way, had made no difference at all with the bookings. Silver Lake guests go to bed at 9 or 10 o'clock.

#### Yo, Ho, Ho, and a Barrel of Rum

But though advertisement of attractions is under the ban, there is no reason why I shouldn't tell you that the whole mountain on which the lake lies was once sold for a barrel of rum. That was in the days of the pioneers, and the man who owned it then was glad to get rid of the obligation of paying taxes on the land. One version of the story tells of a poker game, with the mountain and the barrel of rum thrown into the

pet, but I do not know. I can give you a few statistics. The hotel at the lower and western end of the little lake is 1300 feet above sea level. From the southern shore rises Lookout, 500 feet above Silver Lake and 900 feet above Lake Dunmore. These two lakes and several others are visible also from Mount Morse; and from Moosalamoo, a three-mile ascent from the hotel, one can see Silver Lake and Dunmore, with their striking difference of elevation, and Fern Lake, and the Otter Creek, and 20 miles away the lower end of Lake Champlain, like a white ribbon, and above it the whole range of the Adirondacks. The Green Mountains are piled up nearer at hand toward the North and the South and the

East. We climbed Moosalamoo on July 21. Ten of us formed the party, led by a Boy Scout, Starting after breakfast, we reached the summit in mid-foreneon. At 12 the call to descend was issued. Four of us refused to answer it and remained half an hour longer. Then we started down, but not toward Silver Lake. Without a cent in our possession we took the trail toward Lake Dunmore and headed for the Cascade House. Though we were strangers to the proprietor of the hotel he took us in and gave us a great and glorlous dinner, and when the clouds opened up in the afternoon for a sizzling, sozzling old gulley washer of a rain, with no promise of a clearing-up shower, he supplied us with raincoats and umbrellas for our climb up the mountain road to Silver Lake.

# Traveling "On Your Face"

Happy life, I say, where cash and check books are unnecessary and where hotelkeepers do not refuse you credit and laugh behind your back. And that was a splendid day, rain and all, for you can't get tired in the Silver Lake region and you can't catch cold. You can tramp up and down mountains and tramp through the rain and tramp miles every day in that country without ever feeling the worse for it, no matter if your feet are covered with corns. But how different, the minute you get back to town! That is the trouble. Go on a vacation Silver Lake and when you return home it takes a couple of weeks to become acclimated. But you wouldn't have missed Silver

Lake for anything. It's a splendid place for a vacation. For, I take it, the real vacation is the one that gets you entirely away from your job-if not necessarily from your house. The people at Silver Lake, gathered from many cities, have no knowledge of one another's jobs and prefer ignorance. Nobody cares what you "do," and the way to be happy at Silver Lake is to forget, with the rest of the crowd, who

### OUTMATCHING THE ALLIES German Resourcefulness Against Allied

Blunders in the Great War Game.

At moments like the present-with Warsaw fallen, the Russian army, short of munitions, retiring before a German host from the western front, and the Allics doing nothing on the West to take advantage of a thinned line or to draw fire away from Russia-the blunders of the Allies strike sharply

The forces of France and England have not only failed in preparedness, in quickness of mobilization and in relative size of armies-that were natural to countries where belief in war was no longer the uppermost thought. But they have failed in the matters of military judgment that came clearly within the bounds of their preparations. The theory of the fixed fortress has been exploded, exploded violently and reverberantly in the roars of the German howitzers. Except for the triumphant "75's" of the French, the honors in artillery have lain with the perfecting, almost the invention, of big-callbered howitzers, capable of movement. With the high-explosive shell-as against the relatively ineffective shrapnelthe German howitzers have revolutionized warfare on land as thoroughly as her submarines have made over warfare at sea Boside these three departures, trench diggers and American steam plows to tear up reads are mere trifles, though they indicate both German audacity and German perspicacity.

Against all this what have the Allies to show outside the "75's"? Except for a tremendous spirit, which alone seems to have halted Germany, worse than nothing. Their misculculations as to the need for munttions are as glaring as their inability to supply the need when it became evident. Prance has done her part in that direction, but the failure of England, and, in less degree, of Russia, accounts for the small movement in the West and the present pitlable straits of the Russians. Similarly, one is beginning to wonder whether the policy of starving Germany, which was to take the place of a vigorous offensive, is not destined to a worse failure. German resourcefainsmeboth physical and mental, ecoms likely to meet the abuation. Finally, "attrition -whore does it get to when Germany can

western Allies held the opponents at bay, and when France and England do nothing through all this time to turn the tide? Such attrition seems worse than useless. No wonder Russia cries out against it in her mortal agony.

