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Philadelphia, Friday, December 6, 1918

THE RIGHT MAN

TT WOULD have been difficult for the President to have found in his party a successor to Secretary McAdoo in the Treasury Department who would have been more satisfactory to the country than

He was chairman of the House Committee on Banking and Currency under whose direction the Federal Reserve act was passed. He made a careful study of banking legislation in this country and abroad in preparation for leading the fight in the House for the passage of the bill, and he was wise enough to take the Aldrich plan. the result of the work of a commission of experts, as the basis for the bill which his committee reported. As a result we have a Federal Reserve Bank law which is the product of the thinking of Republicans and Democrats and is neither a Democratic nor a Republican statute, but an American

The new Secretary of the Treasury is expected to be as broad-minded in his administration of the affairs of his department and to deal on their merits with the questions which come before him. His promotion is in accordance with the best principles of government, which require that as men qualify themselves for service they shall be utilized where they can apply their knowledge and experience to the best advantage.

Somebody ought to stage a peace conference in the Senate.

MR. TAFT AND MR. WILSON

ON EVERY occasion when it begins to appear that a rabid partisanship may blind us to the overwhelming importance of the questions with which we must deal in Europe something happens to prove that we are never without the resources necessary to mental poise in a crists.

Such was the lengthy editorial written by Mr. Taft in yesterday's Public Ledger upon the topic of the President's European trip. Here was a wise, passionless and infinitely fair analysis prepared to support Mr. Wilson and to strengthen his hands. Thus, after all the partisan clamor of disapproval that filled the air, it remained for ne man who had the best reasons for feeling badly used to be most just and most friendly in his estimate of the President's motives.

Unquestionably Mr. Taft should have cone abroad with the peace commission. He gave the first prestige to the plan for a league of nations. He is thoroughly informed in relation to every issue involved in the European tangle at this moment. Yet, left behind and denied the opportunity to serve the country as he might have served it, he is not to be swayed from the service of truth.

It is no wonder that Mr. Taft is liked and admired. He is one of the few men in either party whose prestige is sure to increase steadily in the stormy times immediately ahead.

The sugar bowl is back on the restaurant table and this, to most people, is a surer sign of peace than the surrender of the German

TRUTH FOR THE P. R. T. WHERE is the gifted and courageous

man who will volunteer to do for the P. R. T. the service which that astute corporation yearns so earnestly to perform for the public and enable it to "know the truth"?

The necessary talent does not seem to be available on Mr. Mitten's expensive "publicity" staff. There is something strange in the situation of the P. R. T. Even in its hours of bitterness and pain It is an inspiration to flippancy. Few people ever try to be fair with the trolley company. It has made cynics of us. Men tion it and people laugh-or swear. They have wearled of being serious. They found it got them nowhere.

Who will be the first to break the awful news to the P. R. T. and tell it that this is its own fault?

The Transit Company is in a position with relation to the public at large which gives it enormous advantages for selfdvertising. It touches intimately the lives of hundreds of thousands every day. It can please or embitter them and range public opinion on its side or against it. And, brilliantly, unfailingly, it always

seems to make the worst of its oppor-

Did Mr. Mitten ever ride on one of his Walnut street trolleys in the rush hours? We may presume that he did not or he would never have tried to lure the good will of the city with pretty words. It is not too much to say that the conditions on the Walnut street cars about 5 o'clock In the evening these days are indecent. rybody has to wait in the cold. In the end everybody is jammed and crowded ried and humiliated, pawed and tramed. The cars creep or stop altogether. It might be assumed that the P. R. T. idn't help the situation if cross-town

lines were not nicely adjusted to connect with the West Philadelphia routes from the center of the city; if, while Walnut street is a seething mass of angry people packed in trolleys, Spruce and Pine and Sansom and Filbert and Arch streets, almost deserted, did not seem to offer clear, quick, comfortable avenues to home and dinner. Why the P. R. T. does not use these streets and the connecting lines in the rush hour no one knows. Presumably the Department of City Transit doesn't know. Some one ought to stir up the Department of City Transit, since Christmas is coming and the situation is getting

If the Department of City Transit hasn't the authority to reroute the trolleys, it might apply to the next regislature for that authority.

