Evening of Ledger PUBLIC LEDGER COMPANY

CYRUS H. K. CURTIS, PROVIDED. Latin, Berrelary and Treasurer; Philip S. m. John B. Williams, Directors.

CTRUS H. R. CUSTIS, Chairman, WHALEY. IOHN C. MARTIN. General Business Manager olished dally at Punte Largen Building, Independence Square, Philadelphia. CENTRAL Broad and Chastnut Streets
10 CIT Press Union Building
68E 200 Metropolitan Town
6 826 Pord Building
118. 400 Globe-Democrat Fuilding
1202 Tribune Building

PROFOS BURNAU RIGES Building FORE BURNAU The Times Building BURNAU 49 Friedrichstrame BURNAU Marconi House Rirand BURNAU 32 Rue Louis le Urand SUBSCRIPTION TERMS

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THREE AT THE PHILADELPHIA POSTOFFICE AS BECOND-CLASS MAIL MATTER.

THE AVERAGE NET PAID DAILY CIR-FOR JUNE WAS 125,808

Philadelphia, Thursday, July 13, 1916.

NOTICE.

fers may have the Evening Ledger solled to them to any out-of-town address or any period of time. Address may be hanged as often as desired, but with each age both the old and now addresses must ren. Bubscription rates are printed

High stations, tumult, not bliss create, None think the great unhappy but the

Thieves Near City Hall.—Headline. Near? Thank goodness!

Light without heat has been dised by a French savant. Vice versa politicians for many years.

All the military experts have to do describing the Russian advance is to vern to their files of last summer, re-perse-the maps, and repeat.

Japan will build four superdreadnoughts. From our own experience we judge that Japan must recently have suffered from a violent outbreak of pacifism.

The Virginia Bill of Rights may be all right for Virginia, but it won't do for Mexico, where there is no government.-Joe Cannon.

Never mindl Didn't Mr. Bryan have us almost to the point where we had no Government either?

Tell all those persons who ask you if the movies have not seen their best days that the child is just off a milk diet and is beginning to eat meat.— President Herrington, of the Motion Picture Exhibitors' League.

Milk? Nonsense; champagne!

It would be a pleasant thing if any one were naive enough to say: "What does it signify that the Mayor will recognize forty-eight men in the city as ward leaders? Have these forty-eight been distinguished or perhaps elected by their fellow citizens as specially worthy of consultation or as representative of their desires? Philadelphia there is no one paive,

Deplorable as is the sudden activity f man-eating sharks along the upper ersey coast, there is little occasion for & panie, and certainly none for avoidance of surf bathing altogether. It is not improbable that one shark is responsible for all the tragedies. In waters known to be the habitat of the timer shark. along the South Atlantic and Gulf coasts. bathing in the surf is just as popular a diversion as it is north of Hatteras, yet there are seldom any accidents. The shark is, in fact, reputed to be a coward, asily to be frightened off by mere noise. While every care should be taken by bathers, particularly not to go too far from shore, the danger at the great bathing beaches, where large crowds congregate may be considered as fairly remote. But the swimmer who insists on going far out in the water to show simply flirting with death.

Senator Penrose might have been Washington when the navy bill was being formulated, but he wasn't. In fact. he has not been in his seat for two months, and he was not there often before that. There are some Senators who stick close to the job. Their constituents are thereby protected. As the naval bill now stands it instructs the Secretary of the Navy to have the yards at Puget Sound, Norfolk and Boston equipped to build capital ships. "There was no one there to speak for Philadelphia," said Senator Poindexter, "otherwise I presume Philadelphia would have been included." "Has Pennsylvania seceded from the Union?" asked a newspaper recently, referring to absenteelsm on the part of our Congressmen. No, but it is apparent that Mr. Penrose has seceded from the Senate and is treating that august body with the neglect and disdain which he no doubt thinks it deserves. But one Senator on the job is worth two in the bushes, as the major

One of the great pleasures of walk ing about in Fairmount Park is coming suddenly and with the effect of discovery on its statues. The equestrian Jeanne FArc is almost hidden from view until one turns a corner. The quiet bust of Verdi is in a woody niche, like a benevolent entyr. Sintuary in parks, a strange development, is successful, and the propoul of the Mayor to take those around City Hall and place them in the fine setting of the Parkway is commendable. In Burlin little children are taken to the Steres Alice and compelled to learn the names, dutes and histories of all the characters represented in marble and stone there. Furnage that is why all.

