

Evening Public Ledger

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ROOT THE SLACKERS OUT OF HOG ISLAND

CHAROES that incompetent slackers and army shirkers are impeding the efficiency of Hog Island call for drastic inquiry. If verified the management of the fleet corporation cannot afford to waste an instant in dismissing the soft-snaps...

THE LOGICAL CONSEQUENCE OF A LIBERTY LOAN IS A LIBERTY GIFT FOR MANKIND.

The logical consequence of a Liberty Loan is a liberty gift for mankind.

JERSEY CANALS? CERTAINLY

AN OLD, revered and unassailable principle of economical transportation is represented by the plans for an elaborate system of inland waterways on the Atlantic coast approved yesterday in a report made to the Senate by the Department of Commerce.

MEET THE INFLUENZA GERM!

IT SHOULDN'T be called Spanish influenza. The malady is of Hun origin. It is a by-product of the war. Specialists in Europe who have had almost a year of research know little about the disease.

ONLY LOG ROLLERS CAN OPPOSE THIS

THE President has no power to veto any item in an appropriation bill. If he disapproves of a single appropriation or any rider annexed to an appropriation bill he must veto the whole measure.

LET'S NOT LOSE THIS MOMENTUM

WHEN General March told the newspaper correspondents in Washington that 85,000 American troops were landed in France in one day, and that the ships were able to start back to this side of the ocean within twenty-four hours, he indicated what could be done in the way of the economical use of shipping when men set about the task.

NOT TO BE TRUSTED

TWO points deserve attention in considering the disclosures regarding the German machinations in Russia. The first is that Germany was able to find agents who for a price would do her bidding even to the extent of debauching a great nation, with the consequent reign of murder and pillage.

THE OSTRICH POLICY AND LIBERTY BONDS

Congress Seems Determined to Adopt It in Order to Keep War Securities at Par

THE drive for the fourth Liberty Loan is to begin a week from Saturday. It is understood that the country will be asked to subscribe for \$6,000,000,000 worth of bonds, the interest on which will be 4 1/2 per cent.

Congress is struggling with the task of raising revenue by taxation with which to supplement the proceeds of the bond sale, in order to provide funds to prosecute the war. An additional sale of \$10,000,000,000 in bonds will have to be made before the close of the fiscal year if we are to raise the \$24,000,000,000 which the Treasury Department has estimated will be necessary to pay the bills.

It will strain the resources of the country to raise the \$8,000,000,000 by taxation, which, added to the \$16,000,000,000 of bonds to be issued, will make up the total needed. The money will be raised. That is admitted. Men with property to be taxed will pay their tax bills, perhaps with a wry face, but they will pay them. Men with money to invest will buy the bonds.

It does not seem, however, as if Congress were going about its task with that degree of financial intelligence which should be exercised in these critical days. What the Government needs is not revenue. Yet the Treasury Department is planning to pay 4 1/2 per cent interest on the fourth Liberty Loan and to collect back as taxes the greater part of the difference between the 3 1/2 per cent on the tax-free bonds of the first loan and the 4 1/2 per cent on the new loan. The net revenue which it will collect will be negligible so far as providing funds for prosecuting the war; but the excess interest which it will have to pay in time of peace, when the tax on the income of the bonds may be reduced, will be a burden upon the country for years to come.

The proposed tax on the income from the new bonds, after the exemption of a limited amount in the hands of a single purchaser, is 12 per cent. The difference between the income from a 4 1/2 per cent bond and a 3 1/2 per cent bond is 17.8 per cent. This, on the surface, makes a greater net return to an investor in the bond drawing the greater interest. But the 4 1/2 per cent bonds of the Liberty Loans already floated are selling below par. They have been quoted as low as \$95 for a \$100 bond. The tax-free 3 1/2 per cent bonds have been selling for \$102 or thereabouts for a \$100 unit.

This disclosure of the attitude of investors toward these securities ought to be illuminating to Congress. Its only effect has been to lead the Ways and Means Committee to draft a measure giving the President power to prevent the buying and selling of the bonds, in the belief that if no one is allowed to sell a bond it will continue to be worth its face value, and that investors will buy new bonds in the confident belief that they will remain at par. Such reasoning is worthy of the ostrich which buries its head in the sand and thinks it is invisible. The Senate has rejected it, but the House has yet to admit its folly.

The susceptibilities and timidities of capital ought to be considered in the drafting of the revenue bill, rather than the timidities of the politicians who balk at the issue of tax-free securities. Capital is timid when confronted by a bond subject to taxation because it has no guarantee that the tax rate at the time the bond is issued may not be increased in the next revenue bill. It knows that the heavier the tax on accumulated wealth the better do certain demagogic politicians think they are pleasing the people. The market quotations on the Liberty Bonds already issued ought to convince the men in Congress that there is a financially wiser course than that to which they seem to be committed.