Meanwhile, before Mr. Mitten spends much more money to have us "Know the Truth" it n.'ght be advisable for him to spend a nickel in the rush hours and learn a little of it for himself.

OUR VITAL SHARE IN THE TRIUMPH OF FREEDOM

Superb and Decisive Accomplishment o the American Army Revealed in Gen. Pershing's Soldierly Report

"We had cut the enemy's main line of communications and nothing but surrender or an armistice could save his army from complete disaster."

LIVER since Sedan was reached many Americans have entertained the impression that the drive beyond the Argonne warranted such an appraisement. General Pershing now stamps it with unchallengeable authenticity, for his comprehensive report on our operations in France is scupulously sparing of

It is not magnitude of language but of facts which gives this document its distinction in military history. Grant and Caesar were terse in victory, but each had undergone chastening experiences, the American commander at Cold Harbor, the Roman at the hands of Vercingetorix. General Pershing's chronicle is one of uninterrupted triumph. With unprecedented incentives to exult in a record of glory, he waives emotional outbursts in favor of the readers of his wondrous tale.

His categorical verdict on the major American offensive becomes, therefore, packed with meaning even for those of his compatriots to whom boasting is repugnant. It is the simple truth that the irresistible movement of our army north of Verdun was one of the prime factors in ending the war.

For the forty-three days of terrific fighting in this offensive the colossal military and industrial energies organized by the United States at home and abroad through eighteen months served as preparation. Oddly enough, speed was gained through adversity as well as through the efficient execution of long premeditated plans.

When Ludendorff struck on the Somme on March 21, 1918, the American troops placed at Marshal Foch's disposal, numbered only 343,000. The crisis necessitated the unparalleled dispatch of vast hosts of fighting men overseas with the greatest possible celerity. Britain reorganized her shipping facilities to such an Shaw as the inexhaustible critic who extent that fully one-half of our troops have crossed the Atlantic under the Union Jack. The French Government

made up the deficiencies in our ordnance. General Pershing states this fact in gratitude, but without invidious reflections on our home production. "All credit," he declares, "is due to our own manufacturers for the efforts to meet our requirements, as at the time the armistice was signed we were able to look forward to a supply of virtually all our necessities from our own factories." Acceptance of the French offer unquestionably released much valuable cargo space in a grueling emergency and permitted the employment of equipped American troops to help stay the ad-

vance on Paris. At this crisis plans for the movement of our army as a unit were temporarily set aside. Preliminary to all else was the destruction of the Hun driving power. The local action at Cantigny proved a superb index of American dash and on a greater scale it was again heroically exemplified at Chateau-Thierry and in the elimination of the Marne pocket.

By the end of August the whole aspect of the war had gloriously changed and it was possible for the American army as an entity to take up a campaign of prime importance in the execution of the grand strategic offensive. This was the drive to the German lines of communication along the Meuse,

An essential prefatory move was the wiping out of the St. Mihiel salient. This was briskly accomplished on September 12 and 13 in one of the most elaborately prepared and incisively cleancut actions of the war. The American First Army, under Pershing's personal command, here appeared for the first time as an active combatant unit. About 600,000 troops were engaged, and so rapidly had the American troops increased in numbers that the supreme test was at hand.

On September 26 virtually all the trained American forces in France, save those engaged in brilliantly aiding the advance in Flanders and the Artois, began the stupendous battle comparable in difficulty with the Franco-British attack on the Hindenburg line. Many of the troops engaged had not completed the originally specified period of training in quiet sectors, but General Pershing points to no inferiority of their efficiency

or valor. The whole army faced a problem whose

solution, according to strategists, triumphantly proved right, would decisively crush the German power. Some of its value was, of course, dependent on the success then obviously assured of the heroic French and British efforts to the north. But at any time the destruction of the Kriemhild line, the passage through the difficult Argonne and the possession of the railway along the Meuse would have been an appalling

blow to Germany. With Marshal Foch's victories magnificently co-ordinated, the stroke was conclusive. When the armistice was signed the two great armies under Bullard and Liggett, respectively, had in considerably less than two months swept forward against the flower of the German army and against its most powerful artillery a distance of twenty-five miles through natural positions of great strength and often amid weather wholly unfavorable to the conduct of an advance.

