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Philadelphia, Tuesday, Decamber 17, 1918

SELF-DETERMINATION THAT DOESN'T GO

THE activities of Colone, Main are in distinct violation of the principle of self-determination. He holds no office under the city government, but he is busying himself with the neglected duties of the local authorities, who have been acting as if the city had an inalienable right to determine how vicious it was to be, Colonel Hatch thinks otherwise. If the city will not protect the soldiers and sailors from the wiles of the vicious he will do it him-

Fortunately for the men he is looking after, he has ample authority. And fortunately for the success of his undertaking, there are thousands of citizens who agree with him that the right to determine to be vicious and to contaminate others with viciousness is not one which should be protected under any theory of local autonomy.

Happily the smallness of the President's bed in Paris has no effect on the magnitude of his dreams.

INFLUENZA AGAIN

WHEN influenza first became prevalent hereabouts, the State Department of Health consistently recommended the isolation of patients and a systematic quarantine in regions where the disease was menacing. Self-willed if less intelligent local Boards of Health flouted this general order. Physicians who knew less about influenza than the State health authorities refused to help in the isolation of patients. Now there are some signs of a recurrence of the trouble. Doctors and Boards of Health, after

some painful experience, have decided that science was right.

We all come to that conclusion sooner or later.

Doctor Krusen's order providing for the isolation of patients with influenza will serve to prevent any general spread of the malady-if it is observed.

Do not trust to home remedies if you have what you believe to be a cold. Call a doctor. If you have symptoms of grip These are simple rules. But they will stamp out the remnants of the epidemic.

Let's all hope that the smile now on the faces of the children will not come off on Christmas morning.

MILITANT SUFFRAGISTS AT PLAY TN EUROPE the people applaud Mr. Wilson's speeches. They are folk who have greater reasons than any American sufragist to ache for freedom and to recognize It at a distance. In Washington the milltant representatives of the votes movement who used to get arrested for picketing the White House are organized, with flags and speeches, to burn publicly a conv of every address that the President delivers

This isn't encouraging.

Mr. Wilson's addresses are rather compelling arguments for the rights that the suffragists seek.

Somebody ought to tell the suffragists

generally that they are getting some extremely unfavorable advertising.

"We are not satisfied with peaceful evolution," say the militants. "We want comething faster that will arrange matters for us, first of all, and attend to the rest of creation later. The rest of creation can wait. We are the only important, opessed, aspiring folk in the world!"

And so a great many people who hope for equal suffrage will wish that the vote could be kept from such unwise women lest they abuse it as they do the privileges of free speech and liberty of

There's no doubt about Germany having white Christmas. She signed up for one at Sentis on November 11.

PENSIONS AS PART OF WAR COST ONE'S thoughts inevitably fly forward to 1971 as one reads the report of the on Commissioner, which announces hat 298,000 Civil War veterans are drawng pensions fifty-three years after the se of that war. Every soldier who srved for ninety days and was honorably

arged is entitled to a pension. A little ore than a quarter of a million soldier we survived the war by fifty-three years How many who have served in the presat war will be alive in 1971, or the same of years from its close? And how of them will be receiving pensions uries or inabilities that can be traced tly to their service, but for which no on has been made in the insurance

questions cannot be answered at but students of governmental

esting, for it calls attention to the fact that almost as many widows of veterans as veterans are receiving pensions, and that the number of pensioned veterans has fallen within ten years from nearly 750,000 to not quite 300,000. This number will decrease much more rapidly within the next ten years, but it is likely that they will not all have died by 1940, for a veteran of the War of 1812 survived till the close on the last century.

We have paid in pensions, or continuing var costs after peace was declared, more than the cost of all our wars up to the present one. The Civil War cost three billion, four hundred million dollars, and we have paid more than five billion dollars in pensions growing out of it and about three hundred million dollars in pensions for our other wars. As a commercial investment war does not pay.

MUST COERCIVE MILITARISM BE ESTABLISHED IN AMERICA?

Would General Crowder, Retaining the Selective Service, Borrow a Curse That Europe Is Trying to Escape?

T IS too early for any definite appraisal of future military needs in America. That general question, unfortunately, is altogether out of our hands. It will be settled for us in Europe. The answer must lie in the states of mind and the relative dispositions with which the nations of the world emerge from the Peace Conference.

But the world of mankind has been thinking of the recent bloody tumult as a war to end war-as a martyrdom that was worth while only because it was a preliminary to enduring peace. It is for this reason that a great many persons are sure to feel a vague disquiet in reading Provost Marshal General Crowder's forceful appeal for a continuation of the selective-service system in the United

There are two questions suggested by this revealing incident.