Always up to date, America intends operating the war on the skip-stop system until the grand terminus is reached.

RUBBER HEELS

Hay Fever If Alfred Tennyson Had It ON EITHER side the river lie Long fields of barley and of rye And goldenrod, and ragweed high; And through the field the road runs by— My nose runs, too. I damn a lot. The pollen prickles me with woo, The fearful spasms come and go, And hopefully my nose I blow: My eyes with blood are shot.

WHEN in agony I quiver

Useless atomizers shiver, For my asthma runs forever, Patent nostrums help me never (Up my nose I jam a lot). And, unless some kindly showers Lay the pollen of these flowers I shall sneeze and sneeze for hours— For so the gods allot.

AMBASSADOR DAVIS

Solicitor General in the Department of Justice, to be American ambassador near the Court of St. James's, does not evoke those emotions which such an appointment in these critical times ought to cause. This does not mean that Mr. Davis may not be an excellent representative of the United States in London. It merely means that he is known in such a narrow circle that his possible qualifications have to be taken for granted.

He will succeed such distinguished Americans as Whitelaw Reid, Joseph H. Choate, John Hay, Thomas F. Bayard and James Russell Lowell, to go no further back than the eighties of the last century. When each of these men was named the country knew at once who he was and what his particular qualifications were. Each was also known in London and to a considerable portion of the British public.

Mr. Davis has his reputation as a diplomatist to make. He is said to be an able lawyer, with experience in dealing with large business interests. By no stretch of the term can he be called an ambassador from the American people to the British people. Perhaps such a man is not needed just now and his peculiar qualifications may be those required to deal with the issues that will arise between the two nations in the near future.

The people must accept him on trust until he proves himself.

A tremendous lot of physical and spiritual energy has been concentrated for years behind the suffrage propaganda on the one hand and the prohibition cause on the other. Energy is not dissipated by the removal of obstacles. It is a continuous force. What we should like to know now is what course the limitless dynamic energies of the prohibitionists and the suffragists are to take when the country is dry and everybody votes.

So We Have Heard Judge Bonniwell missed a shining opportunity by failing to declare, quickly and smartly, that he is behind President Wilson and determined to "use all his power to banish Prussianism from the face of the earth." Such a declaration would be perfectly safe under the circumstances. Beer achieved its fullest glory in Munich. And Munich is in Bavaria.

The Subtle Cusses! After all, it may be unjust to accuse the Bolsheviki of a secret alliance with Germany. Current dispatches raise new doubts. Wilhelm is attempting to recruit new armies in Russia. And Lenin and Trotsky are doing their best to kill off the entire male population before the first Hun can realize that ambition.

Too Good for Them The Washington order requesting men to save their old straw hats because of a possible shortage next summer came too late for some restaurant owners that we know. They had already put the old kellys in the war bread.

Page Him at Once Great Powers associated with the Allies has so far refrained from openly supporting President Wilson's return to Emperor Charles of Austria. We have yet to hear from Henry Ford.

Brewing peace in Austria seems to be even more difficult than brewing beer will soon be in another quarter of the globe.

Hertling sees peace nearer, according to the foreign dispatches. When our armies get closer to Berlin he will see it nearer still.

"Voluntary withdrawals" seem to be sternly under the gang ban when political assessment time comes around.

The pelican, according to an expert, is a much maligned bird; but he did not suggest that the pelican appeal to the Kaiser for sympathy.

Our great-grandmothers married when they were seventeen. So the girls of that age who have been getting married in great numbers recently are merely reviving an old custom.

Magistrate Perich has been expelled from his ward committee, not, however, because he is an officeholder and forbidden to sit in such a committee, but because he has offended his superiors.

Considering the way in which German insults and outrages have been accepted by Spain, one is not surprised to learn that the special symptom of the alleged "grip" from that country is prostration.

Foreign Minister Balfour says that Germany must not be allowed to get back her colonies or her naval bases; and it looks as if Mr. Balfour would have more to say about the matter than the Kaiser.

While the Senate committee is investigating the expenditure of money in senatorial primaries it is likely to be forced to give almost as much attention to the charges that as large sums have been spent in behalf of Democrats as in behalf of Republicans.

Twelve new major generals and about fifty brigadier generals must soon be appointed unless our armies are to be commanded by officers of a rank unsuited to their responsibilities. Perhaps the President is waiting for the officers of lower rank to prove their fitness before he promotes them.

