

...and drive him back to the innocuity from which he sprang. And even a damn fool will be able to understand the meaning of our artillery when it begins to thunder.

CHANGING THE EPITHETS

WE USED to call the Delaware the "Clyde of America" when we wished to be self-gratulatory over the fact that new keels were being laid in the shipyards of Philadelphia, Camden and Chester yards. More ships were built on the Clyde than on any other river in the world, more even than on the Elbe or Weser, where centered Germany's vast marine construction. Reversal of the epithets is now due. The Clyde is the "Delaware of Europe."

Two hundred and seventy-two ships are now building on our river with a tonnage of 2,240,000. A force of 44,000 men is employed and it will be doubled, adding greatly in number, value and variety to the skilled artisan population of Philadelphia. The action of the Emergency Fleet Corporation in assigning half of the ships to be made under its program to the Delaware is a tribute to the labor resources, accessibility of raw materials and industrial capacity of Philadelphia. It is tribute and more, for it represents the beginning of a restoration of the river to its one-time and long-time supremacy as the shipbuilding center of the New World, lost gradually with the sinful abandonment of the American merchant marine.

The maritime scope and power of the United States, when Old Glory will fly in every trade port on the seven seas, is in process of rehabilitation, and hand in hand with it is bound to go Philadelphia's regaining of its prestige in marine architecture. It will make the Clyde, the Elbe or the Weser, when complimentary comparisons are sought, the "Delaware of Europe."

THE UNREFUSABLE APPEAL

THE irresistible appeal of the Red Cross is that if all these wounded men had been incapacitated by famine, hurricane or earthquake the Red Cross would be on the job as strenuously as it is today. In that case it would be just as much treason to humanity to refuse to aid it as it would be now to close one's ears to the cry of the wounded. That cry is the more distressing because it is so rarely sounded. The wounded, as a rule, set their teeth and suffer in silence. It is because they are so pathetically silent that our money must talk at the top of its lungs.

CANADA'S NOTE TO KAISERISM

THREE facts should be realized as a preface to any comment on the Canadian election: first, that Canada has already given everything she could reasonably be expected to give to the cause of the Allies; second, that opposition to the Government has concentrated in the provinces limited to the French-Canadian element; and third, that England herself rejected conscription for two years and Australia rejected it finally without any diminution of their war efforts.

Canada is a young and growing country, that is, the Canada of transcontinental railroads, bumper crops and spreading industries. Loss of many thousands of her citizens is a much more serious blow to her future welfare than it is to the old civilizations of the continent, which will recuperate through the growing up of the next generation, whereas Canada has thrived and put her faith in immigration. Old countries lose nothing by having their populations remain static; new ones lose much by failure to increase rapidly.

But in spite of many good reasons for hesitation about conscription, Canada, in accepting it by an overwhelming majority of her citizens of English stock, has struck as powerful a blow at Kaiserism as she did at Vimy Ridge. It is the Kaiser's dearest wish to break up the British and American Commonwealths. A typical member of one of those Commonwealths has sent him the right answer.

Warmer weather is predicted. But we cannot depend entirely on an act of Providence to remedy the coal shortage.

The Socialists now have a fine new argument to present. All they have to say is, "See what Socialism has done to Russia!"

The artillery of statesmanship has located a strong peace offensive and by concentrated fire has destroyed it before it could get started.

There is a rumor to the effect that while the Mayor may have learned how to play cards, it is Director Wilson who knows how to shuffle them.

We can count on a Christmas gift from Berlin the 109 German ships we have seized, all of which are now in service. It takes the U-boats five weeks to sink that many.

Urges Thrift Bonds as Tips to Waiters.—Headline.

Wouldn't it be more thrifty in wartime to abolish the senseless custom of giving tips at all?

Many saloonkeepers in Schuylkill County have closed their places and gone to work in the munition factories. They evidently concluded it was better to kill the enemy than help Americans to get half shot.

Mr. Johnson's suggestion that the Government run the ball parks is interesting. No business seems to be hitting the toboggan these days without a suggestion from its owners that Uncle Sam take it over.

Kerensky's tremendous energy seems to be still with him. He is simultaneously reported to be holding a cabinet job in the new Siberian Republic, leading an army of anti-Bolshevik near Petrograd, preparing to take his place in the constituent assembly and in hiding. Perhaps he has been exiled.

All the democracies are busy with investigations—France with the "affaire Calliaux," England with the sinking of a convoy, America with everything you can think of. But what will happen when that Reichstag committee to investigate why there have been no German investigations comes into being?