Is there, in the mind of a distinguished professional soldier, accustomed as it is to impact with harsh realities, disillusioned through the brute force of swift necessity, no room for the sort of faith that has carried President Wilson to Europe?

Must we believe that the men who make and train armies do not know how infinitely sick the world has become of enforced service under arms and have yet to realize the immensity of the forces which the mass consciousness of Europe has set in motion to dispose forever of the horrors of competitive armaments?

General Crowder is one of the ablest men in Washington. He has performed difficult services brilliantly. His praise of the selective-service system indicates a frank reconciliation to the possibility of future wars in which the volunteer system cannot be adequate because war nowadays has become not so much a matter of valor or personal courage as a process in which sci ntific knowledge, specialized study and technical equipment contribute accuracy in every detail of the colossal and intricate machinery of the modern army.

For this reason the selective service, a system devised to give the Government a complete record of the individual capabilities of every man of military age, was phenomenally efficient in the crisis of the last two years. But it is questionwhether, because of this, we should establish in America a practice which has embittered all of Europe, driven nations at one another's throats, agonized and impoverished a whole continent at regular intervals and ended, finally, in a condition approximating general chaos.

It is needless to say that enforced military service in America under whatever name would not involve a menace to other nations. It would not. But how could we convince other peoples of this? We would, by continuing the selective service, give to militariam a prestige which it never has had before in the United States.

No one can disagree with General Crowder upon the question of the system's efficiency and fairness to all classes of men involved. The Government would be empowered hereafter to call up a given number of men each year from their studies or their occupations for a course of systematic training. The army and the navy could be kept up to the required strength by an unfailing automatic process. We should have an endless reserve of trained men within a relatively short time-all of them schooled in one or another branch of the highly organized business of war. At any hour the War Department would know by turning to its files exactly how many electricians, plumbers, engineers, chemists or similarly trained men were available in the whole United States for an emergency. Doubtless it would retain a right to call as many as it wished if the need arose. There is no doubt of the efficiency of the system. But so far there at least can be doubt about the wisdom or the necessity of it.

Diplomatists of the past have grown more arrogant as the military force behind their policies increased. Governments, when they grow militarily strong, often forget caution. When a State conceives itself to be unbeatable it usually forgets morals. Germany would have been far safer without the colossal army upon which she founded so many appalling delusions.

Militarism organized from enforced service is almost certainly doomed in Europe. No one who has observed the trend of feeling and of events in England and on the continent doubts that it must go. If the statesmen who meet at Versailles cannot find a way to rid their peoples of the abomination, the people elves will sooner or later take the

their methods may be clumsy and un-

pleasant, their work will be complete. Four years of butchery by factory methods and twenty million dead men and cripples have inspired the plain people of Europe with a purpose from which they will not be shaken. Every statesman in Europe knows this and that is why the successful formation of a League of Nations ought to be possible. And that is why General Crowder's suggestion of a system of militarism in the United States, patterned, although modified to less rigor, after the system that is now almost sure to be eliminated in Europe, carries with it a suggestion of awful fantasy. Later it may be proved that General Crowder was justified in his point of view. But that seems hardly likely when statesmen like Lloyd George. driven by public opinion, are determined to make the universal elimination of enforced army service one of the central principles of the peace agreement.

In the United States we shall be pretty well armed for peace. We shall have the equipment for an army of 5,000,000. We shall have an unlimited number of trained officers and 3,000,000 men hardened in the field. Even if it becomes necessary that we maintain a large standing army, the exacting provisions and all the unhappy implications of the selective-service system need not be necessary. If young men must be systematically trained, it would be better if they might be entered in camps during two months of each summer. Thus, in three years, each would be given the period of intensive training now considered adequate for junior officers. The discipline of this sort of training might be universally beneficial. Were the embryo soldiers to begin training at nineteen and paid at a nominal rate fixed by Congress it would be possible to add 500,000 men annually to a fully trained reserve and we should not have to face a condition in which older men in great numbers would be called away for longer periods from their business, their studies and their familiar relationships in the years when these considerations become of the utmost importance to all

And we should not have to feel that we were living by a method that in the end helped to disorganize Europe before Europe sickened of it.

Almost simultaneously Mr. Wilson raises one glass to President Poincare and another to the head of the Treasury Department.

MR. WILSON IS APPEALING TO CAESAR WHEN the Roman citizen appealed to Caesar he took his case to the seat of highest authority.

