

Evening Ledger PUBLIC LEDGER COMPANY CHUBB H. K. CURTIS, President...

now becomes Chief of Staff of the War Ministry, succeeding General Petain, who is appointed commander-in-chief of the army operating in France...

A CHANCE TO SAVE RUSSIA

America can save one-sixth of the land surface of the globe—Russia—for democracy. If the United States in 1793 had been one-half so strong as it is today we could have turned the French Revolution into the path of true liberty...

In every way our equipment for the day we have to enact in the great drama of liberty is milder than were our assets of a hundred odd years ago. We have tried democracy, tested it in the fire, proved its worth. Also, the stakes for which we play are huge. Russia is the world's largest nation in territorial extent...

The French have had their Vordon. The English are having theirs at Bullecourt. The German Chancellor has finally decided not to discuss peace. Nobody (outside of Germany) asked him to.

From the notebook of an optimist: "After all, a Congress that will not take action can make only one mistake—that of remaining inactive."

The best ambassadors to Japan always go from Pennsylvania, but it is not always to the best interest of Pennsylvania to have them go.

One thing should make the general Mr. Balfour more cheerful than ever: He did not have to "grind," like other college men, to get that Phi Beta Kappa key.

In order that his silence should not be construed as meaning something, the German Chancellor has managed to make a long speech the purport of which is—more silence.

"An American Port" (possibly Peoria, Ill.) reports that seven U-boats have been captured on their way to raid our shipping. Why is it that news from "An American Port" always sounds too good to be true?

A new headline, "Bar Admission Rules Relaxed for Soldiers," must have discouraged prohibitionists until perusal of the appended article revealed the fact that allusion had been made to regulations of the law board examiners.

If old Ike Walton is really as valuable a guide to red and reel men as his admirers insist, must the boosting of the price of a first edition of his informative little book to the price of \$1950 be viewed as an unfair speculative effort to reduce our chances of a much-needed supply of food fish?

Some of the biggest fools in the country have college educations and some of the biggest men in the country have not college educations, but any man who thinks he can get into the nation's aviation service without a college education is a fool—the Government won't let him.

Call a man a horse thief in Pennsylvania and he will laugh at you. Call him that in Oklahoma and you'll probably get shot; for the accusation may be true there. This principle applies to the report that a policeman has been transferred for reporting ten speakeasies said to be protected by high officials. It is a wild charge to make against high officials; but, then, in Philadelphia it is so often true.

If "Society," with a big "S," means anything at all in peace times, it must mean primarily the spirit of heroic sacrifice in war times. It is, therefore, not pleasant to read of a Philadelphia debutante going to a cell on the charge of speeding an auto beyond the legal limit. Now that America is beginning to realize why auto ambulances have to go at top speed on the roads of France, it is time for frivolous speeding on our roads at home to stop.

District Attorney Kane has given a good example of how an official can save the people from being gouged without recourse to the slow process of legislation, but simply by the quick process of being always wide awake. The insolent assertion of coal men that a fuel famine was impending, due to a shortage, is refuted by the prosecutor, who shows that during the first four months of this year there were mined 1,463,740 tons of coal more than in the same period last year.

CONFUSION IN WASHINGTON

Departments Swamped by Flood of New Problems—Mr. Gompers and the Labor Situation

CONFUSION and still more confusion, in Congress, in the departments and in the public mind. All this growing out of our war necessities and the official efforts being made everywhere to meet the serious conditions pointed out by the President. The contracted quarters of the State and Army and Navy Departments are already overcrowded, while similar conditions prevail at the Treasury Department. It is necessary for the employes to carry cards of identification, since the public generally is not now admitted to any of these buildings...

Business Men on the Ground. While sightseers are not solicited to come to Washington, the various railroads are not suffering for want of passengers. There is heavy travel from the South, and, aside from the fact that the South is now prosperous and some folk are traveling for pleasure, there is a steady stream of applicants for new Federal places and for appointments in the army. Business men and contractors are also largely in evidence. The Government is preparing to spend more money than ever, and that is pleasing to the business community. The captains of industry are here to connect with the National Council of Defense and the various other agencies that are springing up to have a hand in the war business. Some of them have their grievances and content there are too many irons in the fire to suit business men. Others insist that one or two of the President's Cabinet might be deposed without doing harm to the general welfare. Of course, these irritations arise in consequence of the new and stringent conditions. They also add to the general confusion.