None the less, care should be taken that not all the city's statues are placed there. For one, the Pilgrim Father needs a more noble setting than a triangle anywhere along the way.

"PRACTICAL MEN"

McNICHOL, after all the cruel and bitter thrusts that he aimed at the head of the Mayor, opens the silly season by "amazingly" and "totally unexpectedly appearing with Mr. Vare in the executive reception room for harmony. It was to have been war to the knife between the Penrose-McNichol faction and the Smith-Vare faction. McNichol would never, no never-well, hardly ever-seek harmony with the Administration. His attitude, intil the election of the new City Committee, was that of the New England nate who told the offensive captain that he wanted "none of his whisky, nor yet none of his see-gars, but only a leetle common see-vility, and damned leetle of that." But now "Uncle Jim" is on the job with a fistful of choice Havanas of his own and smiles that are as convincingly benign as those of the sun himself. It is never too warm and sticky for affection in the political family.

The point is an arrangement for "proportional representation" in the way of lobs. It seems that Vare holds the ward leaderships by a two to one majority. The question was whether Vare was to get all the patronage or whether McNichol was to get a one-third share. If he did not get his one-third share there were evidently intimations that there might be a movement at Harrisburg to "rip" Mayor Smith out of office or impeach the Governor. Vare surveyed the future's dire possibilities and thought better of any idea he may have had of measuring swords with the Penrose Organization in the State.

There is, of course, the hint that this being a presidential year it is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their party. "I will do anything I can to build up the Republican party," says the Mayor. Luckily, no matter what steps to build up the Republican party Mr. Smith may take, the city is sure to go for Mr. Hughes. No help he could give been much employed by American Mr. Hughes would seriously hurt Mr. Hughes, no more than Mr. Penrose's most ardent efforts with his State Organization have ever shaken Pennsylvania's belief in protection and Republicanism. The factional leaders have so much majority ple that they can afford to use pieces of it as missiles. But they reckon without their host if they expect to carry their two to one division of spoils to the White House. Mr. Hughes as Governor gave ample proof that he is deaf to the pleadings of bosses, and as he did not listen to the advice of President Roosevelt about appointments, it is scarcely likely that he will listen to Penrose or Vare. Where this petty factionalism, which shows its head at Washington as well as here and at Harrisburg, really hurts the State is in preventing the appointment to Federal offices of Pennsylvanians of the highest abilities. Too many eminent reputations that for the sake of party regularity wear the Penrose uniform are (in a number of cases unjustly) also clad in the Penrose ethics, in the view of Republican Presidents. Occasionally a Knox emerges from our State organization to receive national recognition; but that is an exception that proves the rule.

Philadelphia's position as part of the

fabric of national political life was aptly defined by Elihu Root when as Secretary of State in Roosevelt's Cabinet he characterised the city Organization that was And why do they bear such strange names fighting the reformers of 1905 as a comas Varemen, McNicholmen and so un? bination "masquerading as Republicans." Aren't they Philadelphians?" But no. In It is possible for the city to throw off and became interested in us, Frank that the ale had been saturated with this stigma by acquiring a municipal con-State. A start in that direction could be representation idea of the bosses in dividing up the plums according to ward leaderships to an entirely different phase of proportional representation. Ward boundarles are purely artificial. It is absurd to call the north side of Chestnut street the 9th Ward and the south side the 8th. The only purpose these lines serve now is to parcel out the shares of activity expected from ward leaders. A board of five well-paid city managers elected from the city at large would be one way of erasing these lines and would concentrate the responsibility of government upon a few men. A system of minority representation, through permitting each voter to vote for only one candidate, would produce a board of, say, three Organization managers and two Independents. This would make the protests that are now voiced by a few independent Councilmen appear as sharp divisions in the board, the publicity given to protests of minority officials who were of equal rank with the majority officials would be very great, and decisions on matters of great moment would not "get by" so easily by votes of three to two. The man with the deciding vote would be under sharp fire.