When operations ceased a third American army had been formed, more than 750,000 Americans had seen fighting and there were more than 2,000,000 men under our flag in France. Pride in the whole achievement has no relation to vanity nor need one be chary of it in considering the still vaster sacrifices made by our allies over a much longer period.

In the sober pages of General Pershing's report these facts are evident:

That the American army throughout the war never lost a battle. That from the time of its entrance it

went continuously forward. That it won a campaign which shared

only with one or two others the honor of decisiveness. These truths imperishably speak for

themselves in the soldierly commentary of the victorious American commanderin-chief. "Man," the boche pristograts used to

say, "begins with the baron." They neglected

to say that the progressive development was

THE POSSIBLE PLIGHT OF 'SHAW, M. P.' THE piquant spectacle of the Fabian turned Harry Hotspur is presented in East Middlesborough, England, where George Bernard Shaw seeks to renounce the security of a critic, unfettered by public office, in favor of the perils of candidacy. In a word, the world's champion long-distance writer of play prefaces is standing for Parliament

Whether signed copies of "The Revolutionist's Handbook" are distributed at the hustings is not stated, but consistently they should be, for his constituents of the Labor party are certainly entitled to acquaintance with his principles. Their disclosure in politics as freely as they have been in literary broadsides of dramatic tracts is what gives the quality of rashness to the irrepressible image-breaker's latest move.

Perversity, head-hitting verbal "Donnybrookery" at the barley water sessions of the Fabian society have long been an innocuous delight to a public which never mistook word for deeds. Incendiary lanin France, which General Pershing guage from a coterie whose very name spelled delay was deliciously paradoxical. Even more engaging were the Shavian volumes wherein witty cantankerousness on every conceivable theme was raised to the maximum of incisive expression. In all these manifestations, however, Mr.

spurned forthright action was safe. Today he is no longer inviolate. Where his code is contradictory it must fail in legislative halls. Where it is definite-and here is the bitter cup for the most aggressive of "modernists"-it is no longer novel, Anti-militarism, economic and industrial readjustment, radical free speech and universal suffrage are subjects of which Mr.

Shaw has no monopoly of indersement. He cannot startle Parliament with the "philosophy" of "Arms and the Man," for the practical application of it will very shortly be under serious consideration at the Paris conference.

In fact, Mr. Shaw's wings are not extraordinary for the excellent reason that the whole world is learning to fly If he falls back upon the policy of "I told you so." he will only be echoing the ex-Crown Prince of Germany. An iconoclast with comparatively little to smash needs indeed even more than the courage of a Percy for moral support.

Those who doubt the Quite True value of the services rendered by the administrators of the Government's emergency departments during our period in the warand there are a few persons who seem to believe that they were chiefly ornamentalmight gain enlightenment if Hoover should suddenly decide to join the resigners.

The earthquake just Seismie Intelligence reported from Atacama, Chile, seems to have had a dramatic feeling for "situation," since that province is one of those annexed after the war against Peru and Bolivia, echoes of which are still disturbing the international situation in South America.

The Berlin Govern ment, as we go to population is white with fear. And the former Kaiser is extremely blue. And yet, strange as it may seem, this doesn't mean that Germany is democratic.

The Allies are said Diplomatic Mysteries to be disposed to re- I wish I had a third arm, gard Herr Hohenzollern as a "pirate or slave trader" without rights of sanctuary in any country. Now, why shouldn't they have said pirate and Mr. Schwab is willing to co-operate with

Philadelphia in the development of the port if Philadelphia will co-operate with him. But how are we to do it when some of our port boomers persist in diverting to New York all the business over which they have any con-

It seems too bad the ex-Crown Prince didn't set up as an arm-chair war expert while hostilities were on. Judging by the latest interview with his ex-Highness his grasp of hindsight is something stupendous.

KNOW THE TRUTH

For a Birthday

AT TWO years old the world he sees Must seem expressly made to please! Such new-found words and games to try, Such sudden mirth, he knows not why, So many curlosities!

