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NO AT THE PHILADELPHIA POSTOFFICE AS SECOND-THE AVERAGE NET PAID DAILY CIRCULA-TION OF THE EVENING LEDGER

FOR AUGUST WAS 95,618. PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1915.

The man who complains that he is ignorant he never had an opportunity to get an education thereby confesses that money spent on sending him to college would have been wasted.

#### IGURES TO SCORCH THE DONKEY'S HIDE

EMPTY dinner pail is an argument which no political orator has yet been e to refute or to strengthen. The most dising condition that confronts the Demotic strategists who are preparing for the faign next year is that there were more Be dinner pails in the winter of 1914-15 \*there were in 1912. They are aware the dinner pail problem is related to

Tavings bank deposit question, and that illing off in the amount of the savings of plain people means a falling off in supt of the party in power.

he effect of two years and a half of Dematic rule can be read in the business of savings banks in Philadelphia, the Sepiber reports of which have just been made Take the Philadelphia Saving Fund ort as typical. There was credited to its sitors on September 7 the sum of \$121,-,000, whereas on November 2 of last year depositors had \$117,308,000. There is here apparent increase of \$3,800,000, but the erest on the deposits amounts to about 00,000, leaving only \$300,000 for additional

impare this with the figures for the ar periods of 1911 and 1912, and it will nr that the total increase in the amounts A to the depositors then was \$8,052,000. Shreat the interest credite and there plinet increase in deposits from the In things of the people of \$2,842,000, or oper bankes as much as in the current year. mbrrts of the other banks show similar

Acceptres carry their own comment on Trianz of business meddling and tariff short cand the conduct of affairs too big Next stery of amateur theorists.

# "A GI'ING FOR THEIR COUNTRY

Pickfory's Tommy Atkins fought for the meaning Queen Victoria, and mothers a day. The French soldiers oyal family to defend, and they

into the paltry shilling. The peace pay day, it a day. That has been raised to ern rat the Chamber of Deputies. Even Paul Any is not an inducement to a man "s family and face death. Frenchfighting not for pay, but for France. taine thinks of this thrilling fact he is 'n' to conclude that the system of uniservice in the army has certain aduges that can be found under no other pd of preparing for national defense.

# MBA BLAMES THE WRONG MEN

CTOR DUMBA, who was once the Ausrian Ambassador to the United States, d the reporters who met him on his al in New York on his way home as were responsible for his predicament. ald that he hoped he might never see er one, and charged them with "mixhim all up" and never getting what he

iow that reporters are not responsible his retirement. They did not write any rs about stirring up trouble in the steel Bethlehem and the Middle West,

went about their legitimate busiwith a conscientious and discreet efmy which even diplomatists might envy.

# RRAR, FRANKLIN AND CELLINI

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN were alive and ld be acquainted with all the facts, he make a fascinating volume out of Gerar's autobiography which a Bosbilisher of works of pure literature is

eveliet with this brilliant young singer a heroine, could make a delightful tale the rise of a girl from the position grapher when she was 17 or 18 old to a prime donne at 25 with the action and the dramatic instinct he doubtless make a more interesting than Miss Farrar herself will tell. He not akim over the baseball career of er, per her short period of self-in thing dictation from a school act to thing distanton searning the furtishing while she was learning the mis of music. He would tell of her es in the Castle Square Theatre in here light and heavy operas were Seath by elew terture at the hands meets to the musical edification of which paid 50 cents for the best ine. He would paint the backneder that the brilliant fruition as by contrast. Her life affords

enough for a splendid romance of

mnounce that she will make the attempt with her own hand, unassisted by the convenient trained writer to put her desultory

recollections in shape to print. As writing autobiography is the relaxation of age rather than the avocation of youth, and comes when the career has been so nearly completed that little of interest can happen in the future, there is a certain element of pathos in Miss Farrar's determination to tell the etery of her life. She is a prima donna at 22, and she is not likely to be anything more all the rest of the years of her life; such are the penalties of early MICCAMA.

