

Evening Public Ledger

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Philadelphia, Saturday, November 16, 1918

WHAT ARE THEY UP TO NOW?

THE attendance at the open meeting of the Chamber of Commerce Committee on Municipal Affairs on Monday afternoon will disclose the extent of the interest of the public in the subject of street cleaning.

Now more than ever is the time to be aware of bogus counts. They may be exposed in disguise.

A VETERAN OF THE SEAS

INVESTIGATION of a brief dispatch from far away Chile reveals the convincing truth that the construction of staunch and splendid ships along the Delaware is no mere experimental novelty.

Ship styles changed and the famous "state" quater drifted into other services. Some of them saw Spanish war service as transports.

There is a stirring ocean epic, material for a Conrad or a McFee in the career of the doughty and venerable Pennsylvania.

What does the Recreation Board want with another press agent? The Mayor has secured more publicity for it in the last three months than it has had in all the previous years of its existence.

GIBBS' LAST WAR MESSAGE

IF WAR has come to an end, so also must war correspondents. There is a moving poignance in the closing words of Philip Gibbs' dispatch which we published the other day.

There will be no flash of gunfire in the sky tonight. The fire of hell has been put out, and I have written my last message as war correspondent, thank God!

We can rejoice with Mr. Gibbs that his heart-rending task of writing about war has been brought to an end. The scenes that he has chronicled ever since the days of the Old Contemptibles, while full of all the throbbing emotion that nerves human fibers to their highest honor, were scenes full of bitterness and horror that numb the soul with weariness and anguish.

THE ENGLISH ELECTION

BOTH Conservative and Liberal supporters of the present coalition Government in Great Britain are agreed on the necessity of its continuance after the parliamentary election to be held on December 14.

The Conservatives and Liberals believe in the established social order. They fear the Labor party, which has a program for social and industrial reconstruction that is frankly socialistic.

No one knows at the present time what effect the Bolshevism of Russia and the apparently triumphant Socialism of Germany have had on the sentiment of the British voters.

AMERICA AT THE PEACE TABLE

We May Exercise in the Final Councils of the War an Influence as Great as That Which We Exerted in the Field

AT THE moment when the guns ceased their uproar in Europe statesmen everywhere found themselves suddenly confronted with new and unexpected forces that yet may try their souls as bravely as German militarism ever did.

In the news from Germany and Austria and the Netherlands and Sweden, as well as in temperamental reactions throughout the rest of Europe, there are implications of a distrust of many of the codes and practices heretofore accepted without question as normal and inevitable.

It is life and perilous to deny that the war has roused and liberated new impulses of immeasurable energy beneath the social fabric of the Old World.

The leaders of European civilization are actually on trial. They will be required within the next six months to define anew the ends and aims of nationality.

LLOYD GEORGE when he said in Paris a day or two ago that Germany must be fed and aided and that hate is out of fashion was not moved by any new sense of altruism alone.

In the Netherlands, immediately the former Kaiser of Germany had settled himself comfortably after his flight, there was a new restiveness among the radicals.

It is altogether likely that a revolution of public opinion will occur in any country where William Hohenzollern is harbored and that the presence of the former war lord might finally be the inspiration of revolution far more destructive.

Another Statement of the Obvious. If the Allied nations are content to let William Hohenzollern reside at Corfu the world might as well prepare to defend itself when Corfu gets ready to try for a conquest of the world.

One-Sided Lile. "La Brabanconne," with which national anthem the Belgians marched into their home country, were written by Jemeppe, a comedian, the Huns fail to see any joke in that performance.

Strikes, Aptely Told. Judging by the protests in Germany over the armistice terms, that country is having her base ball season in November, and she's not enjoying it in the least.

Tut, Tut! The fact that Warsaw really saw a lot of war in the past suggests that a Pole has unusual reasons for being proud of his flag.

"Home, Quick, Home," has become the army's new version. One thing fell faster than the Kaiser. That was stuck in the Krupp corporation.

And in the end the route only lay from Berlin to Bantock. The theory of the Bolsheviki is simple enough. They hold, in effect, that every individual should declare himself a republic.

Governor-elect Sprout seems to be disposed to decide for himself with whom and when he will discuss the policy of his administration.

Relatively speaking, war is short and marriage long. Some near-drafts who rushed to the altar have now a chance to analyze that reflection.

It seems to have been a case of "skip-stop and a bump," now that Coroner Knight has requested an abandonment of the P. R. T.'s conservation scheme.

After all, why doesn't the ex-Kaiser retire to his palatial villa on Corfu? The Serbians are in control there. They'd be delighted to see him.

The Socialists in Chicago who celebrated the fall of the Kaiser might have put a little more life into the business if they had ever done anything to help with the job.

