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Philadelphia, Thursday, September 13, 1917

A LETTER TO MR. LEWIS

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 12, 1917.

Mr. William Draper Lewis,
Transit Advisor to the Mayor,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir—We understand that you take exception to this newspaper's characterization of the proposed transit lease as a "grab." We feel, therefore, that it is fair and proper to offer to you the use of our columns to combat that description and show why, in your opinion, it is not accurate. On account, too, of the enormous importance to Philadelphia of accepting at this time nothing but the fairest and most equitable sort of contract with the P. R. T., and in order that the public may be thoroughly informed as to the merits and demerits of the pending proposal, we take the liberty of stating our reasons for considering the lease a "grab," and we add several questions, answers to which, we believe, are imperative in the public interest.

In our opinion, the proposed lease is a "grab" for the following reasons:

1. Because it proposes to take from the pockets of riders millions of dollars which it was specifically promised they would not be called on to pay.

Director Twining, in the fourth of his twenty-three objections to the Taylor lease, said: "Although the city is expected to provide the larger part of the money needed for the plan, the company does not guarantee or even hold out bright prospects of a five-cent fare with universal free transfers, which the citizens were led to expect when they embarked upon this comprehensive plan of city expansion and transit development." The lease abandons entirely the Taylor theory of offsets and contemplates no application of increased tax returns, resulting solely from transit development, to the reduction of deficits.

2. Because the exchange ticket is not eliminated.

Director Twining, in the fifth of his twenty-three objections to the Taylor lease, said: "The proposed amendment to the 1907 contract would constitute an admission by the city that the company has a legal right to continue to collect the exchange ticket revenue." The present lease emphatically makes such an admission by the city and attempts to confirm the legality of the exchange ticket discrimination.

3. Because there is no provision for the recapture of the city's own lines independently.

Director Twining, in the ninth of his twenty-three objections to the Taylor lease, said: "The city is not given the right of recapture of its own lines." You yourself, in opposing the Taylor lease before Finance Committee of Councils, declared this lack of right on the part of the city to recapture its own lines to be a fundamental defect. And Director Twining, in his report of March 29, 1917, under the caption, "Suggestions for a Proper Contract," said: "The term of the contract shall be fifty years or preferably of indeterminate length, with provision that the city may recapture either its own system, or both systems, at any time, after due notice, upon stated terms.

4. Because the lease is a contract on the part of the city to purchase the entire property of the P. R. T.

It is provided in the lease that the city's 50 per cent share of the profits from operation shall be paid to the Sinking Fund Commission to be used solely for the purchase of the property of the P. R. T., Article XXII, Paragraph 1, Items 9 and 11, and Article XXXV, Paragraph 2.

5. Because there is provision for a board of supervising engineers, which board is clothed with power to bobtail the approved system, and the appointment of which is so arranged as to throw the transit question into politics for the next forty years.

It is a breach of faith with the public to provide, directly or indirectly, for bobtailing the system according to the discretion of three men, two of whom at least would probably be under the influence of the company.

6. It is against the public interest to have any lease unless five-cent fares and universal free transfers are the basis

Continued on page 16 of this

report of March 29, 1917, says: "The advantage of the P. R. T. as operator largely disappears if the fare be increased on the high-speed lines, or if a charge for transfers is made. The advantage of co-operation with the P. R. T. in this undertaking was to have a unified system, with a universal five-cent fare and free transfers."

7. Because all the water in the underlying companies of the P. R. T. is protected.

Director Twining, on page 17 of his report of March 29, 1917, says: "So long as it affected the company only, the city took no official notice of the company's financial legerdemain, but now that it proposes to transfer the effects to the city's innocent stockholders and the city's treasury, the city must take serious account of it."

8. Because the lease is not, but should be, drawn in unmistakable terms safely guarding the interests of both parties.

The form of the proposal submitted contains many important clauses which leave the city open to grave losses or which are uncertain of interpretation. The diversity of opinion as to the guarantee of dividends is an example of the complexity of the instrument.

9. Because it makes no provision for equalizing fares over the term of the contract.

Brooklyn is considering capitalizing future surpluses to compensate for early deficits. It is admitted that in the later years of the lease a fare of less than five cents may be sufficient to carry the system.

