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HOTFOOT AFTER THE GAG LAW
PLANS are already afoot to test the constitutionality of the gag law, miscalled an anti-sedition law. Just how the issues will be framed in order to get the question before the courts has not yet been decided.

A REVERSE VIEW
In all the cities and towns of Burmah extensive and costly preparations were made by the people to celebrate the last hours in which, because of the restrictions of the national prohibition act, betel nut might be chewed in public.

UNTIE THE CITY'S HANDS
IF THE Court of Common Pleas can find a way under the law to order that in computing the city debt running against the limit fixed by the constitution the water bonds shall be omitted, it should do so.

THE liquor dealers are most naturally charging that they have not been treated fairly. When the prohibition amendment was under consideration they were told that it would not go into effect until twelve months after its ratification.

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taken to amend the constitution. In these days, when cities are not only owning their own water-supply systems, but are considering the wisdom of using public money for improvement in rapid transit and for the maintenance of lighting systems, there ought to be a general provision in the constitution which would remove from the general debt on which limits are placed all bonds issued for such improvements as soon as the enterprise for which they have been issued earns money enough to carry them.

SOME REFLECTIONS ON THE EVE OF THE DROUGHT

Doubt Whether the Nation Will Go Dry Tonight or Wait Until Next January

THE wartime prohibition act of November 21, 1918, goes into effect at midnight. It is worth while at this time considering the terms of that act.

One should note, in the first place, that the President signed it ten days after the armistice was agreed upon. This is important in view of the purpose for which the act was passed.

That purpose, as set forth in the act itself, was to "conserve the man-power of the nation and to increase efficiency in the production of arms, munitions, ships, food and clothing for the army and navy."

Congress has not seen fit to repeal it, nor has it seen fit to modify its provisions in any respect whatsoever. The extreme prohibitionists are at the present moment seeking to bring about permanent national prohibition to date from July 1.

As to the time of the termination of demobilization, that is for the President to decide for himself upon the facts as they exist. He has announced that as soon as the War Department advises him that the army is demobilized he will act under the terms of the law.

THE confusion is increased by the uncertainty regarding what is an intoxicating malt or vinous liquor. The prosecuting officers of the government in this city have announced that they will await a court decision before prosecuting saloonkeepers who sell beer with 2% percent of alcohol and the prosecuting officers in New York say they will regard such beer and light wines as nonintoxicating until the courts decide otherwise.

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per cent beer to stimulate them to a greater degree than they would be stimulated by a hearty meal. On the other hand, certain authorities insist that any beverage containing more than one-half percent of alcohol is intoxicating.

As matters stand now it looks as if light beer would continue to be sold as usual. This means that many saloons will continue in business for some months longer. Whether they will go out of business after January 16 depends on the ultimate definition of an intoxicating beverage.

THE authorities will do their best to enforce whatever law may finally be passed goes without saying, and it is admitted also that all reputable business men will obey the law.

THE treaty is not perfect. Miracles of virtue are not for men to accomplish. Europe is left struggling not only with the confusion following war but also with the accumulated consequences of centuries of bad government, false standards, inherited hatreds, suspicions and prejudices.

THE proposal may represent, in the President's scheme, merely a form of words intended to be comforting and reassuring to the French people in the interval before Germany reforms and becomes eligible to a new association of nations.

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PRODIGIES OF INVENTION WHICH WAR PRODUCED

The Record of Scientific Ingenuity in the Struggle is Unsurpassed for Tragedy and Romance

ONE year ago tomorrow the American transport Covington, formerly one of the big German liners, was torpedoed. Fortunately she was homeward bound and, moreover, was within easy reach.

The impression was erroneous, as were many others relative to the inventiveness of the Entente and Germany. Not only is any comparison along this line overwhelmingly in favor of the victor, but it identifies the universal conflict as one of the most prodigious spurts to invention in the world's chronicle.

When the two major problems were solved the Entente and Germany were equal. Its inside information was extremely zealously guarded, the public in the first fortnight of the month of July, 1918, was wary of optimism. It did not realize that the tank, the most conspicuously novel invention of the war, had put an end forever to German submarine tactics and that the depth bomb and the hydrophone had doomed the submarine.

IN a sense all three are Yankee inventions. Although Colonel E. D. Swinton, of the British army, is superbly entitled to the full credit for his grasp of the tractor principle as applied to warfare, some years before the struggle broke out Benjamin Holt, of Peoria, Ill., had devised the "caterpillar" tractor. A specimen one was displayed at an agricultural exhibition in Belgium in the early summer of 1914.

Probably no military secret was ever so well guarded as this one, and the surprise of the Germans was complete when they beheld for the first time on September 15, 1918, the foe's steel tractors doggedly waddling over obstacles in the battle area.

The first fear that the weapon was more picturesque and sensational than important was not justified. The tanks contributed their potent share toward revolutionizing fighting methods. By the time the Germans began constructing them the shortage of materials in the empire had rendered their products little more than clumsy makeshifts.

Paravanes are steel floats with torpedo-shaped bodies and a horizontal fin. They are put out to sea by the ship and are carried clear of the vessel's hull. When it reaches the protector it is caught in a toothed jaw which severs the mine cable and lets the mine rise to the water's surface.

THE chief German inventions of the war did not, strictly speaking, come under the head of novelties. It was known when the League conferences met that the use of poison gas was a possibility in modern strife. The peace palace delegates, including the Teutonic ones, pledged themselves to refrain from such savagery.

None the less chlorine gas made its appearance on the battlefield in April, 1915, when the Germans for the first time employed it against the British. The Hunns were too new at this despicable game to realize its complete possibilities; and furthermore, the prevailing westerly winds of the European summer constituted a dangerous handicap.

