

Evening Public Ledger

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DEMOCRATS IN A CATAclysm

THE lightning of wrath that A. Mitchell Palmer loosed at Judge Bonniwell from the meeting of the Democratic State Committee yesterday illuminated some dark and unpleasant corners in the political annals of Pennsylvania...

VENTILATION OF THE REVENUE ACT IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES seems to have made that legislative chamber perceptibly billiardier.

ENLIGHTENMENT! THE fact that this summer we have put masses of armed men into France is primarily due to Senator Chamberlain and the Senators of both parties who have acted with him.

OH, COLONEL, Colonel! WE had supposed that these achievements were due to General Wood and Colonel Borglum!

Evidently it takes more than a switch to derail Haig's Berlin train.

SAVE THE HOSPITALS THE shortage of doctors in the hospitals at home is an inevitable handicap occasioned by the war.

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WEALTH TO THE UTMOST

The Nation Will Grit Its Teeth and Pay the Stupendous Sum to Be Levied by the War Revenue Bill

THE war revenue bill now before Congress levies taxes which it is estimated will yield more than eight billion dollars.

The stupendousness of this sum would have appalled the statesmen who made the plans for financing the Civil War. In no single year of that conflict did the ordinary receipts of the Government from taxation exceed half a billion dollars.

We are planning to raise in one year sixteen times as much, or a sum equal to the total receipts of the Government from 1850 to 1882, including all the extraordinary revenues of the Civil War period.

The Civil War expenditures reached their maximum in 1865, when a total of a little more than a billion dollars was paid out in the fiscal year.

It is planned to spend twenty-four billion dollars in the coming year. One-third of this sum is to be raised by taxation and the other two-thirds by the proceeds of a loan.

The ability of the nation to raise these enormous sums would not have been admitted by any financier ten, or even five, years ago. When men talked of the possibility of a general European war they were wont to say that it could not last six months because it would be waged on such a scale that it would bankrupt the nation before six months had passed.

The war has lasted more than four years and, so far as any one can see, there are available financial resources enough to carry it on for two or three years more.

All the predictions of the financiers have been proved false, for the mobility of the wealth of the warring nations has proved equal to all the demands upon it. This is the most astonishing material fact established by the war.

Within its realm it is as great a revelation as the awakening of the nations to the spiritual meaning of the conflict.

We were told that this was an age of materialism, but the people about whom the commentators thought they knew so much have proved that they can be moved by an ideal and that they are willing to make supreme sacrifices that this ideal may be realized.

The mobilization of the wealth of America contemplated in the revenue bill and in the loan soon to be floated would not be possible if the American people were not persuaded that they are fighting for something greater and more important than mere material gains or than mere physical comfort.

We have the money. The Treasury Department estimated that the wealth of the nation in 1913 amounted to a hundred and eighty-seven billion dollars. The experts of the National City Bank of New York estimated it in 1917 as two hundred and forty billions, an increase of fifty-three billions in four years.

When we consider this enormous expansion in material possessions in so short a time the task of collecting eight billions in taxes seems easy. And the plans to float a loan of sixteen billions will involve merely the investment of the expansion of the national wealth in Government bonds.

Yet the taxes to be levied cannot be paid without a readjustment of the manner of living of many families. The burden will fall heavily upon the well-to-do and it will take a large proportion of the incomes of the very rich.

The successful business man with an income of \$300,000 who has been putting back into his business every year a large part of his profits will have to pay to the Government \$165,000 as an income tax. This will affect the development of his business. But he must submit.

Must submit? It is morally certain that he and the men with smaller and larger incomes will pay their tax as part of the price demanded of us for the realization of the ideal for which we are fighting. They will all respect the demands of the Government as the automobile owners respected the request that they keep their cars in their garages last Sunday in order that gasoline might be saved.

"It comes hard, but it must be done," is what we are all thinking. We are giving our sons and brothers and husbands, and we are giving our money with a unanimity and a consecration of purpose the like of which cynics never expected to see in this hardened old world.

We just can't keep our eyes off the map of France these days.