10. Because it is against public policy to burden citizens with fares higher than five cents with free transfers.

Cheap transportation is vital to the growth and prosperity of a great city. Philadelphia cannot hope to compete with New York and other great metropolitan centers if a Shylock policy in the operation of public utilities is pursued.

11. Because, although it is declared by you that the "intent" of the lease is not to guarantee the dividends of the P. R. T., the effect of the lease is to guarantee such dividends.

On this point there is diversity of opinion. It is our belief that the guarantee is assured in four respects:

(a) Because funds paid to the Sinking Fund Commission, through Items 9 and 11 of Article XXII and otherwise, must be used as specified in Article XXXV, Paragraph 2, for the purchase of the P. R. T. property, and it is provided in Article XXX that the price for said property shall include "an amount equal to any unpaid portion of dividends in each year at the rate of one million five hundred thousand dollars ($1,500,000) per year from the date upon which this contract shall become effective to the date of recapture" (purchase).

(b) Because the agreement of the city to go before the Public Service Commission and ask for an increase of rates in order to provide dividends for the P. R. T. is virtually certain to assure such increase, and the P. R. T. could not fulfill its obligations under the lease unless such increase were allowed.

(c) Because there can be no operating surplus fund unless the company's dividends have been paid, and operation of the system by the company without such a fund would be impossible. Article XXII, Paragraph 1, Item 10.

(d) Because the city, under Article XXII, Paragraph 1, Item 9, can never extinguish its original annual interest charge, even after its transit debt has been wholly extinguished, or, under Item 11, secure any return from its high-speed lines until it has purchased the entire property of the P. R. T. It appears that the payments required by Items 9 and 11 for the sinking fund cannot be made unless the P. R. T. cumulative dividend specified in Item 8 has first been paid up in full.

In addition to the issues brought forward in the foregoing statement of our reasons for referring to the proposed lease as a "grab," we feel that we are at liberty, in the public interest, to ask the following questions:

1. Is it your understanding that the negotiators for the P. R. T. understood that the lease contained no guarantee, and are they on record, verbally or otherwise, as accepting the principle that the company is not entitled to a guarantee?

2. Is it the "intent" of the lease to bind the city to purchase the property of the P. R. T.?

3. Do you propose to incorporate in the lease the seven specific revisions suggested by Ford, Bacon & Davis?

4. Is it the "intent" of the lease to make possible the bobtailing of the Taylor plans without specific reference to the people?

It is our belief that the proposed lease acquires its standing in large part from your association in the preparation of it. Many people are prepared to accept without reserve your judgment as to the legal meaning of the instrument, and it is the general feeling that if it is accepted by the city it will be because of your advocacy of it. You have been frank and generous in your willingness to discuss the proposal in all its phases. In these circumstances, we trust that you will receive this communication in the spirit in which it is written, and we beg again to assure you that our columns are open to you for a full and exhaustive answer to the position above set forth, or for any other exposition of the lease which you may care to make.

Respectfully,

(Signed) THE EVENING LEDGER.
By P. H. Whaley, Editor.

The foregoing open letter was mailed yesterday to Mr. William Draper Lewis.

ENGLAND VIEWED AS A FINE SUBURB

Speculation as to What May Be When Aircraft Cross "the Pond" in a Day

By GILBERT VIVIAN SELDES
Special Correspondent Evening Ledger

LONDON, Sept. 1.

WHEN we start rearranging the map of the world I have a proposal to make. Being neither a statesman nor a field marshal, I make this proposal without humility, because I am so certain that it will not be accepted. I have made it to many of my English friends, and since they are vitally concerned and do not disapprove, I am emboldened, to use the grand style, in my attempt to make it more public.

In brief, my proposal relates to the future of England. Shall we admit it as a State of the Union, in view of its manifold virtues, or shall we put it through the preliminary process of the territorial stage?

Sounds lovely, doesn't it? A bit on the mad side, as good costers of London say? Then consider this:

In remolding frontiers, in setting alliances, we are all more or less apt to forget purely physical conditions. We are at least as likely to forget the vast changes in the mastery of transportation which the war has given us. We may think all we like of England as a separate nation, but the moment the war ends we will be in possession of a fleet of airplanes which will bring the United States within a day's pleasant travel of England.