Perplexities of a Coffee-House Revival

AMONG the numerous suggestions as to what shall be done with the convivially salient when the gradual retirement of John Barleycorn is made complete, the plea for a coffee-house revival at first blush is conspicuously alluring. Sentiment and respect for the reputed charm of the age when London settled her literary and political destinies over cups of the ebon Arabian fluid are naturally essential factors in winning endorsement for the notion. Here in Philadelphia, furthermore, there is a special tradition of appealing potency.

The old London Coffee House, conducted for many years previous to 1833 at the southwest corner of Second and Market streets, exerted through its often distinguished patrons no inconsiderable influence on the course of American history. The stage revived its memories last year when a room in the famous old building was presented as a scene of a wily political offensive against the ascendancy of Alexander Hamilton.

Interest in the coffee houses of a past era was unquestionably awakened, but the theme, while attractive, seemed to lack immediate significance. Within less than a year it has acquired such a quality. The war may vanquish "boozes" temporarily or permanently, but both drinking and talking are indispensable to existence.

THE character of our conversation, though it should perhaps sometimes give us pause, seldom worries us. But what we sha' drink under appropriate and congenial conditions has become a matter of present inquiry. Some sentimentals with their heads full of Boswell and Addison call for coffee and coffee houses. The coterie is well meaning but rash. Is there any evidence to show that English coffee and English conversation were ever of equal merit? Are not, indeed, the perplexities of the coffee question almost as baffling as those of the war?

CONSIDER, for instance, the enemy of civilization. Mark Twain gave the recipe for German coffee as follows: "Rub a coffee berry against a chlorey berry and convey the latter into a barrel of water. Tie a wet rag around the head to prevent excitement."

Austria, however, was not entirely a vassal in the days of "A Tramp Abroad" and the truth-telling humorist exempted her from his indictment. He is not the only rhapsody over Vienna coffee, but through all the eulogies runs a disconcerting detail. Vienna coffee is "richened" with a preparation of figs. Whether true epicureanism is betrayed by this invasion is an issue as befogged as Vienna's peace terms.

THE globe-trotting gastronomist of peace days—and surely he should be consulted if our proposed coffee houses are to be worthy of an advanced culture—would himself be puzzled to specify which one of the innumerable varieties of the speech-stimulating beverage should be served. English coffee—shades of the Johnsonians!—is altogether unregenerate and should be unreprieved.

Its major ingredient is the malevolent chlorey, frankly, and unashamedly employed. In justice to our ally, however, it should be stated that the use of this masquerading berry has probably declined in Great Britain since the war, as for some inexplicable reason the Huns in-

As you read this, imagine how it feels to be blind

THE Pennsylvania Working Home for Blind Men, at Thirty-sixth street and Lancaster avenue, provides useful work for 150 blind men. They carry on the sixth largest broom factory in the country.

THE home is preparing to train 100 more blind workers, especially soldiers blinded in battle. To do so, the home wishes to raise a fund of \$150,000.

YOU will never regret anything you do to help this great work. Checks may be sent to Joseph Vayne, Jr., Girard National Bank, Philadelphia.

The Kaiser is the world's greatest example of a self-made man.

What He Is Useful for One of the ways of ascertaining the truth on any subject is to find out what Bernstorff says about it, and then believe the opposite.

The Kaiser may need not only a retreat specialist but a root specialist.

Mr. Edlson says every letter written in the next five weeks should close, "Yours for the fourth Liberty Loan."

It's a good idea, and we can use it here, too.

Yours for the fourth Liberty Loan, SOCRATES.

We're just as glad to hear that the Serbs have crossed the Gradensitz as we are worried about pronouncing it.

Secretary Baker, arrived in London, is now miles from the "big show" on which he saw the curtain rise, but he can hear the applause even more clearly than ever.

The Germans who have been comparing the Hindenburg line with the Great Wall of China obviously have a feeling for accuracy, since a considerable part of the celebrated Asian barrier is in ruins.

The watch on the Rhine is now for enemy airplanes. More than a hundred tons of bombs were dropped on towns in the Rhine Valley during August, just to give the people a foretaste of what was coming when the land armies get there.

The kind of daylight-saving which nature practices on days like yesterday wins no applause from even the most inveterate conservationists.

THE OPEN BOAT

"WHEN this here war is done," says Dan, "and all the fightin's through, There's some'll fall with Fritz again as they was used to do; But NOT ME," says Dan, the sailor man, "NOT ME," says he, "Lord knows it's nippy in an open boat on winter nights at sea."