The committee considering the revision of the municipal charter was told yesterday by Mr. Burnham that every one was agreed the city should have a smaller Council, that cities where the commission form of government is in force are governed, as a rule, by not more than five or seven men, but that this number would be too small for a municipality of this size. A Council of not 'more than 21 members would be better, he said, with the present Mayor and elected administrative officials undisturbed. He urged the employment of a city manager "who would have sole charge of all departments now under the Mayor." This is evidently an attempt to compromise between the present system and the commission form, to separate legislative from administrative functions. But in the other meetings the committee will hold this summer it will be well if the point is strongly advanced that "legislation" in a city is a misnomer, being usually fused with administration, for a city is not a State-it is rather a corporation in which the rulers are a board of managers and the citizens stockholders. There is much to be said for a board far smaller than one of 21 members and for the elimination of the inexpert and sectional Coun-

cilmen. Under any system we would still have the "practical men" who try to run the city by clandestine methods; there is no asivation in any outward form of govern-

Tom Daly's Column

A HEAT STROKE. The mercury within the glass Was sizzling at mine ear. The day was hot. Ay! by the mass, My brain was broiled and sere; My tongue was like the silly grass That soithered yesteryear.

But I had work and here must stay Though bones and gristle melt, I longed to strip my flesh away, And I am far from svelte-But why go out 'Twas yesterday, And you know how that felt!

Well, to my den of toll there came A thing in human guise, A creature whom I shall not name, And laid before mine eyes An ancient bill that, to my shame, I owed for home supplies.

I gaze upon that billet-doux, I mark him where he sits. Quick Anger's blood-congested hus Across my features filts-

I leap the space between us two And slay him with my mitts! Aye! come and take his corpse away,

I know-ha! ha!-where that will stay Until it pays the toll, For bringing me on such a day My bill for last year's coal!

But never mind his soul;

Deutschland's Deck Passengers

WE NOMINATE for deck passengers (chairs and rugs free) on the Deutschland's return trip: Michael Francis Doyle

W. J. B. The Athletics' Jinx Colonel Bogte General Carranza Villa

" Humidity George Sylvester Viereck

DERHAPS our gentle readers might care to make a few nominations or send "bum voyage" packages containing such suitable dainties as parsnips, N. Y. Camembert cheese, bride biscuits, bread pudding (B. L. T. brand) and such like. Make haste, please.

DEAR Tom-You were speaking the other day about Albert Ross and his being the Harold Bell Wright of the early 80s. I maintain that I am the Silas Wegg of 1916, inasmuch as I am liable to bust into song, even in the presence of Mrs. Boffin, at the slightest provocation. Listen:

Things are never so bad but they might have been worse, And as Stevenson said in his excellent

verse: "The world is so full of a number of things I'm sure we should all be as happy as

kings." And I am as happy as happy can be, There is so much to do and there's so

much to see, Yet sometimes in terror I wake in the night, Having dreamed of a novel by Harold

Bell Wright,

I. M. Daff reports this sign of a large contract on 5th street WANTED-GIRLS TO SEW BUTTONS ON THE THIRD FLOOR.

NEW contrib., who signs himself A Big Bill, wants to know why we don't run a diary like F. P. A.'s in the N. Y. Adams was the watch-dog who barked at sciousness distinct from the rest of the every imitator who tried to horn in on our new lead; and-well, you know how Besides, we couldn't do it as well.

> CARRANZA TROOPS SEIZE HEARST BANCH Ah! Now they've gone too far!

EVEN if an evening contemporary did speak of us last night as "the Untied States" we may contemplate with equanimity even the worst that may eventuate upon the first Tuesday of November. Meantime there's a tableful of books dealing with the lives of the Presidents outside Jerry Cullen's book store on 9th street, and over the table, in Jerry's own hand, the sign: PRESIDENTS

family of Spruce street are spending the week among friends at Holsniger Cemetery. Folk Out o' Focus

The Asst. Funeral Director's Holiday

Samuel Ross Van Aliman, assistant to Funeral Director T. B. McFarland, and



This pictured woe You used to know. Forgotten now, sirs? Can't you recall Those pangs at I'll tell you how sirs-!