Benjamin Franklin had much to tell of what he did and thought long years after he had reached Miss Farrar's age, and his autobiography is a classic. Benyenuto Cellini did not begin to write his autobiography till he was 58, and he shaved his head to do it and betook himself to a monastery for two years until the work was finished. He was a musician in his youth, as Miss Farrar is. As no one knows what is in the lap of time, Miss Farrar 26 years from now may be able to produce a book that will live along with the great Italian artist's autobiography.

## THE PLEDGE OF CIVIC DUTY

CITIZENS of Philadelphia whose conof the oath of the Athenian youth on admission to the suffrage, when they cast their votes at the November election have no right at the polls. They do not belong to a democracy, those who are too boss-ridden to subscribe to the following text:

We will never bring disgrace to this, ou city, by any act of dishonesty or cowardice, nor ever desert our suffering com-rades in the ranks. We will fight for the ideals and sacred things of the city, both alone and with many; we will revere and obey the city's laws and do our best to incite a like respect and reverence in those who are prone to annul or set them at naught; we will strive unceasingly to quicken the public sense of civic duty. Thus, in all these ways, we will transmit this city, not only not the less, but greater, better and more beautiful than it was trans-

Here in this pledge is a miniature treatise in authentic patriotism, an evangel of civic duty. It sets briefly but substantially the standards of real democracy; it states the obligations that rest on the citizen of a republic who would not be guilty of inciviciem.

To live for one's city, to be alive for it, that is the ideal-to be alive to its needs, its interests. For the living, facing the massed and controlled ballots of graft and political misrule, not the bullets of alien foe, can win the great victory of a city redeemed permanently; can, by following the code of civic conduct inspiringly set forth in the Athenian Oath, gain and secure genuinely democratic government.

How many citizens of Philadelphia on November 2 will desert their comrades in the ranks who four years ago started Philadelphia on the road to municipal decency? How many will by their ballots incite reverence for what is right and just, and administer stinging rebuke to those above them who have been prone to annul or set at naught lofty civic ideals, turning to private ends what should be for the common weal? How many will fight in the simple, easy way, constitutionally provided, for the ideals and sacred things of Philadelphia?

## IN DARK MANHATTAN

THE New York Times has been having a I laugh at the expense of Senator Hughes, of New Jersey, and all because the Senator announced that he could see no reason why "if a woman is to be taxed on a basis of equality with a man, she should not be given an equal vote with him as to how her money is to be expended by public servants." This very funny to the Times, which wants to know, "What has taxation got to do with the matter?" Haven't they heard about the Revolutionary War in New York yet?

# WORDS IN CHAINS

THERE is no bondage more galling than L that of custom; and it is inescapable also. Words, which by nature have a wide latitude of real and metaphorical meaning, are fettered to a single significance by the custom of using them more commonly in one way than in another.

When it was announced that a distinguished preacher had been sued for breach of promise every one at all interested in the case immediately assumed that he had declined to marry a woman whom he had agreed to make his wife. As he had a wife already, there were the elements of a scandal in the report. But it seems that the minister is not accused of breaking his promise to marry, but his promise to pay certain sums of money in a business contract. "Breach of promise," however, is chained so securely to the post of a single meaning that It connotes but one idea in the popular mind.

Elope is another word that is not free. It means merely to run away, but only people who run away to marry surreptitiously are allowed to elope. Notoriety is simply the state of being known. A notorious man, however, is a man of had reputation. Suggestiveness likewise means merely having the ability to suggest, but it is used in a bad sense. And criticism, however much it would like to describe friendly as well as hostile comment, finds itself unable to convey any meaning save that of fault finding. number of such slaves might be multiplied indefinitely to prove that words are but symbols that mean what we agree they shall mean, and not what their ancestry would justify us in supposing that they do mean.

Ultimatums are a drug in the market in

The Allies, like Paul Jones in a tight place. are announcing that they have only just begun to fight.

Some new tales will come out of Bagdad when the British soldiers fighting the Turks in that region get home.

One thing is established, at any rate; the Allies' correspondents can take more trenches in the dispatches than the Germans can.