THE HERITAGE OF THE MARNE FOUR years ago tonight General Joseph Joffre called Field Marshal Sir John French into headquarters and expressed his conviction that the hour favorable to a general Allied offensive had come at last.

On the same fateful evening the French generalissimo issued to his men a general order concluding as follows: "The hour has come to advance at any cost and to die rather than fall back."

The next day Manoury's superb army or maneuver began to execute the plans of the high command. The pressure of these troops on the German right wing was not fully felt until September 8. By that time Von Kluck, though skillfully fighting to evade the trap sprung for him in the terrain nearest Paris, was obliged to thin out his lines south of the Marne.

On the 9th Ferdinand Foch launched his thunderbolt at the Hun's vulnerable center from Fere-Champenoise. On the 11th he victoriously entered Chalons-sur-Marne.

For the first time since Ligny, where Napoleon repulsed Blucher in 1815, Prussian troops had felt the sting of defeat. An arrogant tradition of military superiority had been broken, and the supremely decisive battle of the world war was over. Even after four years of struggle, "First Marne," fought between September 5 and September 11, 1914, is still entitled to that description.

SINCE YOU INSIST

A Talk With Ajax

"HELLO, Socrates!" exclaimed our friend Ajax as we met him crossing Market street. "Where do we go from here?"

"Underneath this motortruck, unless you look sharp," replied Socrates; "I am sorry to see that you cross the street without waiting for the cop to turn the semaphore."

"I know a nearby groggery," said Ajax, "where I will blow if you will condescend to impart some of your philosophical confusion."

"No man ever needs to speak to me twice in that tone of voice," retorted Socrates, and the pair made their way to a modest cathedral down a by-street.

SOCRATES—How can you be so sure that they have hoped in vain. The man in a training battalion at one of the big camps often is a victim of conditions which still puzzle army officers in Washington as well as at the cantonments.

SOCRATES—He seems to speak with the convincing assurance of a suburban husband returning to his wife after an evening at the club.

SOCRATES—What is on your mind, dear boy?

SOCRATES—My poor fellow, you have been riding in the subway again? No wonder you are depressed.

SOCRATES—Not at all. I have been thinking what I believe must have come to many men recently. You know I am included in this new draft, and as I have no children and my wife is well provided for I do not doubt I shall speedily be called upon.

SOCRATES—Very true, and I shall be glad to do my part. But what I have been thinking is, how little we appreciate the beauty and interest of our daily life until we are about to part from it.

SOCRATES—No man appreciates the discomforts of home until he leaves them.

SOCRATES—Please don't misunderstand me. Neither I nor any able-bodied man will be sorry to do his duty in any way possible. But now that I realize that I may be taken out of the habitual routine of my life it saddens me to see how pitifully I missed the lovely and entrancing and fascinating phases of existence that were all around me and which I took as a matter of course.

SOCRATES—My dear Ajax, I think you have always paid beauty the respect that is due it. I remember your telling me how charming the profile of your stenographer was when silhouetted against your office filing cases.

AJAX—I look along the streets, I see life that flows about us, infinite in color and form, in joy and perplexity, and I tell you it grieves me to think how pale and shallow has been my appreciation of it all. Do you realize how many aspects of beauty surround our humdrum life? Think of the blue flame of the kitchen gas burners! Never, until last night, did I understand their hilarious beauty of color. And the silver-green shimmer of water in my porcelain bathtub (there is a big poplar tree just outside our bathroom window, which lends a green reflection to the water in the tub)—how marvelously beautiful that is!

SOCRATES—It is very unfair to Provost Marshal Crowder if you go and get yourself in a morbid state of mind just before he drafts you.

AJAX—You are very unfeeling. But there again is a thought that troubles me. You know I love my wife dearly, but we have had our little squabbles. I should hate to think, if anything happens to me, that her second husband might treat her better than I have.

SOCRATES—It is you who are unfeeling. Would you have him treat her worse? Besides, think of the handsome pensions paid to soldiers' widows.

AJAX—Conversation with you never reaches any helpful conclusion.