#### HOW TO GET FRESH VEGETABLES From the Independent.

As a method of getting better prices for first-class farm produce, Hal B. Fullerton, who runs a railroad company's experimental farm at Medford, L. L. devised the home hamper idea. In substance the home hamper is a crate

holding six four-quart baskets, which are filled with a variety of vegetables and fruit in season and expressed direct to consumers at a price of \$1.55, transportation paid.

The contents of home hampers are gathered early in the morning, washed, packed in paraffin paper and expressed in time to reach consumers of preparation for direct transfer. paraffin paper and expressed in time to reach consignees for preparation for dinner the same day. Only perfect produce is shipped, and it retains its fresh-from-the-garden condition. The hamper is a carefully assorted sample package of the farm's contribution to the table. After paying express anywhere on Long Island, or to Brooklyn or Manhattan, Mr. Fullerton finds that at the price he quoted he has a net profit of 38 cents from each hamper, while the same produce consigned to a commission merchant would net him from 8 to 8 cents. The same vegetables and fruit in a city market would cost them from 70 cents to \$3 more.

# VAGARIES OF PATRIOTISM

From the Cleveland Plain Dealer. Patriotism is a surprising thing, sometimes. Take the case of the New Jersey Italian who sold his housekeeper and her child for 130 and went to war.

THE NATIONAL POINT OF VIEW Secretary Redfield administered a merited re-sults to the parties responsible for the publica-tion of the "poison shell" advertisements.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Dr. Anna Shaw not only got her yellow auto-mobile back, but had her taxes said into the bargain. More man could nover have accom-plished that trick.—Charleston Evening Post.

Let us not exect our sconomic and business

program on any such hed of sands as the atle field conditions arising from the war, but rather seek a foundation that is solid and sub-stantial—Springfield, Mass, Union. We do not need all the ettirens and we do not

want to adopt European militariam by training them all. What we need is to train as many as will volunteer to receive training, and thus become "volunteer militia," representative of the great body of genuine militia.—St. Louis Sec. If Illinois is to present a favorite son to the

# MOST BEAUTIFUL RIDE IN THE WORLD

It Is Over the Dolomite Road, Built by Austria for Carrying Troops Into the Trentino, But the Italians, Early in the War, Closed This Scenic Route to Their Enemy.

# By WILLIAM A. McGARRY

ONE of the important achievements of the a road that commands views of mountain peak and valley said to be unexcelled anywhere else tion from the war correspondents and experts, yet which is of deep interest to American tourists who know the Dolomita Alps, is the cutting at several points of the Dolomiten Strasse, known to travelers as "The most beautiful ride in the world." Incidentally, these who have taken the ride and have had opportunity to see for themselves the enormous cost to Austria in the construction of the road, no doubt wonder why the Dual Monarchy failed to provide it with adequate fortifications. Perhaps it did not realise the power of modern

artillery. The Delgmite Road was completed in 1969. It is 120 miles long, from Tobiach to Boson, winding southward through the Trentino over high mountain passes and through beautiful valleys. Austria built the highway for military purposed. It was to have provided a short out into Trentino for the passage of troops and munitions of war. Millions of dollars were spent in building and maintaining it, yet not until war was declared was the road fortified. Then Staly struck so rapidly and with such furce that the fertifications proved undiesa-

American toucists who have been over the famous highway my that price to its construction a road of so fine a type through this difficult mountainous region was considered next to impossible. But the callroad facilities What a stringgle the compositor must have at war with linit, and recognition this control of the compositor must have at war with linit, and recognition this control of the compositor must have at war with linit, and recognition this linit, and recognition to the area of the compositor must have at war with linit, and recognition this linit, and the string lines of handreds of the part of the compositor must have at the string to the string to the compositor must have at the string to th into Treating were obviously loadequate in case | one point where the tourist looks down a sheer

in the world. Even the experts have been puzzled by the

failure of Austria to hold the highway. With it troops and munitions could have been poured into Bozen when the need arose to fight off an Italian offensive in the Trentine. Without it these troops and supplies must go over the railroad, a roundabout route that is constantly threatened at Toblach, while the Italian forces hold possession of the Dolomite Road.

The number is made all the more baffling by the fact that the Austrian Government did not stop with building and maintaining the road, But spent large sums in developing it. The motorbus line from Toblach to Bosan, for instance, was operated by the Government. Scores of sites along the road where the view is supecially fine were utilized for hotels; so that the traveler who left Toblach intending to ride to Bozen and then so elsewhere frequently halted at one of the picturesque inns. The Delomiten Strasse runs southward from Toblack to Schludertuck and then ferka eirsling Lake Misarina. The branches join again southwest of the lake at Corlini. At no point is there a level stretch of more than a few rolles. and in places fourists my the road literally is thrown over the mountain tops. Dr. William Romains Newtonia of the University of Pennsylvania, who has visited the region, tells of