Mr. Wilson, who is in Europe to do his utmost to make the world safe for democracy, made a most subtle "appeal to Caesar" in the course of his address at the Paris City Hall yesterday, the significance of which will not be overlooked by the men who will meet with him to discuss the preliminaries of the peace treaties. He said among other things:

You have interpreted with real insight the motives and resolution of the people of the United States. Whatever influence exercise, whatever authority I spea with, I derive from them. I know what they have thought. I know what they have desired, and when I have spoken what I know was in their minds it has been delightful to see how the conscience and purpose of freemen everywhere re-

If this means anything more than the desire of the President to say gracious things to his hosts, it means that he is giving notice to the statesmen of England and France and Italy that their masters, the people themselves, are back of the ideals which he has proclaimed and that they are as desirous as we in America that a peace should be made whose sole purpose shall be the establishment of justice among nations. If any one is seeking to "put something over," that person may well take warning from this address and consider well the force of the new spirit which America, speaking through Mr. Wilson, has evoked-a spirit that will not be de-

It Should Have Been rang up 'yesterday to l'minlikeaburgiar inform us that his travels and his experience with the linguistic traits of the Dutch taught him long ago the manner in which the name of William Hehenzollern's present abiding place should be pronounced The name of the unhappy village, we were told, rings, when it is properly spoken, with a mystic implications of the former Kalser's state of mind. Amerongen, when a Dutchman speaks of it, is said thus: "Ah'm a

An agreeable reader

A very, very clever stenographer whom we Criticism know complains that the boss is absent-minded and incoherent when he dictates, and that he mutters and mumbles his words. She would just love, she observes, to sign all his letters "Dictated but not said!

Who these days is W. Hohenzellern! not asking the help and the kindly officer of the President of the United States?

Carter Glass, who became Secretary of the Treasury yesterday, is the first Virginian to hold that office. Ohlo has had six secretaries, the last of whom was Charles Foster, who served under Benjamin Harrison; Penn sylvania has had seven, but none since William M. Meredith was put in the place by President Taylor. New York stands first with eight, beginning with Hamilton, under Washington, and ending with McAdoo, under

France is slowly becoming american zed. The telephone girls in Paris are exclaiming, "Pour l'amour de la Mique!" and the street gamins are singing "Hail! Hail! Gang's All Here," under the impression that it is the American national anthem And the good work has only just begun.

The empire bed in which Mr. Wilson ping in Paris is too short for him. The shole world, for that matter, is outgrowing THE CHAFFING DISH

MR. WILSON'S hat won't be much use to him on this trip.

Brief Essay on Immortality The National Institute of Arts and Leters, America's most unscalable Parnassus, has hoisted up to its snowy summits eleven new immortals. We are a far more generous nation than the French, who go through fasting and prayer before they admit a genius to the deathless "Academy." Here we go, making eleven men immortal at one blow, without even consulting pos

Of the eleven laureates, eight are literary men. Two of the appointments the Chaffing Dish is ready to ratify without churlish reserve, being those of Mr. James Gibbons Huneker, a Philadelphian; and Mr. Walter Prichard Eaton, whose essays on this page were always agreeable and pleasing. The others include Albert Bigelow Paine, best known as the biographer of Mark Twain; Edgar Lee Masters, who terrified us all by turning a cemetery inside out, and Stuart P. Sherman, an erudite and delightful professor from Illinois.

There are three more among the literary mmortals, but so little known to the public that we shall not puzzle you with their names. American efficiency has discovered the way to create imperishability with least overhead expense. A man's fame cannot die if it has not yet begun to live

Undoubtedly all the Kaiser's enthusiasm for Shakespeare was due to the fact that the bard dedicated his sonnets to "Mr.

Suggestions to Poets

We receive a great many poems sent in for the Dish by friends kind and dear, but just now almost all of them revolve upon a monotonous theme, viz., What is to be done to the First Citizen of Ameronger and the Werewolf of Wieringen? Inevitably they contain the following rhymes, Kaiser and wiser and Prince and winee. A good many of them suggest that the reign is over and the arraigning is about to begin

We firmly believe, however, that the Kaiser will meet some worse fate than merely having poems written about him. Therefore we suggest that our poets let their minds browse over a wider terrain. There are all sorts of subjects waiting for the aspiring muse. We suggest a few

On Doing up a Package of Laundry. Elegy (?) on the Death of a Newpaper Humorist.

Monody on the Death by Drowning of a Scandinavian Manufacturer of Impregnated Safety Matches. Poems Dictated but not Signed, On the Use and Abuse of Silk Hats.

Poems Written with a Toothpick. Sargasso from Saragossa. On Gazing at the Back Wall of an Apartment House.