To those of us who know England—by which I mean the physical aspect, the countryside in particular—and know America as well, an inevitable suggestion occurs. The proposal is to make England the chief suburb of the United States.

If I were press agent for this delectable scheme, I would have no difficulty in gathering material. Look at it from two sides, from ours and theirs. Consider the advantages carefully, always bearing in mind the essential thing—that the difficulty of communication between the two countries is so far overcome that it will be eminently practicable for people to spend their weekends 3000 miles away from the place where they do their work. If you will look at the trains running out of Philadelphia on a Friday afternoon or Saturday morning you will note the peculiar look on the face of many men, which indicates that they are going to rejoin their families for their week-ends. The habit is on us, for summer, at least. Why not come to England instead of going to Atlantic City?

In the last two months I have gone over most of England, have examined it with the eye of a casual and with the eye of a real-estate dealer, from Gretna Green, which is across the Scottish border, to Brighton. I have motored through the Midlands and tramped the Surrey Downs. I bring a good report of Devon and of Cornwall. The sum of my observation is that this miniature country, blessed with every variety of climate and of atmosphere, with its Alps in little and its prairies in miniature, ought to be preserved for the benefit of humanity. It would be a crime to spoil it, and too much has been spoiled already.

Would Save England's Beauty

To save the rest we need to rearrange our feelings a little. We must forget the idea that we raise wheat and corn for ourselves and sell the surplus. We must take England into our family and raise for both. With good cultivation we have land enough to supply both of us without breaking into a single one of our beauty spots. Then, in return, England will present us all with our country homes here; will let us wander over Merrow Down, with its rolling grounds, patched into golden grain or green pasture land; or she will feed us on Devonshire cream or let us go motoring through the Dukeries, with its wonderful lime-tree avenues.

We want after the war to lead free lives. Many of us who are in it or close to it feel that we are fighting for more than political freedom. We want that we and our children shall live freely, with a well-spent leisure, with fewer worries than we have had about money, with more pleasures. And one can live well in this English land, which, as a friend of mine says, looks as if it had been petted and washed and combed and tucked into bed for centuries. It has grown up under that patient tending to perfect beauty. It gives off an air of quiet decency which no other landscape I have seen can afford.

I must give up the effort at flippancy in this matter; it goes beyond me. For this miracle is to be counted on: That thousands of men of the first armies, possibly tens of thousand of the volunteers who flung themselves into the war, went out to fight that this country, and this countryside with all its beauty and decency, should not be defiled by the German hordes. I have mentioned before the man who went, although he had ample excuse for remaining behind, because he wanted fiercely that his son should be free, in after years, to row in the eight at Oxford and to punt along the narrow Thames without the menace of Prussianism over his head. He wanted Germany beaten so that England would not have to Prussianize herself; he wanted the English land and the English rivers to be free. Well, he went and fought, and now that he is back he is fighting still, to make the land free. (I do not pretend that it is.) He works on agricultural reform because he is convinced that the soil of England, which he has helped to keep inviolate, is the soul of England.

He was one; since then I have met many who return from the front and want only to be permitted to stroll over the hills of Surrey, to walk the prehistoric paths, to drink in the quiet and the content, the human decency of the old villages which straggle along the high road and are uncorrupted by time. It hardly seems possible that men should have gone to France to fight for the sanctity of Lehigh avenue; to understand that that and nothing else is our real purpose requires an effort of the imagination. And, quite incidentally, when our men have seen the ravages of the German retreat through France the effort will be lighter.

The Prey of Invasion

Here the thing was easier. England always has been and always will be the prey of invasion. And so we come back to our proposal: since she is so small, so unprotected, let us make her a great park and pleasure ground, with only the necessary minimum of manufacturing and a righteous proportion of agriculture. Let the center of the new world, the center which the old world of Prussianism will always want to attack, be three thousand miles further from the present home of the Hun.

There is the difficulty—the fact that England is home, the center of the British Commonwealth. For myself, I see no reason why the Commonwealth should break up; I see many reasons why it should hold together. But if we look clearly into the future and if we use with power and discretion the forge which the war has put into our possession, we shall grapple these two nations together far more closely than any parts of the Commonwealth can be.