AS LIFE about him, by degrees
Discloses all its pageantries He watches with approval shy At two years old.

WITH wonders tired he takes his ease At dusk, upon his mother's knees: A little laugh, a little cry, Put toys to bed, then "seeny-bye"-The world is made of such as these

At two years old,

It is not to be assumed that it is sheer nobility of heart that prompts the tobaccontat to give away little paper folders of

A German paper says that the Kalser has fallen from the sublime to the ridicu-

We doubt whether he has fallen as far as that. He never reached the sublime.

We are still a little nervous when he see a sugar botcl on the table and have a sneaking fear that one of Mr. Hoover's agents may be lurking somewhere about. Perhaps it's a trick!

A friend of ours has recently been blessed with twins, but when we accused him of putting on heirs he was quite annoyed.

It has been suggested that a post-mortem be held on the Koiser's brain, to determine schat kind of mind he had, or didn't have, We submit that a post-mortem can only be held on something that once was alive.

Doctor Garfield, the fuel administrator, has resigned-and so is the public.

"What an idealistic city Philadelphia is! exclaimed a visitor from out of town when he arrived here and saw all the street cars adorned with the motto Know the Truth. "I don't believe," he continued, "that there's another town in the country that would seek to implant philosophy into the breasts of its citizens in so striking a

We didn't have the heart to put him

But it occurred to us that when the P. R. T. wearies of the present text it might try this one: Haste Makes Waste,

Sonnets From a Lodging House

Men lodgers are the best, the Mrs, said: They don't use my gas jets to fry sardines, They don't leave red-hot irons on the spread. They're out all morning, when a body

cleans. A man ain't so secretive, never cares What kind of private papers he leaves lay So I can get a line on his affairs

And done out whether he is likely pay. But women! Say, they surely get my bug! They stop their keyholes up with chewing gum,

Spill grease, and hide the damage with the rug. And fry marshmallows when their callers

come They always are behindhand with their rents-Take my advice and let your rooms to

gents!

"The former Emperor sits at that window," said an observer at Amerongen. "writing as though against time, hour after hour, sheet after sheet."

And also, we fear, writing against Truth, fib after fib.

We were much interested to note the other day that Mr. Hughes said in a speech that one must not assume that

big business is bad business. The most cathartic thinker of our time. George Bernard Shaw, has put the matter

excellently well: Trusts are most excellent things - as superior to competitive shopkeeperism as symphonies are to cornet solos; but they need more careful scoring and longer rehearsals and better conducting.

Make the World Safe for Smokers

CANNOT telephone comfortably Unless I am smoking

And usually, when the operator keeps me waiting. My pipe goes out.

trouser pocket;

Then what a problem! I transfer the receiver to my right hand While I excavate my matches from my left

Then, by a little legerdemain, I get out a match And shift the receiver back to my left

But how to light the match? I used to balance the box on my right ear And strike a light with my right hand,

But I singed my ear-drum: So now I insert the matchbox

Between my first and third waistcoat but tons (After unbuttoning the second button) And lean slanting against the wall So that the sparks will fall on the floor Instead of on my breeks. Just as I have got a light The operator connects me with my party And I have to unmouth my pipe in a hurry So I can answer. pross, is Red. The In my nervousness, I generally put The red-hot match in my ear, The lighted pipe in my pocket, And the receiver in my mouth. Just then I notice the telephone company'

> The voice with the smile wins! An arm of maneuver. SOCRATES.

little placard:

mans, anyway.

about to syndicate himself. But in that care the reliability of the "Hohenzollern Service" would be more than questionable. The news that the Allies have now th whole Turkish fleet" probably literally means that they have got the clusive Goeben.

which was only an Indian gift from the Ger-

hour after hour," Suggests that maybe he's

The reports of ex-Kaiser, "writing

The report from the George Washington that "the sea is calm" suggests that the President may admit the possibility of compensation in all situations.

PRESIDENTS AS DIPLOMATISTS

ALTHOUGH Mr. Wilson is the first American President to go abroad on a diplomatic mission during his term of office, and, so far as the easily accessible records indicate, the third man holding the office to go abroad after he had been elected, five of his predecessors served their country as minister in one or another of the European capitals before they became President.