On Winding up the Estate of a Minor Post On Clipping Liberty Bond Coupons. On Starting a New Check Book. On Observing a Telephone Muffled in Anti-

septic Gause. Sonnet to a Red-haired Taxi Driver. On Studying a Rotogravure Section of a

Sunday Paper. on Receiving an Envelope with a Transparent Loophole (you know, the kind that flourish about the second of the months in Ode on the Rapid Deterioration of Garter Elastic.

Poems on such bracing topics will be examined with care. They will spare us the effort of writing them ourselves.

Some unfeeling person in Life has written "Burial Service for a Newspaper Joke." If he knew the suffering and struggle e dured by the parents of such jokes, and the care and devotion with which they are nurtured through their tender years, he would have been less cruel. Is there no S. P.

Count Bentnick's castle is said to be protected by a considerable most and a number of bastions. Evidently Wilhelm seeks the benefit of the redoubt.

Only one more week to postpone writing those Christmas letters!

Count Bentinck Adds a Codicil to His Will

"-It having been agreed between Mr. Hohenzollern and myself that all royalties accruing from the sale of his autobiography are to be paid to my estate. I direct my heirs and assigns to use these moneys in erecting fortifications to keep away any future uninvited guests who may wish to

"It is my opinion that the revenues of Mr. Hohenzollern's work will be considerable, as fiction always sells well."

The question whether the German people are really hungry or not is now debated with considerable fervor. The mere fact that such a question is

deemed worth consideration shows that we are a humane nation. Philip Gibbs, a just and kind observer of uman sorrows, says the German children have not enough to eat. This must be remedied, for in the German children lies

one great hope of the human race. But it is also worth remembering, especially at this time of year, that there are many children of our own who are hungry. Bear this in mind the next time you take out your checkbook.

It is not hard to guess what Count Ben tinck's Christmas request to Santa Claus SOCRATES.

Every one has a heart, but there are few so poor that they have not a dollar. The latter are not expected to become mem hers of the Red Cross.

Now that the embargo on chewing gum has been lifted, the men in France who have missed it may soon have one more of the The Mayor seems to have carried self-

ietermination to a new point when he de-

sides in his own mind that the annexation of

Bristol and Chester to Philadelphia be a good thing.

PORTUGAL'S ROLE OF HONOR

The Tragic Loss of Her Esteemed President Commands Sympathy for a

Nation Where Crowns but Never Treaties Are Scrapped

ONCE again Portugal appears before the | Portuguese contingents also paid a tragic world in a role cruelly misrepresentative of her intrinsic worth, her aspirations and the potent influences which she has exerted on civilization. In the assasination of her estimable and scholarly President, Dr. Sidonia Paes, it is easy for the hastyminded to read an alarming commentary

on her national character. In the eight years of the republic four Presidents have held office, one of them twice, and none of them for the full convertised music hall star calls to mind the dethroned monarch, Manoel II, now a resident of England. His father, Carlos, and elder brother, Luiz Felipe, were slain in a bomb outrage. Ugly facts like these have naturally cast the impression that Portugal s a little nest of turbulent conspirators, a land as pestiferous as insignificant.

Evil needs no press agent. Record of it travels with untamable swiftness. Despite these deplorable instances of political restessness, stability and fidelity are cardinal

elements of Portuguese character. England has known this for centuries, accepted it almost as a matter of course, referred to it with comparative infrequency. -Rather contemptuous indifference to Portugal and her achievements has been the most prevalent attitude of other outsiders.

The Portuguese are an unboasting race, and hence misconception of their ideals and accomplishments has become chronic. At the risk of repeating facts which are perfectly assessable (though persistently ignored), it is part of fairness to restore proportion to the picture.

of TNSTABLE" Portugal can afford to look with righteous scorn on the 'scrap of paper" principle in international obligations. Since the fourteenth century she has kept inviolate treaty ties with England and at least twice in the midst of tremendous crises with which she and no direct concern. In 1385 five hundred English archers dispatched to "old John of Gaunt" assisted the Portuguese to win their independence from Spain in the overwhelming victory of Aljubarrota, now commemorated in the exquisite abbey of Batalha, one of the most precious architectural gems in all Europe. Gratitude for this assistance has profoudly affected the whole course of Portugal's history.

