

Evening Ledger

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PHILADELPHIA, MONDAY, AUGUST 23, 1915.
Fish are caught only by those who bait their hooks with what fish like.
An Unexpected Setback for Germany
THERE will be no tendency among critical observers to minimize the defeat which Germany suffered in her attacks on Russian soil by way of the Gulf of Riga.

Reducing the City's Dark Places
THE Octavia Hill Association, which for a score of years has been working to give the poor of Philadelphia the comforts of sanitary homes almost at cost, is an organization which has done much to make this the City of Homes.

A Protest Against Coddling
MANY observers will agree with Dr. Charles W. Burr that there is too much coddling of the young people in the schools. The only way to develop a vigorous brain is to give it hard and strenuous work to do.

Liability of German Citizens
THOSE German citizens engaged in the retail business in Pittsburgh who asked their Government about their liability under the German laws if they made war materials for the Allies were prudent.

Nothing Can Take the Horse's Place in War
PAUL CONNELLY can fill his contract for 4,000 horses for the French Government without perceptibly affecting the supply of horses in the country.

millions of 1897 to 14,206,000. There was a decrease each year until 1900, when the number had slumped to 13,828,000; but the next year it jumped to a higher figure than ever before known, and in 1909 the 20,000,000 limit was passed.

What Plattburg Is Proving
WORD comes down from the Plattburg camp that the men from Philadelphia and other cities are impressed with the demonstration of the impossibility of improving a great national defense force.

No one will dispute Mr. Bryan's assertion that in the event of a foreign war a million men would respond within a day to a call for volunteers. There is no doubt of the willingness of the people to fight under provocation.

Italy Will Ask Pay for What She Does
THE significance of the Italian declaration of war is to be found in the state of the campaign against Constantinople. The Allies have forced their way for only a few miles toward the Sea of Marmora.

Comedy in Subterranean Transit
THE Juniper street station-level below the subway, where the great green cars (yellow for Chester Short-line) daily engulf thousands of good Philadelphians and with sublime certainty bear them upward and onward to their destinations.

Chang's Change of Mind
It is interesting to compare this Occidental view of the issue between monarchy and republic, which may shortly produce another crisis in the history of China, with the changed attitude of General Chang Hun, the "Butcher of Nankin."

They are taking a tuck in the Tuckerton wireless fast enough.
The collier Franklin is a finer boat than any that Franklin himself ever saw.

All an American can hope is that Great Britain will get her \$5,000,000,000 worth out of the affair.
Germany is planning to make the Allies pay the cost of the war. But what if the Allies should win?

It is now admitted in Georgia that the identity of the lynchers of Frank is known, as though any one had supposed that it was unknown.
At the present rate of demand for labor the man out of work will soon be called on to prove that he does not belong to the I. W. W.'s.

MIGHT AND RIGHT
If Might made Right, life were a wild beast's case;
If Right made Might, life were the golden case.
But now, what is the thing between?
Right must gain Might to conquer and to reign.
—Henry van Dyke in the Outlook.

YUAN SHIH-KAI AS CHINA'S NAPOLEON

Is He Trying to Steer His Country Back to Monarchy?—General Chang's Conversion to Republicanism

By ELLIS RANDALL

WHEN Yuan Shih-kai became President of the Chinese Republic on the nomination of the Nankin Provisional Parliament he said in his letter of acceptance, "I have long been in favor of a republican form of government."

It was hardly his republicanism, however, that won him his position of power. Yuan, by methods of the shrewd and unscrupulous self-seeker, and, some say, with the motives of patriotism, secured control of the republican movement.

The report from Pekin that he is contemplating the rehabilitation of the monarchy and his own establishment on the throne as the founder of a new dynasty need surprise nobody. It should be borne in mind, however, that the statements issuing from the presidential palace have carefully attributed the suggestion of a change in the form of government to Yuan's advisers and not to Yuan himself, who is represented as a loyal republican.

In a book called "The Remaking of China," written by Adolph S. Waley, an Englishman of monarchical propensities, but of undoubted familiarity with the course of events in China since the revolution, the author recently asserted that Yuan intends to imitate Napoleon III and seize the throne, but this fact did not in the least alter Mr. Waley's estimate of the Chinese dictator as a true patriot.

The Quest of Power
The author's interpretation of events following the death of the Dowager Empress in 1908 is of timely interest in connection with the latest reports concerning the President's secret ambitions.

Yuan was perfectly aware that, with the fall of the Manchu dynasty, the throne could easily be gained by a strong man who could count upon the allegiance of the army, and with this knowledge came the conviction that the flower of the modern army in China, which owed its whole being to him, would follow him to the death.

Having secured control of the army, Yuan's next step was to take possession of the republican movement. While drawing his salary as the Imperial Premier he secretly became a republican leader. At first sight, the British author admits, this volte-face appears strange in a man known to be a convinced monarchist; but he adds that Yuan was familiar with Napoleonic history and knew a stepping-stone to a throne when he saw it.