George Sylvester Viereck, the editor of the Fatherland, has at least joined the ranks of the belligerents. He was married this

Chief of Police Clark, of Darby, made a record of 50-50 for efficiency Thursday night, for he stood guard over one stolen automotile while the thief got away and stole a

## THE WEST AGAIN-DRIVE OR NIBBLE?

The Background of the News of the Fighting in Champagne and Around Lens-A Week of Great Importance

#### By FRANK H. SIMONDS

IN FEBRUARY the official reports suddenly began to talk of fighting on that little known front between the city of Rheims and the Argonne. Day after day the cables talked more and more of the desperate fighting about villages little known, and even for the possession of farmhouses, which acquired as evil fame as that of Chateau of Hougement at Waterloo. The object of the French effort was little appreciated: the fact that 250,000 men were fighting on either side was not revealed until many days after the effort had ended in practical failure, despite incidental gains

But far at the other end of the line, in March, there suddenly broke out that British effort which instantly filled the press and the imagination of the world. After a sudden bombardment a large British force struck the German lines between La Bassee and Lille, broke through, won clear, and then-some one blundered, the dash to the Aubers Ridge, which is the key to Lille, did not come off; the victory turned out to be the advance of a mile on a four-mile front at a cost to Britain of more than she paid in her own blood for Waterloo.

### "The Million Myth"

Late in April the Germans, using poison gas for the first time, suddenly crashed through the line at the point where French and Canadian troops touched, overwhelmed the French, outflanked the Canadians, rolled up the whole British front and almost reached Ypres. They failed, but the extent of their temporary success disclosed to them and to the observing everywhere the plain fact that Kitchener's million was a myth, that British munitions were inadequate, that the spring drive was never to come.

Finally, in May, the last bid for a spring gain was made. The French, under Foch, the brilliant strategist who had won such renown at the Marne, after a bombardment in which 300,000 shells were used in a brief time, swept east north of Arras, took a number of villages, crowned the Lorette Heights. and were almost at the suburbs of Lens. But again a British failure came to mar the possibility of a major success.

#### The 750,000 Mark

After this came the great munition scandal in England. At last the truth was known, and England, six months too late, began to mobilize her industries. But the spring had passed, the drive was impossible, and Germany had turned east to dispose of Russia. This she never could have done had Kitchener's million been ready or British supplies of munitions comparable with French. From June to late September the war in the west has been a war of outposts and snipers, save for an occasional French dash in the Vosges. Meantime, British ammunition was accumulating and British troops on the Continent increasing, until they have now passed the 750,000 mark.

Turning now to the geography of the western front, it is simplest to begin by dividing this whole front into a few sectors and discussing these in ten. These sectors are Ypres, Arras, Alsne, Champagne, Argonne, Verdun, Lorraine and Vosges. Of these only the first four are interesting at the moment

To begin with the Ypres sector: This extends from the North Sea at Nieuport to the canal at La Bassee. On the west any offensive operation is impossible because of the inundated districts, which the Belgians flooded to check the Germans in the Battle of the Yser. About Ypres the Germans have crowded the British down hill and hold all the slopes. To the east, in a wide circle, the forts of Lille, dismantled by the French and rebuilt by the Germans, close the road. To the south the Aubers Ridge, east of Neuve Chapelle, and the works at La Bassee, offer obstacles that have blocked all attack.

In the narrow gap between the Yser and the Lys, east of Ypres, it is conceivable that the British might make an advance, but they would encounter a number of fortified lines and their efforts would not menace the main position of the Germans in France, which is the first objective. To attack Lille is impossible, because the French would oppose a bombardment destroying the town. Hence the operations between the sea and the La Bassee Canal have been of little moment since the British failed at the Aubers Ridge in the spring.

# An Attractive Battleground

But to the south from the La Basses Canal to the Somme River, on a front of perhaps 40 miles, with Arras as the central point, is an attractive place for an attack, and here things are happening. In May and June the French cleared the Lorette heights and pushed east to within four miles of the important railroad and mining town of Lens, around which the Franco-British forces are trying to throw a noose. The Allies are striving for control of the main highway, from La Bassee to Lens and Arras, which the Germans use for reinforcing their lines. It would win Lens, the most important railroad centre from Lille to the Oise, on the German front.