At any rate, we know that England has always looked toward Europe; it has been her natural orientation; she always had to guard herself against the ravages which imperialistic power, whether under Napoleon or under Wilhelm, could make on her shores. One of the reasons for the plight of Ireland is that the face of England was always turned the other way.

And now we know that England will look westward, toward us. She will not overlook Ireland. She will turn from Europe; she will have to. And apart from the sentimental tie which binds both her and us to France, she will have no regrets.

So whether my modest proposal is accepted or not, I venture to think that many of us, in the good glad years to come, will be living in two continents. We will expand at home; we will contract here and feed on the quiet decencies of our time.

AN OLD PALACE UNDER BOMB FIRE

The Morosini a Veritable Curiosity Shop of Historic Affiliations

INVADING irony will have her say, no matter how tragic or how ludicrous her subject matter. This truism, enforced on the mind of newspaper readers many, many times during the present war, has received further backing in the reported shelling of an Italian building which, though stately and dignified enough in itself, is in reality a veritable old curiosity shop of historic affiliations, suggested humor and curious, intertwisted relationships.

Last Sunday's advices (and it must be admitted that they were vague enough) told of an Austrian air attack on the Morosini palace, in Venice. Standing on the Campo Francesco Morosini, the edifice offered a tempting target for the foe's bombs. Whether the palace was damaged much, moderately or not at all we do not know. It does not greatly matter, at least to the lover of curios. For the curios of the palace are largely mental. They are gems of grotesquerie, filigrees of ironic fancy rather than material objects.

Morosini is a name which evokes memories, even in one of the greatest lands of memories that has ever existed. Francesco Morosini seems to have been a fairly prominent martial figure in the seventeenth century. He has a victory to his credit in the Morea in 1684. Indeed, the Venetians under Morosini's command and that of Konigsmarck conquered Coron, Patras, Corinth and Athens. Conquests of the Turks are also charged up to their warlike accounts.

But the modern side of the story is far vivider than these now somewhat musty records in the book of war. It was a mere freak of chance that the bomb-dropping Austrians did not, in their attack, pelt the roof of the Palazzo Cavallo. This building is very near the Morosini mansion. And here is where irony enters.

A Mixture of Nationalities

Baron Franchetti is the occupant of the Cavallo. He married into the French branch of the celebrated Rothschild family. His brother, Alfredo Franchetti, is hazily, if not distinctly, known to those of us who frequent passionately the opera as the composer of "Germania." One could scarcely demand a more explicit sample of the Teutonic leanings of the Franchetti's than in this work, though they had even before its writing manifested their pro-German attitude. The final tableau of the opera depicted in florid fashion the triumph of the Triple Alliance, Composer Franchetti little dreaming at that day that his shimmering dream of such an entente's being sustained indefinitely was about to be gloriously broken. Those who go to the opera to hear singing, not to receive musical impressions of a composer, will place the work when it is added that Enrico Caruso, who is certainly not a pro-German, headed the cast. The performance was in the Academy of Music here.

The Palazzo Cavallo stands opposite the palace of the late Don Carlos. Now it is the property of his son, Don Jaime, who is (O spirit of irony!) an officer in the Russian army. Was there ever so weird a mixture of nationalities, nationalist affinities?

But the final inflection of satire has not been mentioned. This is nothing less than the well-known fact that the Morosini family constitutes, or perhaps constituted, the Kaiser's most intimate friendships of all his Italian friends. Before the first red days of 1914's fall William II, on pleasure bent, just as he is today, but in a slightly different way, stopped off at Venice. He was bound for his Villa Achilleon, at Corfu.

This place used to be the property of the Empress of Austria. Examples of royalty's usual craving for self-expression in the arts are even today not lacking in the villa. The Empress was no exception to the rule. Apparently, she elected decoration as her metier. In the villa are to be found and seen mirrors adorned by that lady's own hand. Designs of pond lilies predominate, and there are bits of blue-blood bad taste that are said to recall the worst excesses of other monarchs in days far gone by.

One thinks of the virgin Elizabeth's paltry songs and lyrics and recalls that even her robustious, mentally clear parent was not above attempting verbal compositions that he might have left to Raleigh or some other real poet. So perhaps the offenses of the more modern empress may be winked at.

