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Philadelphia, Tuesday, April 29, 1919.

THE IRON DIVISION

No contingents in the great war had a record nobler than that of the Iron Division, whose advance guard arrived in this country yesterday under Colonel Edward C. Shannon. These Pennsylvanians lived up to all the magnificent implications of their name. Their casualties in the various actions totaled 60 per cent. And they never turned back.

Nothing that Philadelphia may do in the way of a welcome will be quite enough to express what any Pennsylvanian must feel at the thought or mention of these soldiers. It is odd to think that they return to an atmosphere troubled with the squalid bickering and furtive meanness of those who are waging war upon the men appointed to make the fruits of their matchless sacrifice enduring.

AN OVERDUE EXTINGUISHER

TT IS safe to assume that the few actors here and there who have been fishing for absent-minded laughs with shabby badinage at the expense of the Y. M. C. A. were not among the men who fought or labored in France. The manager of the Philadelphia theatre who ordered that sort of thing off his program has set a good example to theatrical men everywhere.

The Y. M. C. A. wasn't perfect. Nothing in France was. The organization assumed stupendous burdens, and the very magnitude and complexity of its task made friction and faults inevitable.

Stage folk themselves, who worked tirelessly in behalf of the men in the service, have been the first to object to the practice just halted in this city. No man who is not ignorant or worse will speak lightly of things done or left undone in a period of confusion and strain that tried to the limits of human endurance the hearts and souls of every one concerned.

THE DOCK FOR WILLIAM

NAPOLEON, pursued by both Prussians and Bourbons, fled for his life on board the British man-of-war Bellerophon on July 15, 1815. His act eliminated a host of complexities in international jurisprudence. He was virtually a prisoner of war.

By his escape into Dutch territory the ex-kaiser destroyed any legal analogy between his status in defeat and that of the French emperor. The sentiment of an outraged civilization in this instance, however, chafes at technicalities. Unprecedented as the proposed plan is, the foreshadowed trial of William Hohenzollern is the procedure most satisfying to those who fought his mad dynasty.

Stern justice, not blind revenge, is what civilization seeks in this unparalleled case, and that is what the defendant will get if he is called upon to face the international tribunal.

A fair trial of Napoleon would have spared the world much falsified and sentimentalized history. A trial of the exkaiser would be a most effective antidote for any future commentators desirous of handling the whitewash brush.

AN INTERSTATE MOTOR WAR?

TN THE good old days before bread and gasoline, the two essentials of modern existence, took unto themselves wings of price, life was less of a strain than it is now. The roads of Pennsylvania were wide open to any one with any sort of an automobile tag. There was and still is a happy reciprocal agreement between most of the states by which motor drivers are made free as the air all the year round on highways in far places to whose people similar courtesies are granted by the state that the visiting motorist calls

New Jersey is one of the few states that have maintained the right of independent action in this respect. It grants only fifteen days of grace to visitors in devilwagons with foreign tags. After fifteen days the intruding machine must sport a Jersey license plate unless the owner is willing to risk a session with a squire. It was natural that a great many owners of automobiles in this state, which in the past was not accustomed to quibble about its roads, came, in the course of time, to believe that money spent on Pennsylvania registry was wasted. They obtained Jersey licenses and were free to go where they would at Il times in their own state without fear f fine, arrest or interrogation. A good of money was thus diverted from the vania highway department to the of the astute Jerseymen. This sinful fact that is driving the this city to a systematic war

retaliation on truck owners and other motor drivers from the other side of the

Jersey is a nice place. It is hard to keep away from. The state has a great and costly system of roads. The income from native motorists, says the Jersey Legislature, is not adequate for the maintenance of the highway system. But what of the money-laden plutocrats who haunt the Jersey roads? Are they not worth welcoming? Roads can be paid for in other ways than by direct taxation. Unless the Jersey folk can realize this they ought to be willing to take a bit of the medicine that their justices of the peace administer so freely to others. If they insist on collecting from every user of their highways, then they should contribute in a like manner elsewhere. We in Pennsylvania have some good and expensive roads-even if we haven't an ocean-and we could use to good advantage the money paid by Jersey motor license holders.