SANTA CLAUS'S WORKSHOP DARK

The Local Lodge Is Closed After Serving Children for Three Generations

SANTA CLAUS'S headquarters, at this moment, is full of carpenters, painters, plasterers and other mechanical creatures, so real that they actually swear and shout at each other and spit tobacco juice on the floor. All this is because Santa Claus has moved away and the old house at 1006 Chestnut street must be made ready by the first of the year for an army of serious-minded men who will busy themselves there sending regular grown-up typewriters.

This Christmas Eve will be the first in nearly thirty years to find that old store's windows dark, and countless children will grieve therefor, and so will their parents and their grandparents. For Schwartz's Toy Bazaar was a beloved institution of the town. Last spring, when the firm suddenly made up its mind to quit, the letters of protest and regret that came piling in were as numerous as holiday orders. Besides, there were formal calls which were solemnly touched and the gray-haired grandmother came in her brougham behind high-stepping bays, which no motor dog has yet been able to displace, and said her last farewell to the place.

"My first baby was born in 1856," she said, "and I carried his first Christmas toys home from this store. I've done the same for my grandchildren and my great-grandchildren. I'm here this time to say nothing, but—I must tell you the truth—just to cry a little."

Gustavus A. Schwartz was touched. He was tearing up roots and the like. Of course, he was eighty-five years old, and it's to be supposed he'd have to quit some time, but Santa Claus best looks the part with the snow, and he'll stay on to help him, and, besides, his going was not of his choosing.

The Beginning of Things In September, 1859, Gustavus Schwartz came up from Baltimore, where he had spent five years in the toyshop of his elder brother, Henry, the first and foremost of the family of four brothers who were to become nationally known figures in the business. He was looking for a place to start out for himself and he found it in Chestnut street. A little hardware had fallen there and given the place a bad name. It was too far out in the country for the toyshop, and the quarters, people said, were a farm just across the street. The Continental Hotel was being built at the time and the stores to be let on the Chestnut street front were tempting, but the young man, Gustavus, through the iron shutters of the window of No. 1006 thought it a likely place and he took it.

Second street was the shopping thoroughfare in those days, and the trading was also good upon Chestnut street as far west as Eighth street. But Gustavus, who occupied the second floor of the Continental Hotel, was selling a few Stetson hats there, so why couldn't toys be sold on the street level? So Christmas blossomed there in 1859 and continued to blossom thereafter for fifty-eight years.

In the meantime the other brothers were coming along. F. A. O. Schwartz, after serving an apprenticeship in Germany, opened the New York house in 1861. Richard, the youngest, took the customary Baltimore schooling, paused a year or so here, went to the University of Chicago, where he was burned out in the great fire and jumped back to Boston.

These four men were this country's pioneer Santa Claus outfitters. Germany sent them their first toys, and they in turn sent Germany eventually put the biggest of them out of business.

Looking Back In a quiet corner of the third story in the old building to which the eyes of all young Philadelphia have been in the habit of turning on holiday mornings, Gustavus Schwartz and his son, Henry G., are temporarily quartered while they settle up their affairs.

"It's odd to be sitting here idle at this time of year," said the younger toyman yesterday morning, "but we couldn't keep this house going without foreign toys, and those are impossible to buy here. We've got a good toy in the United States, just as we've marked lots of other things, now that we have 'em; but we haven't got very far with the toys yet. We don't want to be out of the market when the original Schwartz modestly burst upon Philadelphia in that Christmas time of '53 he hadn't a great variety of stock, but he had a few good things, and Noah's ark was the run of his main line. Noah's ark, it would seem, are as old as their prototype, and dolls, of a sort, were nursed by little girls by the waters of Babylon."

At the time of the Civil War the war doll was just coming in and so were hobby horses with real, sure-enough skins on them. That was the first time that the toy business, either, for Gustavus Schwartz furnished from the start.

One day during the Civil War, A. Schoenbutz, a German immigrant, presented himself before Mr. Schwartz's plans and his arm—a small piano, of course. He had made it himself and it, in turn, subsequently made his fortune.

For some years Schoenbutz had been imported from Germany, but they were never satisfactory. The strips of glass upon which the little hammers struck were glued to the sounding board and they always absorbed some dampness in the ocean voyage, and away they went. A Schoenbutz's job was to fix them up again. He did better. He substituted metal strips and anchored them with rivets between the strings and the sounding board. The house of Schoenbutz makes circuses and roly-polies and jointed dolls and lots and lots of other things, for it's pretty nearly the biggest toy manufactory in the city for.