American Branch of Family

Some of her designs had to do with lighting arrangements. One might instance the electric bulbs that protrude from thinly-looking brackets, fashioned like the favorite flowers.

America knows something about the Morosinis through that branch which is well known in these United States. The head of this genealogical tendril is the noted banker of New York city. And though it is far from being "hot news," many will remember the marriage of his daughter, famous for her gowns, to a New York policeman.

The ladies of this far-reaching family seem almost always to have been both picturesque, social and fascinating. It is recorded that they were fond of good-living, not necessarily in a debased sense. In his exhaustive brochure on the dogeressas of Venice, Edgcumbe Staley delves into the line and its ladies. Aliodea, daughter of Messir Silvestro Morosini, was wedded to Doge Nicolo Tron, who lived in the middle-latter days of the fifteenth century. The union, Mr. Staley points out, was significant in that rank and money clasped hands and a new phase in Moyen Age affairs matrimonial was inaugurated.

Ambitious to prove to his fellow citizens and the proud nobles his worthiness and opulence, the new Doge departed from the ordinary festive arrangements of the Fragilie and himself spread the banquet for them in honor of his consort. Every attribute of dignity, every emblem of sovereignty and every decorative feature of the installation ceremonies was mounted upon a magnificent scale. The robes of state were the richest ever worn by Doge and Dogeressa, and right nobly, we may be sure, the serene couple bore themselves. If he was handsome, she was beautiful—all the Morosinis were—a trait which never failed in that splendid family.

The Palazzo Tron, on the Grand Canal, was most extravagantly furnished, the decoration of one room alone with marble, sculptures, carved wood gilding and rare glass, costing more than 2000 gold ducats.

"Best Dressed Woman in Venice"

Aliodea, with her flower-like, curving name, was, it seems, a perfervid beauty. "The most attractive and the best-dressed woman in Venice," was the general verdict on her charms. "Palazzi goes into ecstasies over her fascinations, and he makes delightful play with her popular name, 'Dea.' * * * She gave her husband two children, both boys. The elder, Giacomo, became Procurator of San Marco, and the younger—a soldier—fell at the terrible battle of Negroponte."

We can imagine that Aliodea was no believer in war. Perhaps, like Charles of Orleans, though never on the field herself, she had weighed it and found it wanting. It is curious to speculate what she would have thought of the current struggle.

R. D.

NOT YET, BUT SOON

COLLEGE MEN'S PLACE IN ARMY

Quartermaster's Plea for Well-Educated Enlisted Men—Comment on Current Topics

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger:

Sir—In an article in today's EVENING LEDGER Mr. W. A. Du Puy assures the technically trained college man who has been drafted into the National Army that he will be given an opportunity to aid his country along his vocational line. A secondary headline of the article hints at the idea that these college men who have been drafted may become officers. The suggestion of Dr. Hollis Godfrey, president of Drexel Institute, of Philadelphia, author of the sentiment expressed in the article, is a good one, and, without doubt, it will meet with nation-wide approval.

The article failed to mention, however, what treatment the college man already in the service should receive. What about them? There are several here in camp who sacrificed their college degrees, good homes, good positions and good society to serve their country. There are men here who have gone through their junior year in the various engineering courses, and those men are in good standing with their respective universities. These men are enrolled here as privates and noncommissioned officers, doing work which the untrained and uneducated man can do. Most of the technically trained college men here have executive ability and initiative, and several of them have had previous military training. Could not the Government make better use of these enlisted men?

If such a movement concerning the drafted men will be placed on foot, then a similar movement taking care of those college men who have enlisted as privates and noncommissioned officers should also be launched. Several of these men have had military training, in addition to their training in engineering. ALBERT ANIX.
Quartermaster Enlisted Reserve Corps.
Camp Meade, Md., September 10.

POWER OF PRAYER

To the Editor of the Evening Ledger:

Sir—Several weeks ago you sent out an appeal that a day be set aside for prayer for peace and victory. This was followed later by a second call in an editorial under the caption, "Prayer Mightier Than Many Armies." I have been scanning your columns daily since for signs of a response, but have not heard even a peep from our sky pilots or men and women who should be vitally interested in such matters.