AIRING OUR FACTIONAL ROWS AT HARRISBURG A SCANDAL

But the Legislature Can Stop It by Giving Philadelphia a Home-Rule Charter at Once

WHEN the Philadelphians who went to Harrisburg today to urge the passage of the citizens' committee pinn of charter revision circulate among the members of the Legislature they are likely to discover a state of sentiment which should force them to redouble their efforts.

The business of the Legislature has been hindered for years by the factional quarrels from this city carried to the state capital. The representatives of the smaller communities are more restive this year than ever before. They are threatening to ignore all Philadelphia legislation which obstructs the business of the session, for they have grown weary of standing by while this city's political rows are aired there in public. It is not an edifying spectacle.

If Philadelphia is to have greater control over its own affairs it begins to look as if the city should have to get it this year or not at all, and as if we should have to depend upon the initiative of the up-state members of the Legislature. These men can end the present conditions at once if they choose. They can take the bit in their teeth and pass the charter-revision bills drafted by the citizens' committee and thus tell us to manage our own affairs hereafter under the grant of power which they have given to us.

But the bills deserve the serious consideration of the Legislature on their inherent merits. We want home rule here, not to relieve Harrisburg of the consideration of our local problems, but to relieve us of the necessity of asking Harrisburg for permission to do what seems best to us about cleaning our streets or paving them, or about the collection of garbage or about a score of other things.

The bills in question permit us to go about as far in the direction of home rule as is possible under the constit tion in its present form. In order to complete the work of freeing the legislators of the state at large from the necessity of considering the special local problems of this city and the other large cities, provision should be made for a constitutional convention to be held at the earliest convenient date in order that that document may be modernized in a dozen different ways, but particularly in order that is may confer upon the cities that freedom which is necessary if they are to manage

their own affairs in their own way. The constitution should be a grant power to the Legislature and not a body of bylaws, and the city charters should likewise be a grant of power to the cities. subject only to the limitations necessary to enable the Legislature to step in with remedies when local abuses have become so grave as to menace the rest of the

With the Legislature in its present mood, now seems to be the time to take the first step toward municipal home rule. We assume that the members of the citizens' committee are not wholly ignorant of the state of mind in Harris burg, and we assume also that they are not so inexperienced politically that they are unable to take advantage of that state of mind and use it for the beneficent ends to reach which they are bending all their efforts.

The Legislature need not fear the consequences of its approval of these bills. They have been drafted by public-spirited men seeking solely the general good. There is no "joker" in any of them. But there are "jokers" in those bills which have been offered as substitutes.

The proposal to create a metropolitan police department with a commissioner appointed by the Governor involves a continuance of the very thing against which the legislators are now indignantly protesting, for it means the transfer of police control from this city to Harrishurg and the continual protest of one political faction against the police activities of another faction, with constant appeals to the Legislature for relief.

If Philadelphia is not fit to control its own police force, it is not fit to govern itself. This is axiomatic. Every member of the Legislature must admit it, whatever he may think it expedient to say under the direction of the men who are seeking political advantage from the proposed change.

The members need to make only the most casual inquiry to discover that in almost every city in the country in which the police have been controlled by an official appointed by the Governor the plan has failed to give satisfaction. It has been abandoned in several cities and other cities are urging the return to local control.

Baltimore, where the system has been in force for more than fifty years, is dissatisfied with its workings because it places its local police force under the direction of politicians who use it to reward their friends and punish their enemies. The conditions in that city are described in an article in another part of The people of Baltimore pay the taxes out of which he salaries of the police

come, but they have absolutely no voice in the expenditure of the money and absolutely no say as to the conduct of the men who get the money. This is un-

American and undemocratic. We do not believe that the Legislature of Pennsylvania will consent to foist any such system upon Philadelphia, because it cannot be defended an instant before the bar of reason and common sense. But as we have already intimated, it is a plan which would encourage the local factionalists to carry their quarrels to Harrisburg, as they have done this winter, and it would gum the wheels of the legislative machinery until all motion was stopped.