GENERAL GRANT, as every one knows, made a tour of the world after he left the White House, and was welcomed and feted as the greatest military commander of his generation, measuring greatness by success. And Colonel Roosevelt, unique among Presidents, went to Africa to hunt big game in order to get relaxation after even arduous years in Washington. When he had got his fill of killing animals he returned home by way of the European capitals. He called on the Kaiser in Berlin and the Kalser ordered a review of his troops in the Colonel's honor. The Colonel, it will be recalled, told his host that if he had such an army he could conquer the world. And it will be recalled, also, that some years later the Kalser made the attempt to conquer the world, with the result that he is now in exile at Amerongen, awaiting with such calmness as he can muster the decision of the world as to his fate. The Colonel also visited Paris and London and made an address at Oxford University, received various honors and came home.

THOMAS JEFFERSON, James Monroe, ▲ John Quincy Adams, Martin Van Buren and James Buchanan served their country abroad for many years before they were elected to the presidency. They gained knowledge and experience which served them well when they entered the White

Jefferson represented the Confederation in Paris while the nation was being organized long before he was elected to the presidency. Washington had three ministers to Paris. The first was Gouverneur Morris. He was succeeded in 1784 by James Monroe, who remained in France for two years. Monroe was sent to Great Britain as our minister by Jefferson in 1803, where he served alone until he was joined by James Pinckney in 1806, and the two remained in London until 1811. John Quincy Adams was our first minister to Russia, sent there by Madison in 1809. He remained in St. Petersburg until he was transferred to London by Madison in 1815. He returned to America in 1817 after a residence abroad of eight years. Andrew Jackson sent abroad two men who later became President. The first was Martin Van Buren, who served as minister to Great Britain for about a year from 1831 to 1832, and the second was James Buchanan, who went to St. Petersburg in 1832 and came home in 1833. President Pierce, when looking for a man to represent the country in Great Britain, followed Jackson's example and sent Buchanan abroad once more. Buchanan remained in London about twice as long as he served in St. Petersburg.

Buchanan was the last man to become President who ever held a diplomatic post of any kind, if we except Mr. Taft. Mr. Taft was Governor of the Philippines before he was elected as Colonel Roosevelt's successor, and he entered into negotiations with the Vatican for the disposal of the friars' lands, stopping in Rome for the purpose on his way to his post. But this service hardly ranks with that of the men who were formally commissioned as the

envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to France, Great Britain or Russia.

Server De

KNOW THE TRUTH!

COST OF LIVING

THE reason for the nomination to diplomatic posts in the early days of the republic of men who later became President is to be found in the fact that we were governed for years by a close corporation, the members of which parceled out the offices among themselves. This may be an extreme way of stating the case, but it is approximately correct. The Presidents nowadays are nominated in conventions composed of delegates from all the States. Martin Van Buren was the Said she, "The work was right at hand: first President to be nominated wholly by the convention system. Washing on was the unanimous choice of the country and

he was elected without any formal nominanamed in Washington. None of the States suggested their favorite sons, but the men running the Government picked from among themselves the presidential candidates. There was a candidate of the Administration, selected after consultation among themselves by the men who controlled the Administration. The minority party in Congress got together and made an opposition nomination and chose a man more or less active in the national Government. Thus we find in the presidency, the vice presidency, the office of Secretary of State and in the diplomatic service a small group of names the holders of which one after another were promoted to the presidency. Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, John Quincy Adams, Martin Van Buren and Bu chanan each served as Secretary of State and each held diplomatic office. It was not until the election of Jackson that the hold on the political affairs of the country by the men who had been the leaders in creating the Government was broker and a new order was instituted. And when Jackson introduced the convention system in order to secure the nomination of Van Buren the hold of the Washington clique

on the political machinery co the country was broken. Since then we have elected Grant and Cleveland and Roosevelt and Wilson to the presidency when they had had no previous training in national affairs. In less than three years Cleveland was lifted from the office of Mayor of Buffalo into the White House, a thing which could not have happened in 1820, because then no one outside of Buffalo would have known anything about Cleveland and his campaign for municipal honesty and efficiency, It was necessary in the beginning to select for the presidency men whom those in Washington knew had some knowledge of the national affairs. And the work of forming the Government had developed a group of such men of great ability whom it was most natural to call upon for carrying out the work which they had begun.