It is a matter of surprise and disappointment that our religious teachers of all creeds have not taken up the call and rallied the forces under them for such a season of self-effacement and appeal.

Why, bless your heart, there is no weapon so mighty as the weapon of prayer, and, believe it or not, this old world would not be in the plight she finds herself in today if God Almighty had been taken into our confidence before this turmoil started. But even yet much of the wreckage can be saved if we can find our bearings long enough to seek the source of real help.

Away back in the misty ages one Jonah was commissioned to foretell the doom of the wicked city of Nineveh. The prophet demurred, but, after an unpleasant but memorable submarinne voyage, consented to perform the task. Strange to say, his proclamation of destruction brought all souls to their knees in penitence, from the king down to the humblest subject. The result was that Jehovah relented and recalled the elements of destruction. Prayer turned the tables, contrite prayer of a godless people.

Now there is not a son or daughter of Adam who is not an offender against the Divine law. Sinners all are we, but that does not debar any from direct approach to the high court of heaven. Wireless telegraphy is no new invention; man has been sending messages away above the clouds and Zeps for ages; and, just as true as that truth is truth, back has come the life-giving answer.

The key to the code, methinks, can be found in the Ninety-first Psalm. Listen; here is what the first verse says: "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty." The secret place! Where can that be? Where else than the place of prayer? By the side of your bed, in the workshop, in the street car, in the house of worship—any place where the heart lifts itself above itself and recognizes a power greater than itself.

But do not stop at the first verse; read the whole chapter. God seems to pour out His soul in compassion to the sons of men and promises peace and assurance of abiding peace, giving positive assurance that though we may be annoyed, nothing shall harm us.

Daniel, the prophet, is a glowing example of this truth. It was unpopular to pray during that period. Any one caught offering up any petitions to any god other than the king's image must die. But Daniel didn't cease praying, neither did he die. With his windows open—wide open, mind you—facing his beloved city, Jerusalem, he poured out his soul in prayer. He was detected, consigned to be fed to the lions, but there was not one of the hungry beasts dared harm him. Why? Simply because Daniel dwelt in the secret place of the Almighty and automatically became a beneficiary of the Divine promise.

Let every mortal in town who believes in the potency of prayer urge his pastor to take immediate action, to be followed by concrete action. Let there then be a day appointed for prayer.

There are several sons of men who have not kneeled beside their beds in prayer since they lisped their "Now I lay me" at mother's knee. Every blessing of a munificent Father has been accepted as a matter of course. Oh, if the floodgates of memory could be opened and all the scenes of early childhood reviewed, there is not a mother's son of us but would turn crimson because of this criminal neglect.

Knee-drill is a healthy and most heartening exercise. It proves an armor for the battles of the day and furnishes a downy pillow for repose when the day is done.

WILLIAM G. HUSTED.
Philadelphia, September 10.

[The editorials have been not without response. Several letters supporting the appeals have been printed in this column. It is gratifying to note that the Senate has passed a resolution authorizing the President to proclaim a day of national prayer for the success of our armies.—Editor of the EVENING LEDGER.]

TRIBUTE OF A CANADIAN FATHER TO HIS SON

[Edward Markham, the poet, under the unpatriotic title, "I Did Not Raise My Boy to Be a Soldier," wrote these lines:

"O mothers, will you longer give your sons to feed the awful hunger of the guns?" Dr. James L. Hughes answered this poem. Greater significance is given to the answer by the fact that Doctor Hughes's own son was killed in battle.—Editor Manufacturers' Record.]

God gave my son in trust to me;
Christ died for him, and he should be
A man for Christ. He is his own,
And God's and man's, not mine alone.
He was not mine to "give." He gave
Himself that he might help to save
All that a Christian should revere,
All that enlightened men hold dear.

"To feed the guns!" Ah, torpid soul!
Awake, and see life as a whole.
When freedom, honor, justice, right
Were threatened by the despot's might,
With heart aflame and soul alight,
He bravely went for God to fight
Against base savages whose pride
The laws of God and man defied.

"Forgotten grave!" This selfish plea
Awakes no deep response in me,
For, though his grave I may not see,
My boy will ne'er forgotten be.
My real son can never die;
'Tis but his body that may lie
In foreign land, and I shall keep
Remembrance fond, forever, deep
Within my heart of my true son
Because of triumphs that he won.
It matters not where any one
May lie and sleep when work is done.