Now is the accepted time for giving home rule to this city, and now is the day of salvation for the Legislature, which wishes to be free to pass bills for the good of the state at large.

A PACT WITH RESERVATIONS

UNQUESTIONABLY the tinkering with the league of nations covenant has strengthened the prospects of its ratification. The pact as it stands now is not so formidable that aggressive nationalists in the various countries need be afraid of it. The accommodating reservations render possible withdrawal from the society, "safeguard" the Monroe Doctrine and eliminate the element of compulsion in the acceptance of man-

If the sole object of the league commission was to draw up a document which would silence the timid, these changes are to be commended. But it so happens that a very few months ago the world was led to believe that the prime desire of the league makers was to devise an instrument so powerful that future wars would be impossible. It is hardly deniable that this purpose has been somewhat blunted.

Incredible as it may appear, it cannot be disputed that mankind's loathing of war has ominously abated since Armistice Day, and hence criticism of the original pact has largely taken the form of objection to those provisions which were to have operated against nations doing what they pleased under certain conditions.

When the President more than a year ago enunciated his fourteen points, civilization longed for the most binding league conceivable. "Stop all war forever!" was the passionate cry of mankind. The Monroe Doctrine, Fiume, even national pride were subordinate subjects then. No ideal was regarded as too lofty for fulfillment if thereby the future could be safeguarded against a return of the carnival of death.

But the wings of forgetfulness are terribly swift. Even the first covenant draft was milder than the sort of agreement for which men longed while the carnage was going on, and the revised version, so scrupulously careful not to involve irrevocable pledges, is weaker still. In principle, of course, it is still admirable, and it contains provisions which will render the starting of the war machinery much more difficult than in the past. The situation is somewhat as though the Bryan arbitration treaties had been made of universal application.

Nobody is to blame save everybody in general. Human nature is forever clamoring for ideals which in the end it is reluctant to support.

Of late the pressure upon the covenant commission has been urging it some kind of peace pact to which all the nations would agree. This feat has evidently been accomplished.

For all its shortcomings the covenant s infinitely superior to no compact at all. The hope of the world lies in its virtue as a basis. Should it prove to be the foundation for an eventually more binding society of the nations, one with sufficient teeth to render war really impossible, a wondrous structure will have been reared in Paris.

At present it is the moral buttressing of the covenant which constitutes its strength. Its practical armor is not of the sort of which war-weary humanity was dreaming when Ludendorff struck the British line. But that happened fourteen months ago!

If the present chain which is to bind the nations is no stronger than its weakest link, it must be considered that the thoughtless new world has exhibited an antipathy to anything less frail. What we have now is rather the best

pact possible than the best possible pact.

It is cheering to observe that the trans for Toasts atlantic airplane flight may be accomplished before the first of July. You may have no ticed that the American naval fliers, who seem to have been working harder and say ing less than any one else concerned with the general plan, now seem more likely than muy of their competitors to be first in the long, glorious and terrible jump.

One cannot but feel that Congress missed Will It a glorious opportunity when it stooped to mpose luxury taxes on trifles like pajamas shoes and silk stockings. If Congress had taxed peace it would have hit at one almost unattainable luxury for which all the world will be glad to pay whatever is asked.

Any one with a long memory may recall that Senator Penrose Logical began his political carcer as a reformer. And the perilous nature of the senator's activities at Harrisburg makes it appear that he is willing to risk ending his career in the sam fashion.

Russia, Egypt. Germ a n y Scandinavia, Poland, Serbia, Rumania and Thibet. It is increasing at Amerongen. Maybe the landlords will need some of that extra rent by the time they have made

Unrest is abating in

the improvements demanded by the Housing Even though Martin G. Brumbaugh disclaims having spent any of the state's funda-for liquer, it is difficult for him to escape the unhappy effect of "boos."