Behind Lens there is no really good standing point, regard being had to railroad communications, until Doual an Cambral are reached. If the Allied advance could be pushed to this point then the whole western side of the German elbow | France and Belgium would be threatened, because the French would be almost in sight of the lines which supply the Germans far to the south along the Oise, the upper Somme and the lower Alane.

The possession of Lens would give the Allies control of one of the most important. trunk lines from Paris to the north by Amiens, Arras and Lens. Here, then, is a front which offers local and ultimate possibilities which are patent when the map is consuited. There is no considerable natural obstacle to hinder the advance and the dominating heights are already in French

From the Somme to the forts of Rheims, that is at the elbow of the German position, the line of the Teutons seems impregnable. It rests upon that range of hills, the Cham-pagne hills of the geography, which rise just to the west of the Oise and face west, from Noyon north. Beyond the Oise they continue Noyon north. Reyond the Oise they continue cast, north of the Alsne to Berry-nu-Bac. Thence the German position extends to the Champasne plain across the eastern forts of Ehelms. This position was strongly fortified by the French in other years, but their forts were dismantled in the great "SUPPOSE THIS HADN'T DRIFTED MY WAY!"



them and rebuilt them. Back of these hills three trunk lines reach north to Belgium, while a cross line makes it easy to rush troops from east to west.

Here the Allied pursuit of the Germans was held up after the Marne. Here the Allies were repulsed in the battle of the Alsne, and later in the French offensive north of Solssons. This position seems impregnable, and against it the French have directed no serious attack since last winter. The best evidence points to the permanent abandonment by the Allies of any hope of storming this position and to the belief that the Germans can only be turned out of it.

East of the Rhelms forts and between them and the Argonne is a 30-mile front, which offers the attacker the best opportunity to be found on the whole western front. There are no natural obstacles, the country is fairly flat, sparsely populated, thus removing the objection that French artillery must destroy French cities.

Could the French push north from their line about Souain six miles, that is from the point which they held when the present drive began, they would cut the Challerange-Bazancourt Railroad, which supplies the whole German front from Rheims to the Argonne. They would insert a wedge between the Argonne and Rheims armies and they would threaten the flank of each. Another successful push and the Germans would be compelled to quit the Rheims forts, and the Crown Prince would have to give up his year-long struggle in the Argonne and between the Meuse and the Moselle for Ver-

East of this Champagne plain, where the Republican army defeated the Prussians at Valmy, and Attila's host was crushed, is the ong ridge of the Argonne, a dozen miles wide, covered by dense forests and penetrated by few roads. In this the Crown Prince has been fighting for months trying to get six miles south to cut the Paris-Verdun Railroad at St. Menchould and isolate Verdun from the west. The country here precludes any great drive, as his operation has shown. Eastward the trenches in front of the forts of Verdun, the beights of the Meuse and Woevre offer serious obstacles, and there is small chance of any major success, because to the east lie the permanent forts of Metz, barring the road into Germany. For present purposes the Vosges and Lorraine fronts may also be disregarded.

# Another Polish Salient

Now with this hasty glimpse of the geography of the front in mind, it is clear that the Arras and Champagne fronts are the only points that offer real promise of profit, local or ultimate. A local success in the Arras sector would win Lens, it might clear the Germans out of La Bassee and it would threaten the whole German position south of the Somme, because it would take the Allies close to the main railroads on which they depend.

Exactly in the same fashion a local success in the Champagne sector would relieve the stricken city of Rheims, imperil the flank of the Crown Prince, fighting to isolate Verdun, and it might be pushed far enough north, that is to the Alsne, about Rethel, to menace the Eastern trunk line which supports the German position in the Aisne sector.

Recall the Polish campaign of the Germans and the point will be clear. Hinden burg and Mackensen were striking at the two ends of the Russian position, which extended in a wide curve from the East Prussian to the Galician frontiers. They had been halted in a frontal attack at the middle of the curve before Warsaw.