The alliance was often strengthened, never imperiled. It has been said that Portugal of late years has materially profited by British support and thereby reained her hold on vast African colonies. Indorsement of this view can be validly nade, but at the same time it is significent to note what Portugal did. In the two greatest armed struggles of history, with whose causes she was not originally involved-the Napoleonic wars and the late war conflict-her sense of treaty obligaion was paramount. The glory of Welington in the Peninsular campaign owes not a little to Portuguese fidelity, which permitted a base of operations to be main-

THEER loyalty dictated Portugal's part when she enlisted in the European strife in 1916. She has poured forth such treasure as she possessed and gal

price for their espousal of freedom and

R. S. V. P.

solemn treaty pledges. Americans are pleased to say that their purposes in the peace negotiations are un. selfish. But we do not play a role of striking prominence in the present drama. With no announcement of material rewards for her sincerity and valor, Portugal is mute. Lisbon has made no claim for any-

thing. It is indeed a generous people who have now so haplessly lost an admirable tional pilot. Charles II cannily realized this trait when he courted Catherine of Braganza and made her Queen of England. Portugal was weak then, but she was as ever lavish. In addition to a monetary dowry she turned over to Great Britain Tangler, a misprized gift productive of one of the most ignoble chapters in English history, and Bombay, now the choicest jewel of the whole British India empire.

NATION cherishing such unselfish A ideals of honor is assuredly worth conideration at an hour when her struggles or republican freedom are shadowed by a series of misfortunes. The democratic experiment in Portugal was bold indeed, for education had long languished in a land where a mild climate and a fertile soil make for docility, and where the poor are much more illiterate than wretched.

The Spaniards, in their lofty pride, are wont to regard the easy-going Portuguese as the "rubes" of the Peninsula. They have helped to spread the false impression that a nation which discovered the sea route to India, which can claim the dauntess rover Da Gama and the immortal poet Camoens and the ancestors of Velasquez which still holds nearly a million square miles of colonial empire in Africa and Asia, and whose language, the idiom of Brazil, is spoken by some 30,000,000 people, should shine by the reflected light of Castilian history in southwestern Europe.

Simple-minded country folk, many of the wine growers along the Tagus the Douro and the Mondego still are, and for that reason a certain amount of easily acquired political demagogy has smirched their ideals of self-determination.

But there were minds and forces in Portugal keen enough and brave enough to drap an obsolete monarchy in 1910, when new republic on the continent of Europe was truly a subject of scornful curjosity. It is profitable to recall this acuteness of her statesmen, most of them products, as was Doctor Paes, of the venerable Coimbra University, just now when new clouds seem to be gathering. A people with such grasp of world progress eight years ago hould have in the end some charge of going right under the new order whe most crowns are as worthless as that of the indolent Braganzas.

Postmaster General Burleson's colorfu romises in relation to future telephone service under a cut rate suggest again that talk is cheap—and that it may be even cheaper,

The best way to renew the imperile truce with the "flu" is to make the term of protection more drastic.

Ever since the Highland "kilties"

Little Studies in Words

A MERICANS since the forties of the last century have been known in Mexico as gringos. The word in this sense has spread to other Spanish-American coun tries. Some etymologists say that the word s Spanish for gibberish, and was applied to the language of the foreigners in Mexico A better explanation, however, is that given by the historians of the Mexican war. The American soldiers of that time were fond of an old song, beginning "Green grow the rushes, O," and they sang it whenever they had nothing better to do. The natives assumed that the first two words were one and they soon began to call the elided. Perhaps the enunciation of the diers was so indistinct that the natives did not catch the r in the song. But however that may be, the word has continued in use for more than sixty years as the name

for Americans. ETIQUETTE

THE silk label in a coat containing the name of the tailor is technically known as the etiquette. And etiquette is an old French word for a ticket or label. The English word ticket is older than the French form. When it became the que tom to write on a card the cerem rules to be followed on formal occusion the name of the card, or the etiquette, was transferred to the rules. So now the common meaning of the word is the proper conventional forms of polite society of served by those accustomed to move in such circles and carefully studied by th who do not yet move in them, but hop some time so to do.

The English word ticket has a mean n some phrases that is akin to the comnon meaning of etiquette. For examp when a man is trying to arrange a ro or write a letter for another and finally succeeds to the satisfaction of all conperned, the man who is being served will exclaim "That's the ticket!" without and conscious knowledge that he is harking back to a form of words that is older than the Declaration of Independence.

What Do You Know?

What is the Portuguese name for Ilel 2. To what date has the armistice with Ger been extended? what century did Dante live?

6. What is the largest city to Co

7. What kind of a vehicle is a cha 8. What is the voting age for English we . What is the meaning of the

Answers to Yesterday's Quis

3. The Latin expression "cum gr means "with a grain of sale."

devised to save the Federal Treas

the burden of heavy pension pay-