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

FIGURES TO SCORCH THE DONKEYS' HIDE

N EMPTY dinner pail is an argument which no political orator has yet been able to refute or to strengthen. The most disarming condition that confronts the Democratic strategists who are preparing for the fight next year is that there were more dinner pails in the winter of 1914-15 than there were in 1912. They are aware that the dinner pail problem is related to savings bank deposit question, and that a drop in the amount of the savings of plain people means a falling off in support of the party in power.

IN DARK MANHATTAN

THE New York Times has been having a 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 seems 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?

IMBA BLAMES THE WRONG MEN

CTOR DUMBA, who was once the Austrian Ambassador to the United States, and the reporters who met him on his way to New York on his way home as he was responsible for his predicament. "I had that he hoped he might never see me again, and charged them with 'mixing him all up' and never getting what he said right."

FRANKLIN AND CELLINI

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announce that she will make the attempt with her own hand, unassisted by the convenient trained writer to put her deplorable recollections in shape to print. As writing an 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 story of her life.

THE PLEDGE OF CIVIC DUTY

CITIZENS of Philadelphia whose consciences are not square with the spirit of 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, our city, by any act of dishonesty or cowardice, nor ever desert our suffering comrades in the ranks.

WORDS IN CHAINS

THERE is no bondage more galling than 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.

REAR, FRANKLIN AND CELLINI

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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 an evil fame as that of Chateau de Hougomont at 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.

THE 750,000 MARK

After this came the great munition scandal in England. At least the truth was known, and England, six months too late, began to mobilize her industries. But the spring had named the drive was impossible, and Germany had turned east to dispose of Russia.

AN ATTRACTIVE BATTLEGROUND

But to the south from the La Bassee 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.

IN PRAISE OF COLLEENS

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: Sir—Ellen Adair, in today's issue of the Evening Ledger, pays to the Irish colleen a tribute as deserved as it is evidently sincere.

AFTER THE WAR

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: Sir—Henry Ford, the automobile manufacturer, says that the Anglo-French loan is not safe—that it is going to involve American pocketbooks and American savings, and that it should be a blessing.

THE MOVIE CENSORSHIP

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger: 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 upholding the authority of the Pennsylvania State Board of Motion Picture Censors.

"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 Aisne, and later in the French offensive north of Soissons. This position seems impregnable, and against it the French have directed no serious attack since last winter.

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-Argonne 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.

East of this Champagne plain, where the Republican Army defeated the Prussians at Valmy, and Attila's host was crushed, is the long 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. Menesbould and isolate Verdun from the west.

Now with this hasty glimpse of the geography of the front in mind, it is clear that 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 Aisne, about Reims, 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. Hindenburg and Mackensen were striking at the two ends of the Russian position, which extended in a wide curve from the East Prussian to the Gallician 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 British 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.

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 oftener 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 Stefansson 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.

There are 77 schools in Alaska, with an enrolment of 2663 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 Eskimo 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 arithmetic, 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 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 loan. It is presently a voluntary matter all around. No American's liberty is assailed or his neutrality jeopardized.—Cleveland Plain Dealer. It is fashionable nowadays to say "no" to the suggestion of a "little drink"; time was when it was the sign of mollycoddliness. Men who don't drink are glad of it, and those who do drink commonly wish they didn't.—Washington Times. It is high time that the diplomatic service should be removed from the "pass" classification, relieved from pressure of domestic politics, and promotion and demotions be based solely upon merit. That is the first reform in a sane preparedness program.—Grand Rapids Press. History will one day do justice to the remarkable episode of British and French financial envoys coming over here hats in hand to borrow what used to be the debtor nation the largest sum of money ever raised by any foreign Government outside its own domain.—Boston Post. The Navy makes a man and breaks the monkey. It is no place for the man who hasn't a stout heart, a streak of the bravest in his blood, and is willing and able to take the duty he is given. The routine are correspondingly less than the excitement.—Chicago Tribune.