HIDE AND SEEK

The Kaiser's Lease This Agreement Witnesseth

that Godard Bentinck, of Amersongen, Utrecht, Netherlands, does hereby let unto William Hohenzollern, formerly of Potsdam and latterly of uncertain residence, a message and private park and burial plot known as Chateau Boche Napoo near Amersongen, screened from the highway by evergreens and hedges, but immunity from gunshot not guaranteed.

THE reported changes in the German flag seem to have been merely superficial. Yellow streaks still bear the new standard as they did the old.

Admiral Happer, chief of the high seas force, has the impudence to seek a discussion of a solemnly negotiated agreement with British Admiralty representatives.

For enervating underhand gain, these pedantic epistles would be hard to beat. With palpable crocodile tearfulness they plead for the retention of Germany of her rail rolling stock as a means of saving the land from starvation.

In the mere concept of returning stolen goods the Hun instinctively squeals. In the past when his submarines were slaying soldiers and his aeroplanes were murdering innocent travelers on the high seas, he laughed and blustered simultaneously in his efforts to wriggle out of the blockade eventually so wrought out of his deserved humiliation.

This pitiful plot will fail, of course. The same world devoutly hopes that Germany will some day be an honest and civilized and sincerely freedom-loving nation or group of nations.

In witness whereof the said parties have hereunto set their hands and seals: GODARD BENTINCK, WILLIAM HOHENZOLLERN.

A Swine Song. "What do you think of this terrible situation? What Schweinerei!"—The Kaiser to Count Bentinck. "What pigishness! Ungrateful swine! These German folk," the Kaiser cries—"If Hindenburg would hold the Rhine, I'd whip them back into their sties." "My boy" (Count Bentinck makes reply), "The sty they hate is dynasty."

Education. When upon metaphysics I took my first slant, My tools were too trenchant, my brain none too ripe. To solve by a footnote of Hegel or Kant, Exhausted the juice of a corpulent pipe.

Today there's an access of luminous speed To my brain as the boches, fondly fatuous, stuff. The world with new gospels of peace—and I need To understand that but one cigarette puff.

When listening to political oratory, don't take too much for granted. You can take some of it for granted. Language is an unmanageable instrument. With the best intentions in the world it is often hard to say what you don't mean.

The Gold Dust Twins. The Potsdam pay envelope presumably doesn't reach Lenin and Trotsky any more, but they are said to have ten million rubles laid away in a bank at the Swiss capital. In other words, they still have money to Berne.

With the ships flying the red flag, the last desperate battle staged for the German high sea fleet seems to have been postponed indefinitely.

The Sentence You Will Eventually Unravel. Language, as we have observed, is an unmanageable instrument. The other day we tried to say something about Stevenson's mineuters in Treasure Island. This is the first way the sentence shaped itself: Nobody fears Wilhelm now any more than they did Ben Gunn on Treasure Island.

Terrific as this is, the meaning is plain: that nobody feared Ben Gunn, and that we don't fear the Kaiser any more than Ben Gunn was feared—or was not feared—or let's put it this way, that the Kaiser is no more fearsome than Ben Gunn was; but heaven help us, we had all the lexicographers of the office worked up over that sentence in an effort to make it terse and grammatical. Here were some of the efforts:

Nobody fears Wilhelm now any more than the mineuters feared Ben Gunn. Wilhelm is now not feared equally as the mineuters didn't fear Ben Gunn. Nobody fears Wilhelm any more than the mineuters didn't fear Ben Gunn. The fear that nobody felt for Ben Gunn is equivalent to the fear that nobody feels for the Kaiser.

The fear that everybody felt was lacking as far as Ben Gunn was concerned is similar to the fear that nobody feels for the Kaiser.

When there is actual work to be done, a benevolent despotism has its points. We can't imagine a Committee of Workmen and Soldiers editing a newspaper column and getting it done on time.

WHAT A CONGRESSMAN SEES

Semi-weekly Letter Touching on the Washington Doings of Personalities Familiar to Philadelphians

By J. Hampton Moore

Washington, Nov. 16. AN INKING of the President's desire for a Democratic Congress may be discerned in the haste with which certain of the "war boards" are beginning to bid for a continued lease of life.

These temporary agencies which Congress sanctioned for war purposes made permanent. It is well known that such war boards as the food administration under Mr. Hoover and the fuel administration under Dr. Garfield were to run only for the period of the war, but they have taken on thousands of employees, as have the war trade board under Vance McCormick, and the alien property bureau under A. Mitchell Palmer.