Causes of Irritation. There are two conspicuous phases of national confusion. One relates to the personnel and ranges from the enlistment of a machine all the way up to the organization of a Roosevelt division. Congressmen have been concerned not only with tax problems, but with appeals from constituents everywhere who desired to enter the army or navy or to obtain other positions in advance of conscription. Military methods and those which hold in politics are so different that it has been difficult for members of Congress to connect the dots at home. That "politics" is not so potential with military officers as it is with Governors, Mayors and the like. Charges of favoritism have been whispered about concerning some of the officers' training camps and it has also been suggested that Democratic recommendations are stronger in the departments than recommendations by Republicans. But these suggestions are trifling in comparison with the gossip incident to the Roosevelt revival. Republicans of the Progressive type have not been slow to hail the Colonel as the logical candidate for President to lead the "trust" into the European war. Some of them admit they voted to send him to France for that reason—and that is an irritation to the Administration leaders.

Property and Contracts. The other bothersome departmental matter affects material—the property interests of the Government and is handled from the Government's fighting man. The navy is working over contracts for ships and the army for guns and equipment. Some of the stories told about the matter of the appropriation authorized by Congress. But ships and guns and powder are not taking over the nation's resources. The only property of munition plants and other establishments having to do with war is receiving the thought of each of the departments, mixed up somewhat by the confusion of the National Defense Council. The selfish interests crop out in some of these deliberations and lead to misunderstandings which are not calculated to hasten the conduct of the war. The Government for submarine chasing, and it develops that the owner would like to have a commission. That is one story. An association passes patriotic resolutions and professes its raw material to the Government. It develops that the tender was made when the price of the commodity was at the highest. That's another story. But they are each war stories and were incidents to the confusion.

Influence of Mr. Gompers. Associated with material is the labor question. Perhaps no man except the New York banker, Baruch, has had more to do with the Government mobilization schemes in Washington than the man who is president of the American Federation of Labor. The bankers and the business men look up to Mr. Baruch, but the committees and the departments all have much consideration for Mr. Gompers. The labor is to be built Mr. Gompers is consulted about labor. If railroads are to be operated on a war basis Mr. Gompers is interviewed. To fancy's mind the labor is the factor to consult Mr. Gompers. In the Department of Labor Mr. Gompers is a power. He is a fast friend of Secretary Wilson. As there are workmen's organizations in the War Department, Mr. Gompers plays a conspicuous part and in labor matters his is about the last word. Which goes to show that labor is scarce and that being scarce it is the most valuable commodity of the war. The labor is to be built Mr. Gompers is consulted about labor. If railroads are to be operated on a war basis Mr. Gompers is interviewed. To fancy's mind the labor is the factor to consult Mr. Gompers. In the Department of Labor Mr. Gompers is a power. He is a fast friend of Secretary Wilson. As there are workmen's organizations in the War Department, Mr. Gompers plays a conspicuous part and in labor matters his is about the last word. Which goes to show that labor is scarce and that being scarce it is the most valuable commodity of the war.

No Jap Labor Yet. The labor situation will grow more serious after conscription sets in. The 500,000 men of the first draft, withdrawn from the industries, will leave a great void. The 500,000 will have to be fed. Astute labor leaders, having defeated immigration, know what that means. Labor prices will go up and probably stay up until there is peace or the panic operators in the public trades know what that means. Already some of them who have contracts with the Government are suffering delays and deceptions due to the Government's operations. In these war preparations Mr. Gompers plays a conspicuous part and in labor matters his is about the last word. Which goes to show that labor is scarce and that being scarce it is the most valuable commodity of the war.

SOURCES OF LIBERTY. THE mania for suppression and censorship got a good start when several of the States, including Pennsylvania, appointed boards to decide what kind of moving pictures should be shown. It is a short step from the suppression of pictures to the suppression of news. There are ways of preventing the production of obviously indecent moving pictures and there are ways of preventing obviously improper publications without recourse to censorship.

One underlying secret of America's success as a democracy has been the wide distribution of knowledge in printed form at low cost. A tax that would prevent such distribution would be a censorship more stifling than any other sort of censorship imaginable. One would destroy where the other would only hobble. A free press is essential to the well-being of this nation. It is gratifying to Americans that Congress has refused to accede to the demand for virtually

Tom Daly's Column

McAroni Ballads LXXX TO THE DYSPEPTIC My friend, you would like I should tal w'at I think...

My friend, you would like I should tal w'at I think. You weesh me advisin' you, too? Wal, den, eet ees justa da food an' da dreengin; Dat's all dat's da matter weeth you! O! 'Merican man, you are minka meestak' For eata so moosha da meat. Wat for you no learn, for your stomacha sake...