PENROSE AS A REFORMER

Pertinent Comment by the New York Evening Post on the Interesting Spectacle

The following interesting remarks about the local political situation appeared in the New York Evening Post of Suturday:

SENATOR PENROSE on the side of the reformers is no new spectacle, but somehow it never loses its piquancy. Now he to Harrisburg to lend in

fight for a new charter for Philadelphia.

The bill containing the proposed revision is far from being as advanced as the Senator would prefer. It may satisfy ordinary reformers, but not a super-reformer. So be proposes to have amendments offered, all in the name of "the attainment of municipal good government."

Yet be cannot conceal his fears that a bill which "has received the indorsement of the city's principal business and civic organizations, of church, labor and fra-ternal bodies" is sadly lacking. If he were doing it Philadelphia should have a straight out commission government. The number of commissioners does not matter. Only of them be "absolutely divorced from polities, either of the Penrose, Vare or independent varieties.

Particulary, evuical Philadelphians remark, of the Vare variety, for any fundasental change in the city charter would give new opportunity for Penrose, who thus far, like Quay before him, has had to be content with the overlordship of the state utside of the city.

In the face of these unctuous professions it is painful to see Philadelphia newspapers suggesting that the senator show his zent for better city government by doing what proposing, for instance, that the city be shown of one of its most important powers is appointed by the Governor and to wield the authority now possessed by the Mayor and his director of public safety.

"THE ROCKING-HORSE"

TEXNETH C. BEATON who writes K "Ye Towne Gossip" in the New York American and several other newspapers, has paid the following tribute to the latest book by Christopher Morley, the "Socrates" of he EVENING PUMB LEDGER: had just started to work.

And had put the paper in the typewriter. And Jean came over With her little girl Jerry . And Jean said

'I hope we won't disturb you." And I said cortainly not. And Jerry went over to a table And pulled some books on to the floor, And picked out a thin one. And came over to me and said:

And I tried to drive her off. But I couldn't do it. And she crawled up on my lap And put her feet in my typewriter, And repeated:

"Uncle Ken, read the book." And handed it to me. And the title of the book Was "The Rocking Horse. And it was a lot of poems. By Christopher Morley. And I read the first one. And Jerry listened But she hadn't any iden. What it was all about But it pleased me." And I turned the page And read the second one And Jerry still listened

And then I said : 'If we're going to read them all. Let's get in a big chair And I kept on rending.

And turning the pages. And Jerry lay there. With her eyes wide open And pretending she knew What they were all about Until we got to the one.

Where Christopher said. Down all the sun-cursed byways of the And "trailed by grimy tots Their ragged shirts half off them with ex-

citement. Dubbling toes and fingers in our leakage. A lucky few up sitting with the driver, and after that Their pinched white cheeks and their pa-

thetic gladness. Then we would know that arms were made for aching."

And Jerry went to sleep on that. With a little bit of a smile And lay there. And I went on and read. Half through the book. And forgot about my work And didn't care. And laid aside the book And looked at Jerry. And was glad. That her cheeks were pink. And Jerry awoke. And we put on her little coat And she went home And I thanked Jean. For bringing her over And I want to thank Christopher, For his book of poems, And to tell him. That I'm going to finish it. On the very first day. That Jean can space Jerry. For a couple of hours. I thank you.

The wires which Mr. Burleson took over eem to have been barbed.

Here's hoping that April showers will bring the May flower of peace.

Even though the empire has fallen, it ooks as though the kaiser is soon to become a conspicuous figure in court.

It is cold comfort for some slain Koreans

that Japan has declared that the Seoul mas-

sacre "won't happen again." As the months roll on it becomes necessary to consider how we are going to cele-

brate if the treaty is not signed until after

June 30.

The wails of Germans over the imposi tion of terms which they say will make them "slave nation" are a trifle belated. should have begun grumbling when the im perial regime made them really a servile

Even though the Bolshevists have made divorce extraordinarily easy, Nevada needu't be jealous. Little Reno has it all over Petrograd as a place of residence.