SOCRATES—My function is not to reach conclusions that are helpful, but those that are true. But seriously, Ajax, I am glad to find you in so thoughtful a mood. It is all the more commendable because a man so puny as you will hardly be put among the shock-troops. And now, as we are so close to the end of the column, I think I will take the train home to Xantippe.

Even if that bullet fired by "a young girl of the intellectual class" had never touched him, Lenine would have been reported dead. Isn't there something significant in that?

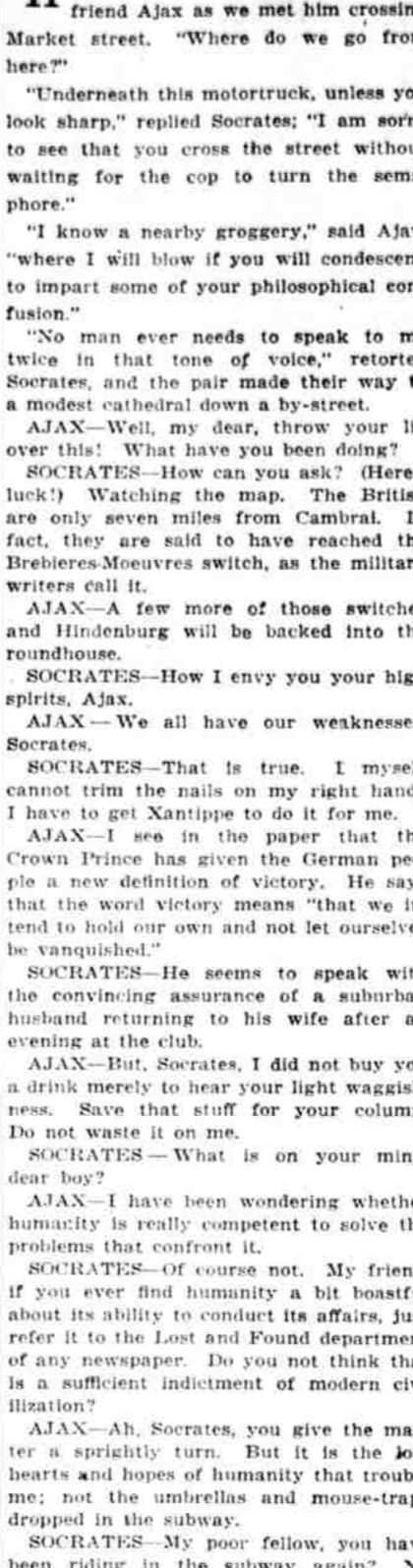
It is reported that there are more Greeks in the American army than there are in the armies of Greece.

And they will also be more trouble to the Kaiser than the Greek Greeks have been.

SOCRATES.

WE FEEL, OF COURSE, THE EFFECT OF THE ENTRY OF THE AMERICANS

German Crown Prince



WHO ARE THE CZECHO-SLOVAKS?

MRS. GREENE PICKENS should ask her husband when he goes home tonight, "Who are the Czech-Slovaks?"

THIS is about as near a guess as the average man would make. We know that the Czech-Slovaks have been doing marvels in Russia. But only the man whose business it is to inform himself on such matters is aware that this force is made up of the Bohemian and Slavonian prisoners of war taken by the Russians while they were fighting Austria.

THE Entente Allies have seen the political value of recognizing the claims of these disaffected Slavs within the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Their independence as a nation was recognized by Italy, France and Great Britain weeks before the American Government recognized it.

BEFORE August 1, 1914, the recognition of the autonomy of Bohemia by Austria and the consent of the Austrian Emperor to be crowned as king of Bohemia in Prague would doubtless have satisfied a majority of the Czechs. But, events have moved rapidly since that momentous date, and few Czechs will be content now with anything short of complete national independence.

IT should be noted at this point that an autonomous Bohemian kingdom ruled over by a German prince, preferably one of the sons of the Kaiser, was included in the plans of the Pan-Germanists as early as March, 1914, when the arrangements were making for the war which began four months later.