In August they attempted to turn the Russians out of Poland by converging attacks, which were directed at the railway lines behind the Warsaw front. The Brit-

ish and French in Arras sector, the French in Champagne are making a converging attack wholly similar. A progress of a score of miles on either front might compel the Germans to straighten their lines, as Mackensen's success at Lublin forced the Russians to abandon Warsaw. Such an operation would mean the retreat to the Belgium frontier and the less of all but a thin strip of the French torrifory now held. Take any map of the war districts of

Belgium and northern France and from Arras draw a line east, from the Champagne draw another north. Before they meet about Namur they will cut all the railroad lines. which maintain the Germans in France. Long before any armies had covered the ground indicated by these lines the Germans would have retreated to escape envelopment, as the Russians retired, first from Warsaw and then from Brest-Litovsk. There is not the smallest prospect that the Germans will be enveloped, but the threat would be sufficient if carried forward a few miles to clear most of France.

## Looking Down From the Hills

Looking now to what has been accomplished, it will be seen that the British in their first attack pushed east, south of La Bassee, until they cut the La Bassee-Arras highway and dominated Lens from Hill No. 70, which is a mile north of the city and two miles south of Loos, which the British also captured. At the same time the French pushed east, south of Lens, and cut the Lens-Arras highway three miles south of Lens. This town is then more than half surrounded by allied troops, who hold the hills commanding it. If the positions taken can be held against the German counterattacks its evacuation is assured.

To the north La Bassee has been transformed into a second salient, because the British were already east of it, on the north, and their advance to the Lens-La Bassee highway to the south has drawn a semicircle about this town. But the half circle is wider, and the Germans are less likely to withdraw here if no more ground is lost by them. But their hold has been gravely weakened. Further successes will mean a German retreat both from Lens and La Bassee and a general allied advance toward the Lille-Doual-St. Quentin Railroad. If the Allies ever get astride this road, be-

tween Doual and Cambral, German withdrawal from France is next to inevitable. If they pass it north of Doual the evacuation of Lille is likely to follow, because in both cases German lines of communication will be gravely imperiled. If the French are stopped now to the south and the British to the north of Lens, and this lown falls, the Allies will still have taken a long forward movement toward the railroads, possession of which is vital to German resistance in France, not merely at the points assailed, but far to the south along the Aisne front.

In the same fashion in the Champagne sector the French have stepped out of their lines and covered half the distance to the Challerange-Bazancourt Railroad, which is within two miles and a half of their present front. One more push and they will be astride of this railroad and in the rear of the Germans, who are holding the forts north and east of Rheims. They will also he on the flank of the Germans with the Crown Prince in the Argonne. Such a gain held will end the attack upon both Rheims and Verdun. The present gain held will threaten both German operations and make the use of the railroad exceedingly difficult. But until the French are able to reach the raliroad their operation will have less immediate value than that of the British about Lens.

## FARTHEST NORTH SCHOOL

It Is Situated at Point Barrow, Alaska's Nearest Approach to the Pole

Somebody should do for the points of the compass what Poe did for the alphabet when he figured out in "The Gold Bug" the comparative frequency of the letters as they occur in ordinary writing. I mean the names of the four principal directions when used to designate the four quarters of the globe. as Kipling used two of them:

For East is East and West is West,

Which word is the oftenest used in ordinary speaking and writing-"East," "West," "North" or "South"?

"North" suggests bleakness and bitter cold, but in all probability it would not be found last in such a comparison as has been suggested. A Peary and a Cook and a Stefanssen bring the word into common use, and every spell of hot weather does the same thing. But we seldom speak of the schools of the far North. The schools of Alaska are serving as social centres to an extent hardly to be rivaled in the rest of the American States. Another interesting fact about them is that the pupils never have to be sent home because of the scorching heat. The Farthest North school in the Western hemisphere is located at Point Barrow, which is Alaska's

nearest approach to the Pole. There are 77 schools in Alaska, with an enrolment of 3563 and an average attendance of 1797. Some are on the frozen ocean, in touch with the mainland only once or twice a year. For eight months all of them, except those on the southern coast, are reached only by frozen trails. The work of the

teacher is necessarily one of self-denial and hardship. There has lately been a remarkable increase in the use of English among the Eskime population, every church service now including responsive reading from the English text of the Bible, in which a large percentage of the congregation joins. Generally the Eskimo youths are quick to learn. They read well, always with the spirit though not always with the understanding. But they are eager for the explanations and interpretations which frequently require patience and ingenuity. The pupils are good at arithme-