The prospect that the peace treaties ere to be in French suggests that Germany have been unconscious), prophetic her educators gave to the study of

"BAH, VOT A VORLD! VUNST YOU VAS TOO BIG TO LICK; NOW YOU ISS TOO LIDDLE TO HIDE IN!!"



THE CHAFFING DISH

Interview With Guy Wheeler

GUY WHEELER, our favorite Philadelphian, is back from France and apparently bears no malice for the number of letters we didn't write him while he was abroad. A representative of the Dish interciewed Mr. Wheeler concerning his impres-

sions of the great world.
Guy came back, with about 1299 others. on the cruiser Charleston, landing in New York last week. The normal crew of the Charleston is about 1000 men, but in order to make room for the troops the crew was cut down to 500. This meant that the doughboys had to help in the stoking, but Guy says they didn't mind. "Those boys back to get home, anoth he But the 1300 of them were stowed in the space normally affected to 500. They were slung in canvas hammocks, four in a tier. Guy, lucky as usual, had the top ham-

CITY went abroad as an aviator in Sep-G tember, 1917. He thought he was bound for Italy, but he found himself quartered in a college at Oxford for wireless instruction. After a month of that he was sent to a machine-gun school at Grantham and then attuched to a home-defense squadron near Paversham, in Kent. This was the most exciting service he saw, for Fritz's Gothas were coming over pretty regularly in those days (December and January, 1917-18). "We would get word when Fritz left the coast of Belgium." said Guy. "Then all the squadrons would take the air in the hope of finding him. There wasn't much chance that any one plane would meet him. You see, you're lost up there in the dark. You can't see anything and all you can hear is the motor roaring. It was exciting when you got over London, though, with the Archies popping off and the shrapnel rattling on the housetops. When you see Fritz." he added humorously, "you have a strong impulse to let him alone. You say to yourself. 'Well, he doesn't seem to be doing any harm. It wouldn't be fair to annoy him.' "

GT'M STRONG for the English." said I Guy. "They treated us like kings. When a man who has had his flying-school training over here gets to England he's likely to find he's got to go through it all again. The English are the real aces. the American flying fields the authorities were afraid of public opinion. They were afraid to kill any one. The English know that you can't train a bunch of aviators without killing a lot of them. It's rather risky work, you know. Out of our lot of 200 that went over together eighty-nine got bumped off.

"The English are wonderful flyers," said Guy. 'They're mostly very young, but a man ages rapidly in that job. They seem a bit quaint until you understand them, but they're the very devil in the air. The demon rum perhaps has a little to do with it also."

The part played by this well-known demon

in aviation has rarely been made public and the representative of the Dish asked for further particulars, but Cadet Wheeler was The talk then turned upon Guyne mer, the famous Freuch ace. flyers who want to live a little longer, he was probably more cautious than the public thinks." said Guy. "I've talked to men who saw him fly and they say he was no stunt merchant.

66TT'S a great game," said Guy, "When we were stationed at the bombing airdrome

near Lincoln, England, we used to fly over to Woodhall Spa, a kind of summer resort, every day for lunch. We'd pick out a nice, hospitable looking farmhouse or country place and come down on the front lawn. Of course they'd invite us in and give us the best. While I was at Lincoln I had my

GUY went to France in the summer of 1918 and was attached to the camp at Issoudun until after the armistice. He came home from Brest this month and got back to Philadelphia on Sunday. This week he resumes his old job as a teacher at the Germantown High School. We imagine that one of the favorite maneuvers of his pupils will be to try to get him off the subject of the day's lesson by asking questions about the war. But Guy is a stern disciplinarian and we don't imagine they'll get away

v v v A critic who has Just read Rudyard Kipling's new book of poems says Mr. Kipling

is merely plagiarizing himself. Well, we don't know any one who is more worth plagiarizing.