A candid commercial printer on North Seventh street announces: "If your printer has the habit of disappointing you in the delivery of stationery, forms, etc., try us. We make a specialty of this kind of work." Overheard at Fort Sloum. Sentries on Post No. 1 (at 11:59 p. m.) halt. Who's there? Figure in darkness—Officer of the day. Sentries—Well, what in heck are you doing around at this time of night?

Blue Sky. Blue sky—the phrase recalls all we have read or dreamed of glories overhead. Pale blue—when fleecy vapors drift away. Hearing our thoughts to Arden or Cathay. Deep blue—when skies release their warm spring rain. And April airs drift from some lilac lane. Ice blue—when cloudland hints of polar parts. With royal summer radiant in our hearts. T. J. MURRAY.

DR. LAWRENCE F. FLICK has dug up some interesting things in the parish register kept by the Rev. Peter Heibron at Greensburg, Pa., early in the last century (1809-12). Many an odd-sounding patronymic now at large in this State may have been born of the old pastor's application of Teutonic phonetics to the Irish names of some of his flock. Listen: Sara Meccanady Patrick Mequire Andrew Campbell Catharine Megachien Margaret Morfy Margaret Morfy Bridget Mcclardem Mary Mcgenery John Denaho Mary Callagher Margaret Mcemolland Patrick Mcclardem

WE WAS TO IT The Masque of American Drummer Has several actors that stammer; But the show is all right For a pleasant May night. Go see it, and don't wear your hammer.

And in the Drummer program we noted that the "Eating headquarters for U. of P. students" is presided over by J. S. Greasley, prop.

When she came in, the bookstore seemed a strange and holy place to me. Her face was one of which I dreamed. The face all boys sometimes see. She turned the leaves of old-time books; To fancy's mind the land beguiled. Until she felt my ardent looks. And then—oh! heaven of mine—she smiled. Boldly I braved her scorn and fear. I talked of books I loved—and said. Each smile they brought, each furtive tear. We were living tributes to the dead.

Through greenest fields of Arcady I led the flock, 'mid the birds and flowers— In ancient Rome we paused to see The glory of her proudest hours. I spoke of Helen, Maid of Troy; And then Rossetti's Damozel; Of Beatrice and the anguished joy Of Dante's love—his heaven and hell. At that she raised her gold-crowned head. Her moist eyes dried with white-gloved hand. "Oh, my! I think it's sumpen grand." VARLEY.

Psychic Stuff. WALKING down Fifteenth street yesterday morning in the pleasant Mayshine we thought we saw our friend Colonel Louis Kolb walking toward us, but when the man came abreast of us we saw it wasn't that industrious patriot at all. But remembering what had often happened to us before when our eyes had played that trick upon us, we scrutinized keenly all passing faces as we went upon our way. Bill Hussie suddenly hove into view. "Whatcha staring at?" sez Bill. "Well," a' I, "looking for Col. Kolb. You know, they say if you mistake a stranger for a friend when you're walking along the street the real fellow himself will come along—" "Yeh," sez he, "I know. Maybe he's trying to dodge by on the other side of the street." "No; this is probably one of the exceptions," we started to say, but, looking across the street, there was the Colonel himself! And Bill doesn't know

THE BLIND GIANT



YEARNING OF THE MOTHER HEART

The Pathetic Message Left on the Battlefield of the Marne by a Woman in Search of Her Lost Son—The Moroccans in France

By HENRI BAZIN. Recipient of the Croix de Guerre, member of the Societe de Genes des Lettres, staff correspondent of the EVENING LEADER in France. PARIS, April 21. I HAVE made a pilgrimage to the battlefield of the Marne. I left Paris in the late afternoon with an old friend. He wears an empty sleeve and carries that which is often termed "une belle cicatrice" across his left cheek. It's a scar, a tangible memory of the power behind the thrust of a German bayonet.

My friend is a lieutenant, a Parisian, who commanded a company of Moroccan infantry; of those who to the number of 3000 took part in the repulse of Von Kluck's army in early September, 1914. My friend and I had not met for years. I had gone to America and he to African service. After our greeting he said: "Come, let us go to the Marne. I have not seen it since I left my arm there."

We spent the night in Meaux. Early the next morning, under a gray sky, we left the town behind and walked a few kilometers to the village of Neufmontiers. It was partially rebuilt, having been almost entirely destroyed by the enemy. Just beyond it, a field of potatoes, we saw the first cemetery, seven mounds of unequal length, side by side. Four half wooden crosses at the head, painted white. One was marked by a stone at head and foot. Two had nothing but the mounds to record them. On one of the crosses was a fading tricolor cockade, and upon the slender galvanized rod behind it a tiny metal plate, upon which had been engraved the name of a soldier. A little distance apart, near yet quite by itself, was a single grave. Upon the cross at its head I read, "En tirailleurs Marocains," a Moroccan infantryman! Why, it was here they fell by the score for France. Where were the others?