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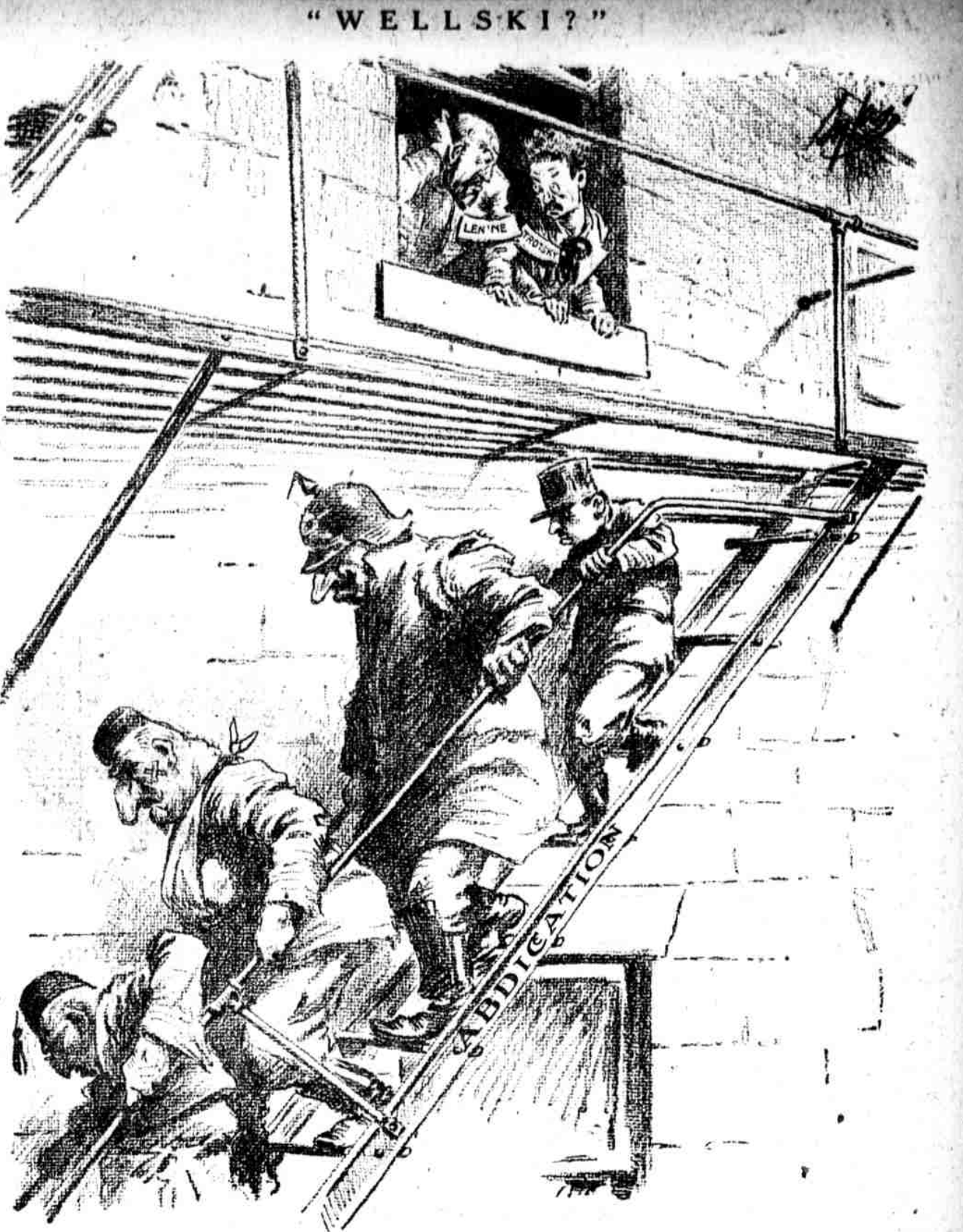
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To a Baby Reaching for the Smoke

YOUR gray eyes dance with ecstasy, A cooling chuckle lifts and curls, And rose-soft fingers laughingly Grope as the slow smoke coils and curls.

Out of my pipe, A spiral mist You reach and close on, gay with hope That in your tiny, tight-locked fist It will stay captive. ••• Still you grope, And still it slips, dissolves, eludes, To feathery nothingness—and a new Pillar of grayness slowly broods Up from the pipe's bowl, teasing you.

If once those rose-soft fingers turn And find a solid goal, they grin Only the rolling pipe, to burn With reddening memories of pain. ••• Endlessly so we strain and grope To reach some coiling, curling wreath That circles near—dissolving hope, Elusive truth or slipping faith.

And if too eagerly we yearn, To touch the soul of things that are, We find the touch will soil and burn, And that its memory is a s. s. —Clement Wood, in Life.

What Do You Know?

- QUIZ
1. Who is Peter Trevelyan?
2. Of what party is Arthur Henderson, the British statesman, one of the principal leaders?
3. To what house does Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands belong?
4. In whose presidential administration was the White House in Washington burned?
5. What is an echelon?
6. What Greek god was equivalent to the Roman Mars?
7. How many moons has the planet Saturn?
8. What are deciduous trees?
9. What is the tallest of all grasses?
10. What English king was largely responsible for the establishment of the Anglo-French entente.