V V V Some one with a morbidly developed curisity writes to ask us what the Quizeditor,

who runs the What Do You Know? just east of this, is like. He is the kind of man who, when shaving n the morning, suddenly thinks to himself. 'What is a Toledo blade?'' and writes it down in a little memorandum book to put it

in the Quiz.

We have from time to time given suggestions to the Quizeditor for his department, but we are more generous than Signor Or lando. We don't on that account want to annex the Quiz. v v v

Printer's Ink

O pungent, sticky, printer's ink, I love to hear you crackle On rolls and plate and type. I think How you all minds unshackle

met you in the days of youth, Upon the chart and primer You tried to teach me fact and truth. And set my mind a simmer

Through all these years you've helped me on ; You've solved for me the mystery Of lonesome hours. With you I've gone A-traveling through History.

You've trained the people of this world To value Freedom's blessing.
And Freedom's flag is now unfurled. With all your power confessing. MARGARET W. MOODY.

 $\mathbf{v} \quad \mathbf{v} \quad \mathbf{v}$

Senator Borah says that so far he has given the revised covenant only "cursory After which he naturally damned it.

 $\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{v}$ Desk Mottoes Life is like playing a violin solo in pub-

ic and learning the instrument as one goes on. - Samuel Butler, $\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{v}$ The only reason why we are sorry Guy

Wheeler has got back from the wars is that we are afraid he'll remember we've got his copy of "Erewhon" and ask us to return it. v v v

Unusual virtue may be predicted among small boys just now. The circus comes to town next week.

VVV

'S Queer! General Squier, the chief signal officer of the army, says that every tree is a potential wireless tower, trees being detectors of wireless waves and admirable conductors of elec-

A number of cows have learned this scienific fact by sheltering under trees during thunderstorms. v v v

The kaiser is said to take a little stroll ong the most about sunset time.
But the real place for him to watch the
line san would be at Wisringen.
SOCILATES.

FROM A LITTLE HOUSE

I LIVE in a little house, But the door can open widelive in a little house
But the whole round world's outside!

The light marches in with the morning The stars creep down at night. The high rain treads on my doorstep,

The far winds call on their flight, And the Spring comes in as a lover, When Winter's feet depart :

And oh, the voices and voices That reach the door of my heart!

I live in a little house. But the door can open widelive in a little h But the whole round world's outside. -Mary Stewart Cutting, in Everybody's.

that will draw the Iron Division the moment military red tape is removed. It begins to appear that the Victor,

The welcome we have for it is a magnet

Loan may be able to struggle over the top without the active assistance of the Rev. Dr. Mutchler. Italy proclaims that she "will settle

her own affairs." If she would really act upon that decision the Fiume crisis would soon be settled and Jugo-Slavia would have

What Do You Know?

QUIZ 1. What is the meaning of the word "na-

tionals," as used in the league-ofnations covenant?

2. Who is Gustav Ador?

3. Who is the author of the phrase, "Inspiring, bold John Barleycorn"? 4. Who is president of the German National Assembly?

5. What transport holds the record for fastest transatlantic passage made by any troopship? 6. What is the second largest city in

Japan? 7. To what commander did Napoleon Bonaparte give himself up after the

fall of his empire in 1815? 8. What is another name for Lake Geneva? 9. Where was the Democratic National Convention held which renominated Woodrow Wilson for President in

10. How many hundredweight make a ton?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

1. An anticyclone is the rotary outward flow of air from an atmospheric area of high pressure. It is productive of. clear, dry weather.

2. The musical term "legato" means smoothly, without breaks. 3. Turin is in Piedmont, in northwest

Italy. 4. The Empress Josephine was born at Fort de France in the island of Martinique, West Indies.

5. Rome became the capital of United Italy in 1870. 6. The word meander is derived from

Maiandros, a winding river in Asia Minor. 7. Single quotation marks indicate spoken remarks reported within direct dis-

course.

8. A peristyle is a row of columns surrounding a temple, court or cloister or the space so surrounded.

9. An atoll is a ring-shaped coral reef

inclosing a lagoon.
"Prupes and prisms" is a phrase m