Live o'er once more The day you wore Your first long trousers

Our Congrats to the Kaiser

ANTICIPATING your cablegram ask-ing how we think Captain Koenig performed his mission and also what liquor would be most appropriate to drink his health in, we answer both queries (to save expense) in one word: AUSZERORDENT-LICHER.

Our Own Quiz Department ANSWERING QUESTION NO. 2. new-born babe is minus teeth.

And somewhat shy of hair; To keep these charms as they appear Requires endless care. So, as we age and hear folks talk Of lotions and consolers, Our tongues are prone to creep about

Our swiftly passing molars If most of you will stop and think You'll cease this foolish custom. The teeth you wear are cheap, not rare, So go ahead and bust 'em! Mrs. C. Y. FRAZIER.



"AND YOU'RE NOT ORNAMENTAL, EITHER!"

AN UNSOLVED MURDER MYSTERY

Unsigned Confessions Were Received by the Police in the Dr. W. H. Wilson Case, but Man Who Sent Poisoned Ale Was Never Apprehended

By JOHN ELFRETH WATKINS

"TI'S POISONED! Save the bottle!" | that which had produced the letter to the I With this cry of terror Dr. William Coroner. In this communication the H. Wilson, a Philadelphia physician, fell alleged murderer offered to sell r. cominto a convulsion during which, a quarter | plete confession of the crime and give of an hour later, he died in great agony. the profits to the 6-year-old daughter of Doctor Wilson had been enjoying a Doctor Wilson. But the detectives, after very profitable practice. On Tuesday, futile efforts to trap him, came to regard

June 23, 1908, he received by express a this mysterious correspondent as an insmall wooden box containing a bottle of nocent person who was hoaxing them. ale, and accompanied by a letter typewritten upon stationery bearing the head of a Philadelphia brewing concern. The letter requested the physician to sample the product and inclosed a blank form of testimonial for his signature. Doctor Wilson put the ale in his refrigerator and went to his bungalow at Cornwells, Pa., where he was in the habit of treating some of his wealthiest suburban patients. Returning home on the night of June 26 he looked about him for a cooling drink. opened the icebox, noticed the ale and poured out a glassful, which he pro-Tribune. Well, Big Bill, years ago when | ceeded to drink. But he had no sooner we first began writing Italian dialect swallowed the beverage than he uttered stuff and the editors cocked up their ears the alarm quoted. Analysis disclosed cyanide of potassium, a deadly poison, now common in our criminal annals, but very little known at that time. The cork a commotion at police headquarters. One made by carrying the present proportional it is, Big Bill-we're grateful, that's all. of the bottle had been secured with red was a seel die marked with the initial wax, into which, at either side of the S and bearing a tag which stated, "Seal neck, had been impressed a seal bearing used on .wo impressions on wax sealing the letter S. Upon the letterhead the name of the brewery firm was flanked 36-point stuyvesant, labeled, "The initial on either side by another large S of a different design. The letter explained decoy letter," several lines of type, set up. that the bottle was one of a number sent to physicians and stated that the brew- in printing decoy return blank;" also a ers would appreciate the doctor's signature to the inclosed blank. There was nothing about the package, the bottle or alleged murlerer wrote: "I send you an the letter to excite suspicion. Everything was neatly prepared and bore evidence that hundreds of other such samples had been sent out with identical letters to physicians.

The Mysterious Letter

The following day the Coroner received letter postmarked Bristol, Pa., signed "An Injured Husband and Father," and purporting to be from Doctor Wilson's murderer. The alleged confession stated: "This letter is true in every detail, and it proves I am the person who attended to this matter. I will tell you that the ale contained cyanide of potassium and

tal S on the bottle." Police and detectives left no stone unturned in their search for the criminal. The letterhead of the brewery firm was proved to be a forgery, and a Philadelphia printer, suspected of the crime, was arrested but succeeded in proving his in-Philadelphia office of the Associated Press

a note written on the same typewriter as THE ANDEAN MONUMENT The high-spirited and long-continued

friendship of Canada and the United States, which, unenforced by armament and dependent upon no armies, has continued for over a century, may have a parallel in the lower continent of this hemisphere. Like Canada and the United States, Argentina and Chili have a long boundary. Like them, the two countries had fears of warfare. Like them, they have solved their questions by amicable agreement. Fifteen years ago the two countries were on the brink of war over a matter of some 80,000 square miles of territory. A commission sat on the two countries were on the brink of war over a matter of some 80,000 square miles of territory. A commission, sat on the question, rendered decision and since then disarmament has virtually occurred in both ropublics. To symbolize the peace which had been established, a statue has been erected on the Andes. Its history follows:

The susgestion of Bishop Benavente as to the erection of a statue of Christ at Puents del Inca was quickly carried into execution. As early as 1961, on the initiative of Senora de Costa, president of the Christian Mothers' Association of Buenos Aires, one of the largest women's organizations in the world, the women of Buenos Aires, who had already manifested the deepest interest in the new movement, undertook the task of securing funds and having a statue created. The work was intrusted to the young Argentine sculptor, Mateo Airona. When his design was completed and accepted, the statue was coast at ment. But it is well to keep in mind the appellerating features that obtain in a positive of the province of sharp provi

A year after the crime a newspaper

writer who had been active upon the case received in the mail a long communication signed, "The Executioner, It stated: "I am the person who killed Dr. Wil-

liam H. Wilson just one year ago today. For purposes which you will later understand, I have prepared an article upon the subject for which I wish an audience. shall take the liberty of expressing you a small box containing the entire matter and everything pertaining to it that I The Documents in the Case

The box was received. It contained the 'confission," copies of letters used in correspondence with Doctor Wilson's widow, and certain articles which caused bottle at neck;" a type initial letter S of used on each side of the letterhead of the bound together and tagged, "Type used small bit o' wood bearing the impression of a hammer. Concerning this last the impression of the same hammer with which I nailed the box containing the poisoned ale. The wood is of the same used in the tox, this merely to prove authenticity."

When these articles were compared with those held in evidence by the police microscopic examination failed to show any discrepancies. The seal exactly fit the impression ucon the wax, the initial S in type bore a nick reproduced upon the letterhead, and the type coincided exactly with tha used upon the decoy testimonial; also, he wood bore hammer prints of the same size as those upon the poison package. there were two seals with the letter capi-

"Now this even closes for me a year of extraordinary vents," wrote the alleged murderer. "My grief has been 'more than words an wield the matter' -a grief 'that mikes breath poor and speech unable.""

The identity of he alleged murderer was never discovered, and the murder of nocence. The authorities were at their | Doctor Wilson remains today a mystery wits' end when there was received at the even blacker than it was at the moment when he gasped out his dying breath.

> The base of the statue is in granite. Or this is a granite sphere weighing some 14 tons, on which the outlines of the world toni, on which the outlines of the world are sketched, resting spon a granite column 22 feet high. The figure of Christ above, in hronze, is 26 feet in height. The cross supported in His left hand is five feet higher. The right hand is stretched out in blessing. On the granite base are two bronze tablets, one of them given by the Workingwan's Unite of Buenes Aigus. the Workingmen's Union of Buenos Aires, the other by the Working Women. One of them gives the record of the creation

non taken from the ancient fortress outside

are inscribed the words:

"Sooner shall these mountains crumble into dust than Argentines and Chillans break the peace to which they have pledged themselves at the feet of Christ the Re-

and erection of the statue; on the other

OR BAGDAD NOW! The chances are that Bagdad, even in th days of the caliphs and Aladdin and Ali Baba and the rest of them, was a dulf town as compared with what Buffalo is just now—Buffalo Courier.

OMAHA'S TROUBLES

What Do You Know?

in this column. Ten questions, the answers to which every well-informed person should know, are usked daily.

QUIZ

 What is the purpose of the opposition to the leadership of the German Chanceller?
 Explain the term "Orangemen." What event is celebrated on July 14?

4. What is the price of gas to consumers in Philadelphia? 5. What is meant by a "gondela" in railroad parlance?

6. What is meant by "relative humidity"?
7. Who wrote "The Divine Comedy"?
8. In what famous tales does the story of Aladdin and his magic lamp occur?
9. What is meant by "Billingsgate"?
10. What is meant by "isolating" a germ?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz The "nitrates" that are so frequently men-tioned in the news at this time are chiefly used for explosives and fertilizers. 2. The Convention Hall is to stand at 21st street and the Parkway. 3. "Moonshiners": men who illicitly distil

4. The sash of a window is that part which moves up and down in the grooves. 5. Proof spirit: a mixture of equal parts (by weight) of alcohol and water. When it has more alcohol than water it is "over proof"; when less, "under proof."