It matters not where some men live;
If my dear son his life must give,
Hosannas I will sing for him,
E'en though my eyes with tears be dim,
And when the war is over when
His gallant comrades come again,
I'll cheer them as they're marching by,
Rejoicing that they did not die.
And when his vacant place I see,
My heart will bound with joy that he
Was mine so long—my fair young son,
And cheer for him whose work is done.

What Do You Know?

QUIZ

1. What is the difference between a controller and a comptroller?
2. What will probably be the scene of the first important encounter between the Russian rebels, under command of General Korniloff, and the provisional government troops?
3. Who was the first queen of Carthage?
4. In newspaper phraseology, what is the significance of a "masthead"?
5. Name two famous poets who lived during the reign of Louis XI.
6. Where is the River Spree?
7. What Italian aviator is noted for his dramatic writings?
8. What position was held in British royalty by the grandmother of the Kaiser?
9. Who composed the opera "Hansel and Gretel"?
10. What is "pointillage"?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

1. Cossack is the name of a Turkish people subject to Russia, with especial reference to members of the light horse in the Russian army.
2. The late Thomas J. Stewart was Adjutant General of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
3. Philadelphia public school teachers now serving with the armed forces of the United States will receive full pay during the war.
4. "Hokum," in theatrical parlance, signifies "sure-fire stuff," or dramatic material that, because it has always been tried with success, can be fallen back on in a crisis by the performer. The most common example is the stock jokes, such as those dealing with mothers-in-law.
5. Percy Bysshe Shelley is accredited with being England's greatest writer of lyrics, Shakespeare excluded.
6. "Heeltaps" are the dregs in a wine glass.
7. "Ratatplan" signifies a drumming sound.
8. Priam, King of Troy, a tragic figure in the Greek siege of that city, was the father of a hundred children. He appears in the Iliad of Homer.
9. "Tazelaitt" literally means "daily sheet"; hence a newspaper.
10. Antipasto is an Italian appetizer, consisting usually of olives, pickled fish and similar stimulants to the palate.

WHEN INDEPENDENCE WAS DEBATABLE

EVERYTHING that we take for granted was once debatable, even independence. When Congress resolved itself into a committee of the whole on July 1, 1776, it took up the famous resolution which was to declare the States free and put in jeopardy of hanging every man who signed it.

But every man did not with one accord immediately demand the adoption of the resolution. It was argued pro and con. There were arguments against it. The leader of the opposition was John Dickinson, the "Pennsylvania Farmer." He declared that the subject of independence was premature and impolitic; his opposition was not due to lack of patriotism; he only wanted time for further consideration.

"I value the love of my country as I ought," he said, "but I value my country more, and I desire this illustrious assembly to witness the integrity, if not the policy, of my conduct. The first campaign will be decisive of the controversy. The Declaration will not strengthen us by one man or by the least supply, while it may expose our soldiers to additional cruelties and outrages. Without some prelusory trials of our strength we ought not to commit our country upon an alternative where to recede would be infamy and to persist might be destruction. The measure ought to be delayed till the common interests shall in the best manner be consulted by common consent. Besides, the door to accommodation with Great Britain ought not to be shut until we know what terms can be obtained from some competent power. Thus to break with her before we have compacted with another is to make experiments on the lives and liberties of our countrymen, which I would sooner die than agree to make. At best it is to throw us into the hands of some other Power and to lie at its mercy, for we shall have passed the river that is never to be repassed. We ought to retain the Declaration and remain masters of our fame and fate."

Richard Henry Lee, the "Cicero of Congress," who in his sweet, clear, musical voice had offered the instructions of the Virginia Assembly proposing independence and union of the colonies, leaped to his feet to answer:

"Why then, sir, do we longer delay, why still deliberate? Let this happy day give birth to an American republic. Let her arise, not to devastate and conquer, but to re-establish the reign of peace and law. The eyes of Europe are fixed upon us. She demands of us a living example of freedom that may exhibit a contrast in the felicity of the citizen to the ever-increasing tyranny which desolates her polluted shores. She invites us to prepare an asylum where unhappy may find solace and the persecuted repose. * * * *