tic, and some are rapid in mental work. They have a strong natural instinct for imitation, which stands them in good stead in writing and map making, and they are surprisingly good in spelling and composition, while all the children above the first grade keep diaries throughout the term. Practically the entire population totally abstains from drink, so that the problem of drunkenness hardly enters at all. But there is, on the contrary, a vast use of tobacco among children as well as adults, and the most inveterate users of it are women, who, once in the grip of the habit, are more of slaves to it than the men. On the other hand, the district bathtub is a delight, almost to the point of dissipation. One of the teachers says that it is a special feature of the school life in his district. "It is no uncommon sight to see four boys in a tub at a time." They are so in love with good, warm water that it is difficult at times to

prevent them taking two baths a day. Bad housing is largely responsible for tuberculosis and many other diseases. There are all-night dances in crowded, ill-ventilated rooms. Business knowledge is being extended. Furs can be sold through agencies or by mail, and the Eskimo is quick to take advantage of the chance. The purchase of reindeer has helped the whole commercial life, and every one is eager to become an owner, this being specially true of the boys who go to camps in summer, learning the habits and traits of the deer as well as helping with the care and herding.

· NATIONAL POINT OF VIEW No one, individual or bank, will be compelled to subscribe to the Franco-British lean. It is pre-eminently a voluntary matter all around. No American's liberty is assailed or his neu-trality jeopardized.—Cleveland Piain Dealer.

It is fashionable nowadays to say "no" to the suggestion of a "little drink"; time was when it was the sign of mollycoddilahness. Men who don't drink are glad of it, and those who do drink commonly wish they didn't.—Washington

It is high time that the diploreatic service should be removed from the "pap" classification, relieved from pressure of domestic polities, and promotions and demotions be based solely upon merit. That is the first reform in a same preparedness program.—Grand Rapids Press.

# IN PRAISE OF COLLEENS

To the Editor of the Evening Leager: Sir-Ellen Adair, in today's issue of the Even-ino Landara, pays to the Irish colleen a trib-ute as deserved as it is evidently sincere. Ireland, despite long centuries of studied wrong and cruel neglect, is the very home of optim-ism and no heart is made the lighter and the more cheerful by it than that of the typical col-leen who, of all others, sees good in every-thing and in whom even sorrow is tinged with

I am a steady reader of Ellen Adair and admire her writings much. They disclose sound philosophy, deep reasoning and good common sense, and a most refreshing relief from the tedious platitudes paraded in other newspapers. could name. Philadelphia, October 1.

THE MOVIE CENSORSHIP

Sir-I must disagree absolutely with you in your declaration that the city is placed in an intolerable position because of the action of the courts of Allegheny County in uphoiding the authority of the Pennsylvania State Board of Motion Picture Consors. Authority must rest somewhere, and when a consor board is made absolute in power, responsibility reals heavily upon the members and the least suggestion of dishonesty or double dealing is besimirobing. I am convinced that the Pennsylvania State Board of Creace is or the highest integrity, sithough my asservation may be considered. To the Editor of the Evening Leager:

any film he may submit shall be final, and I believe that the majority of manufacturers are easer to uphold the hands of Pennsylvania's legally constituted and able body. Recourse to the courts for emendation of a censor board's decision would lead to confusion and would bring the entire picture industry in this state into a chaotic condition.

FRED R. ZWEIFEL. Philadelphia. September 30.

AFTER THE WAR To the Editor of the Scening Ledger:

Sir-Henry Ford, the automobile manufacturer, says that the Angio-French loan is not safe—that it is going to involve American pockeibooks and American savings, and that should any bank with which he or his company has dealings take any part of said loan then he will withdraw every must be has on deposit with them.

deposit with them.

When nations are in desperation they never consider the future. Only the present is worth considering.

If Americans were just one-half as practical and far seeing as the English themselves it would be a blessing. The average English investor has seen enough of this war to enable him to see something of what is to follow it. The day of class and caste in Britain is drawing to a close. Both political parties have united in Engiand—the Torice have swallowed up the Libersia, polities and all—so at the next election is will be Labor against Tueriam and Labor will wie hands down.