"I must give a word of praise to Schoenbutz for his wooden doll," said Henry Schwartz, "and some day he may be able to give me a word of praise, too, when he'll have another fortune. That's one of the troubles here—we can't make bisque heads in this country. And our soldiers here are nothing. (This was said with a perfectly straight face.) But the war is over, and wonderful. When the war started there were at least 100 different styles being turned out in Germany. We've tried our hand at it, but we haven't been able to make a thing out of it. You know, after you've been in the toy business a long while you can tell by the feel of an article whether it's likely to be popular."

There are many novelties of late vogue that we have made here—rectors, mechano and all that sort of thing—but you just can't make a real Christmas toyshop without the finer things that even Japan hasn't been able to supply, though she does very well. When we took the large model of the toy boat, which was found last spring and they were found 700 per cent and we wouldn't be able to support Santa Claus in the style to which he has been accustomed, we reluctantly closed the business."

A New Job for Santa There is just one more thing that every child in Philadelphia who rides on white horses, the knights of G. They for their Lord and their Lover have sacrificed.

All this is the pleasure of treading where he has trod.

These through the darkness of death, at the sight of the dawn.

Sweet, and they woke to white places at morning-tide.

They raised up their eyes and cried for joy at the sight of the dawn.

White horsemen with Christ their captain, forever His. LEONEL JOHNSON.

SIMPLIFIED RULES FOR GEOGRAPHY

Names of Cities Should Have Uniform Spelling Internationally Recognized

By HENRI BAZIN, Staff Correspondent Evening Public Ledger with the American Army in France. PARIS, Nov. 17.

THE enormity and frightfulness of the war have led to an excess of literary superlatives. We have come to the use through habit or unconscious application of the third inflection of the adjective in nearly every instance where we refer to the perspective and nature of the great conflict, what its present application is, what we deduce will be its pro and con results.

The thought brings to mind that perhaps we are overlooking certain genuine possibilities not only for the day but the far morrow. One might be the reforming of nomenclature in its popular sense and in application to certain departments of knowledge.

For units of peoples with different ideals and perspectives in life are intermingling as never before. Some are in advanced states of that which we call civilization and others perhaps but half so. Yet each has something to learn from the other. Why not set out to acquire this additional power, since all knowledge is power?

There are enormous quantities of objects that peoples using language very foreign from each other, in the main, could well designate by the same general names without derogation to the qualities of any language. There are many French words, for instance, already half naturalized in English usage, that might be classified more completely and consistently, immediately becoming through the process more helpful to French people visiting English-speaking lands or English-speaking people visiting France.

I could strengthen my argument in many specific instances, but I feel that the objective of this writing is perhaps more clearly set forth in a particular point—unification among peoples in orthography or geographical names. For here a confusion exists that is extraordinary in not only the simple sense, but in view of the progress among nations during the last ten decades.

It would be, of course, impossible to assume that the mere spelling of a geographical name would be the key to unification. But even in that respect something of progress is possible through simplifying the spelling of names and places now almost absolutely unpronounceable in English and Turkey are examples. We are reading and hearing of many rivers, mountains, towns, cities in these countries that have names permeated with consonants which to English-speaking people seem like a jumble of pronunciation. If some of the syllables were eliminated would they mean less? And is it not certain that as peoples advance in civilization the names given to the houses and men become shorter—more to the point? The recalling of names given to warriors among primitive peoples is an example.

The greatest evil is not the which to a certain degree and for that degree only adjusts itself, as it has among African tribes, the Eskimo, the Indian. It is the ridiculous, the arbitrary, the illogical, the unimportant centers in different modern languages. There is no logical reason why Roma should be in Italian, Rom in German, Rome in French and English. Why should Livorno be Italian be Livorno in English? Why should London in English be Londre in French? Why, even, should Philadelphia in English have an "e" termination in French? Why should Brussels be Bruxelles in French? One could indicate countless instances where cities with an accepted spelling in their own countries have different spellings in four or six other countries.

Why not a congress of savants after the fashion of the International Linguistic Conference, plus innumerable others that I do not name? Could not an international linguistic conference be held in which the whole world would be equalized in at least the initial step of co-ordination in geographical nomenclature? This would be a needless obstacle among the Allies?

COAL PIRACY A more organized resistance has been made in the Great Lakes section of the Middle West to the extortion of the coal operators in New England. But it is a question whether New England has not been plagued quite as ruthlessly, or worse. It is stated in dispatches from Washington that the coal operators have been created to keep up the prices, while at the same time other sections previously kept short have been glutted with coal. This Canada, which had previously been a part of the coal supply, is represented as being glutted at New England's expense today. It is also charged that the coal operators have taken advantage of the fact that the coal operators of the Middle West are not organized to resist the extortion of the coal operators in New England. It is a question whether New England has not been plagued quite as ruthlessly, or worse. 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