"When the last battle's lost an' won, an' won or lost the game, There's some'll think no 'arm to drink with squareheads just the same; But NOT ME," says Dan, the sailor man, "an' if you ask me why— Lord knows it's thirsty in an open boat when the water-beaker's dry."

"When all the bloomin' mines is swep' an' ships are sunk no more, There's some'll set them down to eat with Germans as before; But NOT ME," says Dan, the sailor man, "NOT ME," for one— Lord knows it's hungry in an open boat when the last biscuit's done.

"When peace is signed and treaties made an' trade begins again, There's some'll shake a German's hand an' never see the stain; But NOT ME," says Dan, the sailor man, "NOT ME, as God's on high— Lord knows it's bitter in an open boat to see your shipmates die."

Great Minds The three kings of Scandinavia are to meet some time this month to consider war problems. When three kings get together, whether in imperial conference or in somebody's hand, there is usually something doing, so this event will be worth watching.—Salem News.

Not Much Nonsense About That The Kaiser made the mistake of picking out a nation that refuses to be beaten—Detroit Free Press.

What Do You Know?

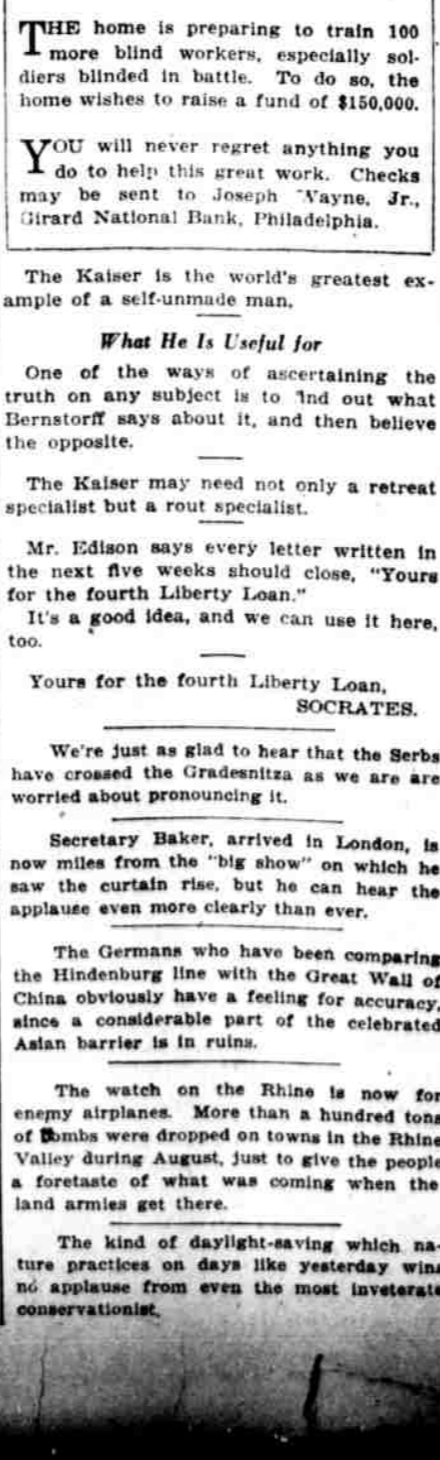
QUIZ

- 1. Who is commander-in-chief of the Allied forces now conducting a victorious offensive in Macedonia? 2. What is a clamor? 3. What is a daff? 4. What is the function of a "house flag," as played by ships of the merchant marine? 5. Who is called "The Father of History"? 6. Where was the potato first discovered? 7. What is the origin of the expression, "Cabbage and Kings"? 8. What famous American editor once ran for the presidency of the United States in a campaign? 9. Who invented the cartoon symbols of the Republican elephant and the Democratic jackass? 10. What relation was Napoleon III to Napoleon I?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

- 1. Strasbourg is the capital of Alsace, formerly part of France. 2. A clamor is a broad-brimmed felt hat. The word is Spanish, from "clamor," which means, of course, "to cry," and is applicable to a man's hat of any sort. 3. A daff is a cold drink, originally of wine, introduced to the United States by the Spaniards. 4. The word is "Cabbage and Kings." 5. The word is "Cabbage and Kings." 6. The potato was first discovered in Peru. 7. The origin of the expression, "Cabbage and Kings," is not known. 8. The famous American editor once ran for the presidency of the United States in a campaign. 9. The cartoon symbols of the Republican elephant and the Democratic jackass were invented by Thomas Nast. 10. Napoleon III was the nephew of Napoleon I.

UNKULTURED FOOLS! THEY STILL BELIEVE IN JUSTICE AND HONOR!!



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