Entente and American inventiveness invaded an infinite variety of fields. The development of which was of the utmost aid to radiotelephony, especially helpful to aviators. There was the extensive and relative cheap production by Americans of helium, which removed the fire risk from airships. There were the brilliant evolutions of the gas lamp under the Lewis gun, the unexpected development of hand grenades, the automatic seaplane, the direction of small sea craft by electricity controlled from the shore and, of course, the prodigious progress in all its phases of flying.

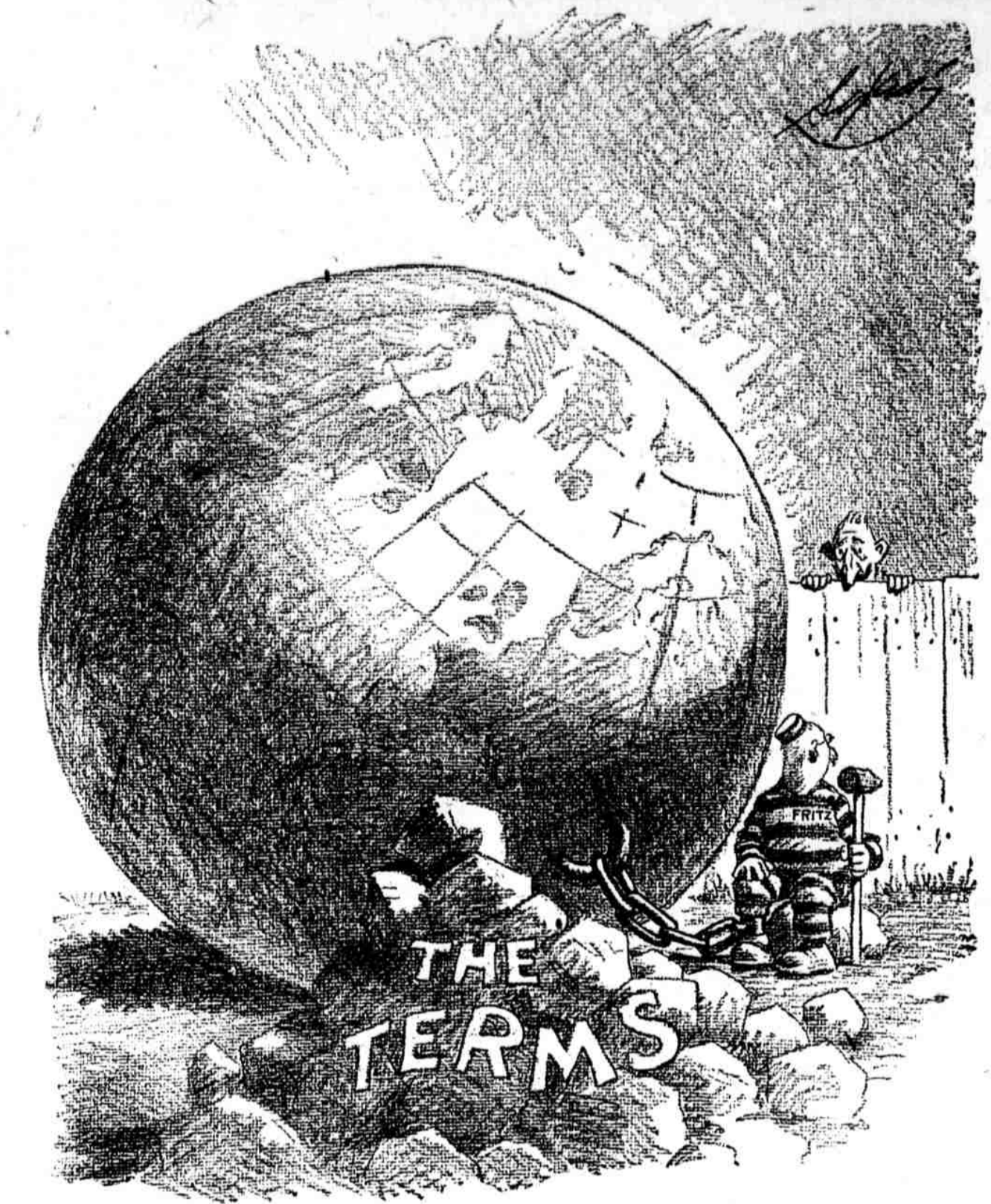
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"YOU MADE ME VOT I ISS TODAY, I HOPE YOU'RE SATISFIED!"



RUBBER HEELS

A City Notebook
H. T. C. went around to hear the Philadelphia Pomander Walk so near by. But as we started up Summer street we met a white cat, with friendly eyes like translucent amber. She came condescendingly to meet us, purring. Now in all the fairy tales a white cat is always a princess in disguise.

He refused to believe that there was a Philadelphia Pomander Walk so near by. But as we started up Summer street we met a white cat, with friendly eyes like translucent amber. She came condescendingly to meet us, purring. Now in all the fairy tales a white cat is always a princess in disguise.

OH, I'VE walked the blue Pacific and I've walloped 'round the Horn. And I've swallowed more than twice my share of green Atlantic brine; But the days of sails are over since the first steel ship was born.

Once, when sailors really earned the name, 'twas fun to play with Death As we trod the good old wooden decks, with iron men for crew;

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CLAY

"WE ARE but clay," the preacher saith: "The heart is clay and clay the brain, And soon or late there cometh death, 'T' to mingle us with earth again."

Well, let the preacher have it so. And clay we are, and clay shall be— Why iterate?—for this I know, That clay does very well for me.

When clay has such red mouths to kiss, Firm hands to grasp, it is enough: How can I take it aught amiss? We are not made of rarer stuff!

Or richer joys than clay can hold? And when perchance he falters nay, Bid him renounce his wish and kneel: In thanks for this same kindly clay. —E. V. Lucas.

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