Yuan has not yet become Emperor, he has frankly expressed his determination to prevent restrictions on his authority, and has actually assumed the prerogatives which from time immemorial have been vested in the throne. Mr. Waley compares him with the great Emperor Kanghs Kanghai, who made China a strong and united empire.

It is interesting to compare this Occidental view of the issue between monarchy and republic, which may shortly produce another crisis in the history of China, with the changed attitude of General Chang Hun, the "Butcher of Nankin."

General Chang seems to have been converted to republicanism through the conservative, even reactionary, policy which Yuan has followed. Very lately he has said, "Republican government is the government best suited to the conditions of China," and "China's government should never be changed."

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MURRAY'S MUSEUM OF 400,000 WORDS

He Who Has Never Read a Dictionary for Pure Enjoyment Has Missed an Opportunity Which He Should Immediately Seize and Improve—Illustrations for Doubters

By B. K. LITTLE

JUST think how painful it would be if a cow woke up to the fact that in all the grand scheme of creation she was nothing but a cow. Happily for us, most cows never wake to this discovery.

But did you ever notice how many human cows there are? Just nice, patient, hard-working people who never wake up to the fact that they are not brilliant and important, but who just go on contentedly turning out products that in their way are as necessary as milk.

One such person died the other day. A very important cow, too, in his way. His name was Murray, and his specialty was to give forth words.

Four hundred thousand words is, one might say, a good deal of milk for one cow to give. A long time ago Cardinal Richelieu organized the French Academy and charged it chiefly with the duty of keeping the French language pure against the invasion of the Chicago brand of French.

Did you ever read a dictionary for pure enjoyment? Anybody knows what a teasing thing it is. You want to look up the word "arthritic" but before you come to it you stumble across "Arcady," and that makes you think of "eclogue," and "eclogue" leads to "idyl," and before you know it you have forgotten all about "arthritic."

You and Jones and "Rarebit"
What a job that was! And you're mistaken if you think a word is a dead thing. It's a mistake to think that the dictionary makes the language. It's the man in the street that makes the language.

TOO MUCH POLITICS
To the Editor of the Evening Ledger:
Sir—In the State of Georgia there was a man by the name of Leo M. Frank, who was accused of committing a crime, and who, instead of having a jury try him, was convicted by an ignominious, low-down mob. Frigidly accused he was against him. Later, we find that he has been stabbed by a fellow prisoner. Why was he stabbed? Just a plain frame-up. Some prominent man might have ordered it. I was

surprised to hear that the State of Georgia had him convicted on the testimony of a low, uneducated negro, whose word was taken in preference to a white man.

Now where is justice? Why should a man like Thaw go free and a doubted man like Frank should have been so persecuted. The Bible says, "The truth shall make you free," seemed to have little bearing in Frank's trial. "Too much politics," I say.

THE STATE OF GEORGIA can only uphold its honor by capturing those savage criminals and dealing them the extreme penalty of the law, which is "A life for a life." JOHN CRAIG, Philadelphia, August 20.

SEMME'S FOUGHT FAIRLY

In view of the discussion as to modern methods of marine warfare raised by the sinking of the Lusitania, it is interesting to note what was the practice of the Confederate Admiral Semmes during our Civil War.

NATIONAL POINT OF VIEW

This war is really for the peace of the world—Ohio State Journal.
A New York newspaper says that John L. Sullivan's talk on the booze question to the convicts in Sing Sing prison "carried conviction to them. And most of them had already been convicted on the booze question—Kansas City Star.

Harrisburg is tired of contractors' government, and the time to end it is now. The voters gave it a tremendous shock the last time they had a chance, and it is no less certain that the same punishment will be inflicted again—Harrisburg Patriot.

There may be a thousand lessons that the United States can learn from a year of world war, but only one of them is vital. That is the lesson of sea power as democracy's defensive weapon for the preservation of its life and liberty—New York World.

THE GERMAN PERIL

Into the story of the German rush today a fear death silently obtrude. Of Teuton plan the Russian pride the crash. And make the Muscovite in shame to brood. For now the Kaiser's men are at the gate. Of Russia's famous city, Petrograd. And should they enter, what shall be its fate. At hands of storming legions, conquest mad! Perhaps, although the thought gives one a chill. They have a fiendish plan, these German men. And when they've captured Petrograd they will Christian the town St. Petersburg again. W. A. McG.

AMUSEMENTS

CORT ATLANTIC CITY
THEATRE
OPENING TONIGHT
THE LATEST COMIC OPERA BY
"THE HENRY BLOSSOM VICTOR HERBERT
WITH MISS ELEANOR PAINTER "PAT"
METROPOLITAN CAST AND CHORUS
SPECIAL ORCHESTRA CONDUCTED BY MR. HERBERT
MATE—Tues. Thurs. Sat. 25c to \$1.50.
EVERY—25c, 50c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.00.