MR. WILSON has reversed the old precedents by engaging in diplomatic work while he holds the office of President, instead of rising from a diplomatic post to the presidency. It is as near as he could come to restoring the earlier practices, which he began by going to Congress to deliver his annual address after the manner of Washington and John Adams.

When you recall the name of the shi the President sailed on it becomes necessary to admit that a great deal of the clamor in the Senate seems unjustified. Mr. Wilson is not far from Washington.

The President broke precedent by sailing for Europe, and the next day it snowed-in

Mrs. Santa Claus

MILL doubtless interest you to hear (I do not speak to grown-ups—No, sir! just to kids) that Christmas cheer Is actually coming closer! I know this is a fact because I've met dear Mrs. Santa Claus.

I hadn't seen her since 'way back (Before the war the world was shocking)
She used to fill her husband's pack
And pack him off to fill your stocking
With candy, fruit and alley taws—
"Fresh picked by Mrs. Santa Claus."

But I have heard from her-Oh, yes!-In Red Cross c'rculars and letters, The dear old soul in times of stress Was busy knitting socks and sweaters: Still hustling without let or pause,

And clearly it was providential, Since war had made us understand That Santa's work was nonessential By strict construction of the laws"-She smiled, did Mrs. Santa Claus. "Of course, our little girls and boys

Were not forgotten or neglected; And certain dolls and other toys Said kindly Mrs. Santa Claus. Despite her years, light were her feet,

And all her movements girly-whirly. She warbled as she crossed the street, "I'll do my Christmas shopping early " I'is so she'll win our loud applause. God bless dear Mrs. Santa Claus!

On the Return of a Book Lent to a Friend I give humble and hearty thanks for the safe return of this book, which, having endured the perils of my friend's bookcase, and the bookcase of my friend's friends, now returns to me in reasonably good condition. I give humble and hearty thanks that my friend did not see fit to give this book to his infant as a plaything, nor use it as an ash tray for his burning cigar, nor as a teething ring for his mastiff.

I was resigned to the bitterness of the long parting; I never thought to look upon its pages again.
But now that my book is come, back to me, I rejoice and am exceeding glad! hither the fatted morocco and let us rebind the volume and set it on the shelf of honor for this my book was lent, and is returned

When I lent this book I deemed it as lost:

Presently, therefore. I may return some of the books that I myself have borrowed.—Life.

The Transit Company seems to believe to

What Do You Know?

"signecures."

OUIZ, 1. Who designed the Statue of Liberty in New York harbor? 2. What steamship company formerly owned the George Washington, which is carrying the President to Europe?

3. What five States led in the number of men each respectively gave to the American army in the war?
4. What color is sometimes called raddle? 5. What is the meaning of the Latin phrase "sine die" and how is it applied?

6. What is barratry? What is the largest chy in Italy? Who was N. P. Willis? 9. What celebrated English admiral was known as "Old Grog." and why was he se called?

10. What American general led the forces which captured Aguinaldo, the Philippine revolutionist? Answers to Yesterday's Quiz Doctor Garfield resions as Federal fuel admin-istrator to resume his work as president of Williams College.

2. Greins Green is a village in Scotland, for-merly the scene of many runaway mar-riages. The volcano of Origaba, after which the vessel taking the American correspondents to Europe is named, is in Mexico.

Flotow wrote the opera of "Martha," 5. M. Calliaux is awaiting a treason trial in 6. George Washington was called the American Fubics on account of his premeditated and Fables on account of his premeditated and effective policy of delay.

7. Golconda: a place of treasure, in aliasion to rich diamond mines once worked there in India.

8. Kitt; Clive, nee Raftor, was a celebrated petress of Irish extraction. Her dates are 1711-1785.

9. "Grotitude is expensive" was written by Edward Gibbon in "The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire."