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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 clearing.

Bids for cleaning the streets next year are to be opened on Tuesday. It was discovered late this week that the specifications on which bids are asked had been radically changed. Instead of requiring a fixed number of men and a fixed number of wagons and sweepers to be used in each district, these matters are to be left to the discretion of the bidder who gets the contract. Then, too, the number of square yards of payement to be cleaned every day is reduced and other changes have been made.

The immediate demand of the Chamber of Commerce that the meaning of the changes be publicly explained is wholesome. Members of that body are leading business men of the community. If they decide that the government in the City Hall must be efficient and if they take steps to put their decision into effect, there is hope for the future. The present unsatisfactory conditions have prevailed because of the indifference of those whose influence is powerful enough to bring about their improve-

The first thing to be done is to find out what the new street cleaning specifications mean. Mayor Smith, Director Datesman and Chief Hicks should be present Monday to explain. We await the outcome with some curiosity.

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

# A VETERAN OF THE SEAS

TNVESTIGATION of a brief disputch from far away Chile reveals the censoling truth that the construction of staunch and splendid ships along the Delaware is no mere experimental novelty. A fire on November 13 in the nitrate port of Iquique spread to the vessels in the harbor and the steamer Pennsylvania was burned to the water's edge.

Time was when the Pennsylvania was one of the crack liners of a transatiantic fleet flying the American flag. Her sisters were the Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, all fullt in Philadelphia in 1874. For years they plied with clockwork regularity between this port and Liverpool.

Ship styles changed and the famous "state" quartet drifted Into other services. Some of them saw Spanish war service as transports. Outmoded in many ways they were, but indestructible to a degree which the annals of few vessels can parallel,

Unique longevity laurels fell to the Pennsylvania. At the age of forty-five she ceases to exist, not because of perils of the deep, but on account of a catastrophe on shore.

There is a stirring ocean epic, material for a Conrad or a McFee in the career of the doughty and venerable Pennsylvania. There is inspiration too, for our vast construction operations of the moment. Not only can Philadelphia make stout ships today, but she always could. The faculty is part of the city's industrial personality.

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

GIBBS'S LAST WAR MESSAGE P. WAR has come to an end, so also must war correspondents. There is a moving polgnance in the closing words of Philip Gibbs's dispatch which we published the other day.

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

We can rejoice with Mr. Gibbs that his eart-rending task of writing about war 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 man fibers to their highest honor, were nes full of bitterness and horror that mb the soul with weariness and anguish, purhout the terrible course of the war bile dispatches have been marked by the note of compassion, of gentleness, of hupun sympathy and discernment into the ken hearts of men. We, and we also we our readers, are glad that he is Brylamen as a peace corre pendent durshining days of "complete restitufull reparation and effectual guaranand that the pencil which played so allant a part in the burden an! heat will ave its share in the amazing drama of nate retribution that now holds

self and to the profession

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

ATTHE 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 terribly as German militarism ever did. Omens of unrest are everywhere in Europe. Even in the nations that have been victorious there is a disposition to scrutinize and question the motives of Governments. Pain has made the peoples acutely sensitive.

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 inev

It is idle 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. to reveal the inspiration of their earlier policies and to justify the political principles that have kept nations in arms against each other for centuries, and above all to give practical assurances of their ability to set up a sort of system that will make new wars impossible.

TLOYD GEORGE when he said in LParis 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. He knew that the peoples of Europe are sick of hating each other and that they are seeking now to uncover and destroy the agencies that made their unnatural enmity unavoidable. He knew, too, that it is not the fate of nations that is in the balance now, but the fate of the existing order all over the continent. He wants pence not only in the field but in the minds of the people. He knows that hunger and disorder cannot help to that sort of peace.

In the Netherlands, immediately the former Kaiser of Germany had settled himself comfortably after his flight, there was a new restiveness among the radicals. The ominous "soldiers and workmen's council" appeared in the news from the Netherlands. Here was a vivid suggestion of the force of the popular resentment sure to be visited upon any one or any group that seems hereafter to be associated with the powers of cvil in government.

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. So it must be in lesser ways with any of those who are known to have brought the war about and any others who may be suspected of a willingness to foment new national hatreds and rivalries in the future.

To statesmen at the coming peace conference will fall the task of answering and convincing the doubting, the passionate, the disillusioned and the rebellious in the various countries that have endured the suffering of the worst of all wars. The time is one of self-questioning in every European government. Fortunately for mankind, the American policy has been directed from the beginning with an almost prophetic insight. The overwrought masses of Europe can fling no accusing questions at us. Our motives were clearly expressed. They are clearly understood. Our great service was not only in the field. We have done something even greater by demonstrating the validity of the theory of free government in proving its unselfishness and its idealism. For that reason alone American influence at the peace conference will be as great an aid to harassed European statesmen as our armies were to the fighting men who preceded them in France.

Mr. Wilson may surprise the country by going to Europe to attend the sessions of the conference. It is not difficult to understand why the heads of Allied Governments are eager to have him do so. The President of the United States sitting at the peace table might be expected to exercise a steadying influence on the opinion of all Europe. He would be an answer to the radicals who insist that none of the Governments which participated in the conditions leading up to the war can be wholly

How would you like a peace commission composed of Secretary Lansing, Colonel House, Elihu Root and Supreme Court Jusice Brandels? They are suggesting these men in Washington in order to learn what is thought of them elsewhere.

# 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 the established social order. They fear the Labor party, which has a program for social and industrial reconstruction that is frankly socialistic. If the believers in the established order fight each other there is a possibility that the Labor party may carry Parliament and that Arthur Hender-

son or some other radical will be Premier. 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. No one knows just how the eight million women who have been enfranchised will vote. The uncertainty

is bound to hold the two old parties to-

Lloyd George is a skillful politician and he has already begun to bid for the Labor ote by laying down a program of social and industrial reform which he hopes will keep the Liberal voters in line. The Conservatives will not desert to the Radicals and can be counted on by the coalition

Will there be a pleasant villa and a fe of case awaiting Leon Trotsky when he flees

#### SQUEALERS!

Title reported changes in the German ial. Yellow streaks still sear the nev standard as they did the old. They are glaringly evident in the repeated and characteristically treacherous attempts to may the effective execution of the armistice

Adminal Hipper chief of the high sens force, has the impudence to seek a discussion of a solemnly negotiated agreement citie British Admiralty representatives: Subversive, however, as this brazen proect is of honorable regard for the spirit of a scaled pledge, it pales before the man cating moral obliquity of the messages addressed to Mrs. Woodrow Wilson and lane Addams respectively by mambers or the National Council of the Women of Germans

For sonivering underland gall, these wedons emisties would be hard to beat. With palpable crocodile tearfulness they plend or the rejention by Germany of her rad vay rolling stock as a means of saving the and from starvation.

Insidious Hun propaganda, of which a ivilization has had a sickening surfeit for more than four years, is here at work again. Fortunately the purport of these craven laments is not in the least diusery They were designed to multify one of the most important terms of the armisticethe surrender of a specified quantity of allway equipment, nearly all of which was

At the mere concept of jeturning stoles oods the Hard instinctively squeaks. It the past when his aircraft were slaving choolchildren and his submarines were murdering innocent travelers on the bigo seas, he bawled and blustered simultane onsiv in his efforts to wriggle out of the blockade eventually so powerful an agenof his deserved humiliation. Physically disrmed today, he invokes his sole remaining weapon-sentimental twaddle. Fully aware that contemporaneously with his surrender an inevitable wave of human sympathy for the fallen swent over his foes, he has been prompt to seek its utmost capitalization.

This mitiful plot will fail, of course. The sane world devoutly hopes that Germans will some day be an honeste a civilizing and a sincerely freedom-loving nation of group of nations. With this end in view no spirit of wanton vindictiveness was permitted to mar the armistice. Few docu ments so just were ever framed by victors The magnanimity of the present plan to feed a sin-stained fee is without precedent In the face of these facts the letters of Gertrude Bacumer, Alice Salamon and Anita Augsburg are incomparably dis

gusting. The red flag of a Kalserless realm must be purged of yellow before rational humanity can respect it.

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

Although the words of with which national anthem the Belgians marched into their home country, were written by Jennecal, a comedian, the Huns fall to see any joke in that performance.

Judging by the pre-Strikes, Aplenty, tests in Germany over the armistice terms. Too! that country is having her base barel season in November, and she's not enjoying it, in the least

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

Tut, Tut!

The fact that Warsaw

really saw a lot of

One tiling fell faster than the Kasser,

That was stock in the Krupp corporation. And in the end the route only lay from Berlin to Bentinek.

The theory of the Bolsheviki is simple ough. They hold, in effect, that every individual should declare himself a republic

Governor-elect Sproul seems to be disnosed to decide for himself with whom and when he will discuss the policy of his admin-

Relatively speaking, war is short and marriage long. Some near-draftees who rushed to the altar have now a chance to analyze that reflection. it seems to have been a case of "skip-

has requested an abandonment of the P. R. ".'s conservation scheme, After all, why doesn't the ex-Kaiser etire to his palatial villa on Corfu? The

stop and a bump," now that Coroner Knight

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

All those bombing planes that have been left over from the war might be sent out to drop their terrible explosives on the chaps who borrow your matches and forget to return them.

ever done anything to help with the job.

So much of the war was fought over bridgeheads that the prospect of harmony in Philadelphia concerning the terminus of the waterless route to Camden seems far from

# HIDE AND SEEK

The Kaiser's Lease

# This Agreement Witnesseth

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

The rest sgreed upon by the two conracting parties is to be paid daily in ad-

The lesser is to pay all bills for gas conumed on these premises, is to provide is own hot water save in so far as same s provided for him by the United States and Governments associated therewith. The essee agrees that he will not assign this lease nor underlet said premises or use or ccupy the same other than as a private dwelling for the cultivation of remorse, enscience and solitary Cocoding.

The losse agrees that during the term of his occupancy he will keep said premses in good condition, order and repair; will remove therefrom or cause to be renoved any and all ashes, rubbish, crown cinces, members of the Great General Staff and other refuse, and at the termination if said term will deliver up the said premers in as good condition, order and repair as the same now are, the unavoidable dis care and unhallowed association of his enamey excepted. The leasee or his heirs shall be held responsible for any damage me to the premises by sniping, bombs, air raids and rottenegg barrage directed guinst the lessee.

And it is further agreed, that if the rent hall at any time be in arrears and unrand, or if the lessee should not well and truly perform any of the covenants herein ontained, or if the associated patients would to' a n fancy to the lessee's comsany and desire his presence at any legal proceedings, then this lease shall cease and absolutely determine, and the lessor may obtain an amicable action in electment to which the lessee may oppose no appeal or stay of execution. In such case the lessor may recover possession of the demised premises and the associated naions shall have possession of the demised

It is expressly agreed that the buria plot on said premises is only to be used for emergency interments such as may be ontemplated by the lessee or on his behalf by the associated 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 sitution? What Schweinerei !"-The Kaiser to 'ount Bentinck.

"What piggishness! Ungraceful swine These German folk," the Raiser criesof Hindenburg would hold the Rhine I'd whip them back into their sties." My boy" (Count Bentinck makes reply),

### Education

The sty they hate is dynasty."

When upon metaphysics I took my first My tools none too trenchant, my brain none too ririe.

To solve but a footnote of Hegel or Kant Exhausted the fillee of a corpulent pipe, Addressing ny spirit, in subsequent years

To depith the redomentade of kultur managed to cut with my nicotine shears Comprehension to square with a onestogie cure.

Today there's an access of huminous To my brain as the boches, fondly fatuous, stuff The world with new gospels of peace!-

To understand that but one cigarette

STANLEY K. WILSON. When listening to political oratory, don't take too much for granted. You can take some of it for ranted.

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 locsn't reach Lenine and Trotzky 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 mmanageable instrument. The other day we tried to say something about Stevenon's mutineers in Treasure Island. This s the first way the sentence shaped itself: Nobody fears Wilhelm now any more than they did Ben Gunn on Treasure Island.

Terrible 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 beaven 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 mutineers feared Ben Gunn, Wilhelm is now not feared equally as the mutineers didn't fear Ben Gunn.

Nobody fears Wilhelm any more than the mutineers 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 lack-

ing as far as Ben Gunn was concerned in similar to the fear that nobody feels for the Kaiser. What would you have done?

When there is actual work to be done, 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. SOCRATES.

"WELLSKI?"



# WHAT A CONGRESSMAN SEES

Semiweekly Letter Touching on the Washington Doings of Personalities Familiar to Philadelphians

By J. Hampton Moore

Washington, Nov. 16. N INKLING of the President's desire. A for a Democratic Congress may be discerned in the haste with which certain | helped to defeat John W. Weeks for reof the "war boards" are beginning to bid for a continued lease of life. A few days | that he mourned over the downfall of his ago it was announced by Chahrman Baruch, of the war industries board, the biggest of the bunch, that the President had created a special committee to bring about distinguished career in the House, at the "adjustments from a war to a peace basis," | close of which he desired to go to the and the impression has grown that this is the first step toward having some of these temporary agencies which Congress sanctioned for war purposes made permanent. It is well known that such war boards as the food administration ender 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 employes, as have the war trade board under Vance McCormick, and the alien property bureau under A. Mitchell Palmer. What is to become of this great army of civilian officeholders most of whom came from Democratic States? When an additional \$7,500,000 to pay salaries in the war risk bureau was asked for before the election, Representa tive Madden, of Chicago, a Republican made the declaration that the 14,000 employes of the bureau were tumbling over themselves and hindering the efficiency of the allotment distribution. He declared that 3000 clerks properly organized and made to do the work they were paid for would be an improvement upon the pres-

ent system. It is clear that Congress will have to continue some of the President's special boards for a while after the war, but it is now a reasonable expectation that Republican members will want to know whether it is necessary to spend as much money as has been demanded in lump sum appropriations heretofore to keep up the extensive personnel that has crowded Washing ton during the war and made the living accommodations here intolerable.

 $R^{ ext{ECENT}}$  utterances of the shipping board officials may likewise be taken in the light of a warning about the future of these extraordinary governmental functionaries. Messrs. Hurley, Schwab, Piez and Coonley have all been anticipating what may come with the close of the war. The shipbuilding that has been done has been done with the people's money. Congress has been generous in the extreme in advancing the vast sums demanded for shipbuilding and other construction, and the question now is, How long will the treasury be permitted to continue this kind of financing? Congress, facing the necessity for increased taxes-the \$8,000,000,000 provided for in the pending revenue bill remains to be collected-and additional loans which must be raised before the end of June, 1919-will undoubtedly be freer now to scrutinize the estimates and impose a limitation upon expenditures than here tofore. The indications all point to a perlod of governmental retrenchment-not a curtailment of cash necessary for the essential work of readjustment, but a lessening of bureaucratic power.

SEVERAL ex-Pennsylvanians figured in the recent elections, one of them Sam-

1 uel W. McCall, Governor of Massachusetts, who was born in East Providence. While it is not stated that he openly election to the Senate, it cannot be said old rival. McCall, who was an intimate personal friend of the late Congressman Olmsted, of Harrisburg, had a long and Senate, but in this he was outwitted by Weeks. Following this the two men again countered in a struggle for control of the Massachusetts delegation to the last presidential convention, and again Weeks won. The defeated Senator was one of the strong men on the Republican side of the chamber. He is a banker, although he started out as a midshipman at Annapolis, where he was a "buddy" of Harry E. Wilson, the Camden boy, who is now vice admiral of the American naval forces in

THE new Governor of Arkansas, Charles H. Brough, was in Washington a short time ago and took pleasure in making it known that he was of Pennsylvania origin. Brough is a Democrat, of course, who obtained a footbold in Arkansas as an educator. Another Pennsylvanian who figured in the elections but not so sucessfully as Brough was William B. Walton, an Altoona boy, who atended chool in South Jersey and eventually landed in Congress from New Mexico, In n effort to defeat Albert B. Fall, a Republican Senator, who attacked the Wilson administration on its Mexican policy, Walton was trotted out as a candidate for the Senate. The President wrote a letter attacking Fall, but as in the case of Baird of New Jersey and Newberry of Michigan, the White House aim missed

THE defeat of Senator Saulsbury, of Delaware, and of Representative Polk, of the same State, removes two stanch supporters of the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal project. By reason of his position as president pro tem, of the Senate, Senator Saulsbury gave material aid to the movement. It was in answer to a resolution offered by him that Secretary Redfield, of the Department of Commerce, made his recent gratifying report upon the entire intracoastal plan. The condemnation proceedings, essential to the taking over or the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal, which are now held up in the office of the Federal District Attorney, Mr. Curley, at Wilmington, were also helped along by the Senator. As a rule the Delaware representatives in Congress, whether Democratic or Republican, have been strong supporters of waterways improvements. Senator Anthony Higgins was very active in his day, but it was difficult then to make an impression upon Congress.

ALFRED EDGAR FREEMAN, lawyer, scion of the Philadelphia family which made the auction business a specialty for nearly a century, has been making some interesting discoveries about the food administration and sugar. The manner in alled, to the apparent delight of hotels and

restaurants, is no new topic in well-regulated families that have accustomed themselves to the abstinence habit. Rumors that there is plenty of sugar and that the restrictive orders of the food administration have been overdone have been floating about for some time. But we can leave that to the Franklin Refinery people, to the Mc-Cahans and to George H. Earle, who know the sugar business. What Edgar Freeman discovers is that the food administrator, by cutting down sugar for preserving, has dealt the cranberry industry a severe if not disastrous blow. The Freemans are interested in several bogs in Ocean County, New Jersey, but the sugar situation, it is said, is having a bad effect upon the cranberry market in other parts of New Jersey as well as in Massachusetts and Michigan.

### To a Baby Reaching for the Smoke

VOUR gray eyes dance with ecstasy, A cooing chuckle lifts and puris, And rose-soft fingers laughingly Grope as the slow smoke coils and curis

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 nothingners-and a new Pillar of grayness slowly broads Up from the pipe's bowl, teasing you.

If once those rose-soft fingers turn And find a solid goal, they gain Only the soiling pipe, to burn With reddening memories of pain. . . .

Endlessly so we strain and grope To reach some coiling, curling wraith-That circles near-dissolving hope, Elusive truth or slipping faith.

And if too eagerly we yearr. To touch the soul of things shat are, We find the touch will soil and burn, And that its memory i -a s :r. -Clement Wood, in Life.

# What Do You Know?

 Who is Peter Troelstra?
 Of what party is Arthur Henderson, the British statesman, one of the principal leaders? 3. To what house does Oucen Withelmina of the

4. In whose presidential administration was the White House in Washington burned? 5. What is an echelon?

What Greek god was equivalent to the Roman Bacchus?

7. How many moons has the planet Saturn?

What are deciduous trees? What is the tallest of all grasses?

What English king was largely responsible for the establishment of the Anglo-French entente.

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz 1. Wilhelm Dittman is the German minister in charge of devicebilization.

2. The term of the presidency of France is seven The Napalconic wars hasted from 1794 to 1815. The several years' prelude of the French revolutionary wars, before the remiss of Napaleon was sirkingly manifested, is, however, sometimes regarded as mart of the same general period of European strife.

ranton is the third largest city in Pennsyl-5. Oliver Wendell Holmes wrote the novel. "Elsle Venner."

6. The crbits of the planets Mercury and Venus are nearer to the sun than the crbit of the carth. 7. The straits of Hab-el-Mandeb connect the Red Sea with the waters of the Indian Scean.