AN independent Czech-Slovak State, set up under the patronage of the Entente Allies, would frustrate the plans of Germany. It would separate the Germans of Austria from the Germans of Saxony and Bavaria by the creation of a new Slav kingdom or republic. It would place a barrier in the way of Germanic control of commercial routes between Berlin and Bagdad. It would strengthen the Slavic races in the south of Austria-Hungary and justify their demand for independence and hasten the day of the dismemberment of Austria-Hungary in the interests of the little nations, a dismemberment which the Pan-Germanists planned in the interests of German domination of the world.

THE Hun must have bought his much-vaunted "switch" at a colliery. 'Twas false, false.

TO THE DOUGHBOYS

THEY told me—the tempters—'twas safe To juggle receipts on my knee, Right should'rin' a pen, in this war o' men, At home with the Q. M. C.

It whispered—a voice of the Devil's— "You're makin' the fight jes' the same, Gettin' writer's cramp in a U. S. camp— An' it never can cripple or lame.

So I stayed (an' I scored high adventure); I'm six feet tall an' I'm strong; An' ships of each sort sailed out of the port, An' I knew all the while I was wrong.

I knew it, this voice of the Devil's; It promised home-comin's agen— The folks ne'er a doubt, put a service flag out, Oh, the Devil-o'-Faint-Hearted-Men!

An' finally, thinkin' an' thinkin', An' a-grippin' the doughboys' pen, The gleam o' the sun on the steel of the gun, An' allumins o' fours in mass;

A-steppin' so brave and so smart like, Swagin' on down to the dock, A-totin' their packs, an' rolls on their backs, A-grippin' each gun by the stock.

How their faces shone, an' with reason, Each lad with his head held high, An' it gave me a start, for I felt in my heart I was lettin' the heroes go by.

They're heroes, the grand little doughboys, Each giant an' sunburnt runt, So many will fall the world won't recall, An' they'll all go up to the front!

They're heroes in hundreds o' thousands, The infantrymen of today; An' it's fine to know they wanted to go, An' I'm goin'—thank God—that way.

I watched 'em troop into transports, I watched, an' I saw an' I knew— An' at last I'm one; take a look at my gun— My transfer has jes' gone through!

—Charles Divine, in "City Ways and Company Streets."

The Dose of Victory Tambo, I am opposed to drugs. "Naturally, naturally, Mr. Bones." And yet, Mr. Tambo, the French are about to take Laudanum—for so the wise old Romans called Laon—and surely in this instance that is the right dope, is it not? "Mr. Bones, your mastery of synthetic logic stirs and thrills and even startles me."

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

- 1. The country about Lens is particularly valuable for its wealth in coal. 2. A stevedore is a rick between a barrel and a business. 3. Simon Bolivar, a distinguished general and statesman, was the liberator of South America from Spanish rule. He was born in Caracas, Venezuela, in 1783 and died in Santa Marta, Colombia, in 1830. 4. King Arthur, a semi-mythical British monarch, is supposed to have lived in the fifth century. 5. "Dope" is a corruption of the name Dioscorus. 6. Admiral von Suez was the German naval commander who defeated an English fleet off Chile in 1914 and was in turn defeated by the British near the Falkland Islands early in 1915. 7. The name Wednesday is derived from the northern god Woden or Odin. 8. An albatross is a large spreading-winged, sea-bird in the family Diapitidae, which is common in America and particularly in the Hawaiian Islands. The bird is the most plentiful of all the albatrosses. The leaves resemble those of the oak. 9. Architecture is from the Greek "arkhitektōn," which means "the architect of the temple." The word "architect" is derived from the same root.

WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

- 1. Of what country is Ruprecht the Crown Prince? 2. Who was John B. Gough? 3. How many masts has a brig? 4. Who was "L'Alouin" and what does the name mean? 5. What was the "Trent Affair"? 6. Who was the "Liberator of Wisdom"? 7. What is the capital of North Carolina? 8. Who was the Democratic candidate for President in 1904? 9. Who wrote "The Mill on the Floss"? 10. What is a canard?

QUIZ

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