With the thought, I felt a pull at the heartstring and, in military fashion, I saluted the missing grave. "For I saw in it a symbol, 'Al Koubra,' and that this brown man's last earthly home portrayed all the war-like virtues of his race, all his allegro disdain for death, all his chivalrous generosity for his adopted mother, France, to seal which this son had given his life. And then I remembered having seen in the Boulevard St. Germain, a fortnight back a Moroccan woman dressed in the picturesque blue and white of her native land, sandals upon her naked feet and silver

the further spread of equal suffrage over the eastern States is excellent. Several of them, including New York, will have an opportunity of voting on the question in November. Presidential suffrage should greatly accelerate desirable congressional action, and the Susan E. Anthony amendment, judging from all appearances, will receive favorable attention next winter.—Christian Science Monitor.

What Do You Know?

QUIZ. 1. What are ardent spirits, mentioned in connection with the proposal to limit the manufacture of intoxicants, called in the States? 2. The De Kalb is a newly commissioned ship in the American navy. What is its user name? 3. What is a "rot-and-dog" situation, as one writer described conditions in Russia? 4. Coolies are being used for military labor in northern France. What are coolies? 5. Who was Grimm? 6. When a soldier or sailor is "court-martialed" is he necessarily guilty? 7. Who was sacrificed, after whom one of the German lines of defenses is named? 8. Correct the sentence: "It's policy is settled." 9. What is Habitt metal? 10. In what country is the River Jordan?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

1. A coalition government is one conducted by a union of rival parties or factions. It is only a temporary combination for meeting a particular emergency. It is pronounced "ko-ah-sh-an," with the accent on the third syllable. 2. Admiral Alfred Thayer Mahan was an American naval officer whose writings on sea-power attracted attention all over the world. "Mahab" is pronounced with the accent on the first syllable. 3. The Great Smoky Mountains are in North Carolina and Tennessee. The highest peak is Mt. Mitchell, in North Carolina, 6,686 feet above sea level. 4. Rene Viviani, Vice President of France, is a member of the French War Mission to the United States. 5. Corrugated iron is sheet iron pressed into ridges or convolutions. 6. The German word for "submarine" is "unterseeboot" (under-sea-boat), according to the fact that every German submarine is designated by a "U" and a number, as U-100. 7. Miss Evangeline Booth is commander of the Salvation Army. 8. The Bible tells how Lazarus, a resident of Bethany, was raised from the dead by Christ after he had been four days in the tomb. 9. "Serebant" is the correct spelling of the verb. 10. "Fletcherizing" consists in thoroughly chewing food. It derives its name from Fletcher, an administrator, who advocated chewing of food as an aid to digestion.

Citizenship

A. J. R.—You automatically become a citizen of the United States if you were not of age (twenty-one years old) when your father became a citizen. It is not necessary for minor foreign-born residents of the United States to take out citizenship papers when their father becomes naturalized. If any one doubts your citizenship, refer him to the United States Bureau of Naturalization, in the Federal (Postoffice) Building.

Family Compact

L. J. N.—Probably the most noted "family compact" in history was that in 1761 between Charles III of Spain and Louis XV of France, both being members of the House of Bourbon. In effect this agreement was that the "enemy of one was the enemy of the other," the particular enemy being England. At the time France's navy had almost been obliterated in her long war with England and Spain's navy consisted of about fifty mediocre fighting ships. Against this array, England had 120 first-class ships and 70,000 veteran seamen. England declared war January 4, 1762, against this hostile alliance and easily won. The result was that by the terms of the Treaty of Paris, signed February 10, 1763, England retained virtually all of India; Senegal, in Africa; Nova Scotia, Cape Breton, the Ohio Valley and all lands east of the Mississippi River, in America, and other less important lands.

WHO'S BOSS?

It appears that the State Penitentiaries of Philadelphia, an old and renowned military organization, has been promised by one officer to the United States Government and by another to the British Government. Such a little misunderstanding as this are bound to happen when first-class powers come into rivalry.—New York World.

AFTER THE DUEL

Take the cloak from his face, and at first Let the corpse do its worst. How he lies in his rights of a man! Death has done all death can. And, absorbed in the new life he leads, He reck not, he heeds Not his wrong nor my vengeance—both strike On his senses alike. And are lost in the solemn and strange Surprise of the change. Ha! what avails death to erase His offense, my disgrace? I would we were boys, as of old, In the field, by the fold. His outrage, God's patience, man's scorn, Were so easily born. I stand here now, he lies in his place.—

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