6. A prima facic case is one which without minute examination seems plausible and correct.

7. To mask a fleet is to lock it up so that S. The "Iron Duke": The great Duke of Well-ington.

9. No German Emperor has officially visited France since the France-Prussian War, but it is understood that the Kaiser made several incomite trips to Paris before the present war broke out. Since the war he has several times visited German head-quarters in France. 10. John Barleycorn: a personification of mait

Monuments in the Park

Editor of "What Do You Know"-Please give a list of some monuments and monu-mental features in Fairmount Park.

The Washington group, Green street entrance; Lincoln Monument, Lemon Hill; Morton McMichael, Lemon Hill; Robert Burns group, East River Drive near bont-houses; Garfield, East River Drive below Girard avenue; Joan of Arc, east end of Girard avenue bridge; Grant equestrian monument, East River Drive above Girard avenue bridge; John Welsh memorial, on avenue bridge; John Welsh memorial, on site of the main building of the Centennial Exhibition; Civil War memorial, Centennial Concourse; Anthony Drexel, Lansdowne Drive; General Meade equestrian monument, Lansdowne Drive; Soldier of the Civil War, near George's Hill; Catholic fountain, west of Belmont Drive; Columbus statue, Belmont Drive; "Religious Liberty," Horticultural Hall; German monuments, Horticultural Hall; S&th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, camp site, Falls of yivania Volunteers, camp site, Falls

Age of Animals

Editor of "What Do You Know"—Can ou recall for me an old verse which com-ares the ages of animals; something about hree times the age of a dog is that of a You probably refer to the old celtic

which, in modern English, is as Thrice the age of a dog is that of a horse; Thrice the age of a horse is that of a man; Thrice the age of a man is that of a deer:

Thrice the age of a deer is that of an eagle Agony Column

G. F. C .- By the "agony column" is meant that part of a newspaper containing advertisements for missing relatives and friends, appeals for reconcillations, etc.

African States

R. R.—The Union of South Africa is com-posed of the Cape Province, Natal, Trans-vaul and Orange Free State. The Bourgeoisie

Editor of "What Do You Know"—Will you please tell me what bourgeois and bou-geoisie mean? Can such terms be applied to the proletariat? They cannot be applied to what is some-

times called the proletariat. The terms can hardly be applied to any class in America, and the application of them to all persons who are not of gentle manners is absurd. The bourgeoisie in Franco meant the merchants, manufacturers and master-tradesmen; in England the term is sometimes applied to the great middle class. When the word bourgeois is used by Socialist and Anarchiat writers and speakers in this country it is usually contemptuously descriptive of wealthy men's conservation against which the proletariat is supposed to be protesting. Bourgeois ideas are, according to the usage of the best authors, ideas of utilitarianism, involving ignorant suspicions imes called the projetariat. The terms car

New York City to Buffalo

New York City to hubaid

Editor of "What Do You Know"—Can
you tell me if there is a possible way that
I can go from New York city to Buffalo by
trolley line? If there is such a line, kindly
tell me how and where I can start from.

J. P.

There is no direct line from New York city to Buffalo. Most of the distance is covered but there are breaks. It would be necessary to go to Yoshers for a start.

RUINED SEERS OF BANKRUPTCY

Prophets of Evil Times Have Turned Out Evil Prophets of the World's Decline

Gilbert K. Chesterton, the English writer, once wrote that the favorite indoor and outdoor sport of the world was "fooling the prophets." The game is childishly simple and is played by two characters-humanity and the prophets. The human race sits idle while the prophets foretell what the world is going to do. Then humanity goes and does the exact opposite. It is very exhilarating and can be recommended for every occasion, from a surprise party (which it really is) to a church sociable.

The inner joke of the game is that there are always two sets of prophets, defining diametrically opposite plans, so that the world really has to follow one of them, or both of them part way. One thinks of this in conneccion with prophecles of what is coming after the war, The ablest of English economists, Francls W. Hirst, whose analyses and predictions have delighted readers of the EVENING LEDGER these many months, has just resigned as editor of the London Economist, and in a sort of valedictory has foretold disaster and ruin for Europe if the war does not soon end. The great nations, he fears, will be bankrupt. While it is true that others have held the opposite view, Mr. Hirst's background deserves study. He is an economist, and he is appalled by the terrible figure of England's debt. At the end of this year, at the present rate. England's national debt will amount to \$13,000,000,000, and besides these thirteen there will be four more billions which have been lent to her Allies. It is useless to try to understand these figures. Let us take them for granted.

It is a little too easy to say that this war is so unprecedented in magnitude that comparisons are ridiculous. Let those who feel this consult a most engaging chapter in Macaulay's "History of England," from which the following is summarized:

The national debt, says Macaulay, has become the greatest prodigy that ever perplexed the sagacity and confounded the pride of statesmen and philosophers. When the Peace of Utrecht was concluded in 1713 England owed \$200,000,000. about 16 per cent. of its present debt, and that incumbrance was considered by profound thinkers as a permanent crippling of the body politic. Unhappily for them, England prospered. At 400 million the case was pronounced desperate. After the wars under the elder Pitt, with a debt of 700 million dollars, David Hume declared that England's madness had exceeded the madness of the Crusaders. It was all over. Better to have been conquered by Prussia and Austria, he cried, than to be saddled with such an enormity. of debt. Macaulay then mentions Adam Smith, whose exact words are worth inserting here. "The progress of the enormous debts which at present oppress and will in the long run probably ruin all the great nations of Europe has been pretty uniform." For a hundred years that prediction has been as antiquated as the long "s's" used in its printing.

In 1798, says another historian, the "staggering burden" of a two-billiondollar debt was the determining factor in peace negotiations. Earlier, George Grenville tried to relieve England's debt by putting a part of it on the American Colonies, causing a war which rolled up the indebtedness still higher. After the Napoleonic wars England was done forever-her finest statesmen and economists were sure of it, for England owed over four billion dollars. Yet in the next century England prospered beyond all earthly expectation. A sum exceeding the entire debt at the end of the American wars was willingly expended on internal improvement and taxation actiquily became lighter. Mentioning these things, Macaulay indicates that there is a difference between personal debt and what a society owes in great part to itself. He ends with this extraordinary

prophecy: A long experience justifies us in believing that England may, in the twentieth century, be better able to bear a debt of £4.600,000,000 than she is at the present time to bear her present load. But, be this as it may, those who so confidently predicted that she must confidently predicted that she must sink, first under a debt of 50 millions. then under a debt of 80 millions, then under a debt of 140 millions, then un-der a debt of 240 millions, and lastly under a debt of 800 millions, were be yond doubt, under a twofold mistake. They greatly overrated the pressure of the burden; they greatly underrated the strength by which the burden was

A hundred instances might be menioned for every one referred to above, and the depths of decline, the demnition bow-wows predicted would make amusing reading. But there is meat for a long meal of thought in Macaulay's last words It may be that we do not overrate the burden of the present time when we add in Germany's debt, and France's, and that of all the other unhappy belligerents. All that money has gone into destruction, Nothing has been made, nothing built, by a sum too powerful for mortal imagination. Money has, indeed, gone into circulation. Certain classes have become wonderfully rich and a new creditor nation. the United States, has come to share with England. It may be that the bankruptcy now predicted may not come for a hundred years. It may be that the burden of taxation will prove too heavy to be borne. But between Macaulay and Hirat one of the two prophets must be fooled.

It is in the second part of Macaulay's phrase that hope for the world really lies. The strength by which the burdens of the world have been borne is only a feeble promise of the strength which the world can develop. It is a pity, to be sure, that it should be for war and destruction, not for happiness and creation, that the world should pay its heaviest debt. But out of chaos creation may come. And the world can still square its shoulders of faith to pay the debt. What has been destroyed is material made by man's hands. And man's hands have not lost the cunning to make their work over again. In two years France paid an indemnity of a billion dollars and flourished. The world has only to pay an indemnity to the god of war, an indemnity for toing defeated