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Maubeuge—and Its Lessons.

Wireless dispatches from Berlin say that Maubeuge has fallen. There is nothing inherently improbable in this report, although the French War Office asserts that the beleaguered fortress is still holding out.

The capture of Maubeuge—if it has capitulated—is the first material accomplishment to the credit of the German right wing turning movement in Northeastern France.

It may be that the figures which come from Berlin by wireless are somewhat twisted. If only four generals were captured the total of prisoners should be nearer 14,000 than 40,000.

Except at Maubeuge, and at Longwy and Montmédy, two minor fortresses not strongly held, the French have followed the wise policy of not clinging to fortified places to the extent of risking isolation.

In the Franco-German War a failure to recognize the fact that fortresses are useful only as bases for the operation of mobile armies led to the greatest of the French disasters.

In 1870 fortified places had to be reduced by slow operations. Now they yield rapidly to bombardment. Liège was a modernized fortress of great natural strength.

All these prophecies have been realized, and Maubeuge must now be added to the list of non-defensible fortresses.

lesson of Liège, Namur and Maubeuge in plain view, the French General Staff will now hardly think of defending Verdun except as a base of action against the enemy.

Maubeuge was a sacrifice, perhaps, to the safe retreat of the allies out of Belgium. On any other theory its defence was unjustified.

A Confession of Failure.

The retirement of Mr. William Church Osborn from the Democratic state chairmanship is virtually a confession of failure. He went into that work, which he himself admits was foreign to him, to uplift Democracy.

Additional Revenue at Once.

President Wilson is entirely right in opposing the plan of the Democrats in Congress to raise an emergency revenue by increasing the income tax. Additional revenue could not be obtained by this device until July 1 next year.

This Highly Abstemious War.

It is part of the modern theory of efficient warfare that alcohol is all but eliminated from the armies in the field. The czar has gone further than any other ruler possibly because conditions in Russia are worse than elsewhere.

According to some reports, the British soldier in the field is getting a daily allowance of rum with his tea. But this idea hardly agrees with Kitchener's declaration that no gifts of liquor would be forwarded to the army.

Another Attack on the Food Manipulators.

It is to be hoped that Attorney General Parsons will be able to get evidence to convict the "cold storage trust" of conspiracy to raise food prices, as he expects. Whether or not a conspiracy exists in the legal sense, there is no doubt that the trade practice of provision dealers and cold storage concerns is to maintain prices by manipulation of the quantity of foodstuffs stored and released for the market.

The Conning Tower

On the Unexpected in Art. My friend, the art of writing rhyme is but to do the unexpected: Right here you think I'll ring in "chime," "Sublime" or "clime" or "crime" or "time."

The expense of the war, like all expenses, will fall on the Ultimate Consumer. And this country, which will get some temporary benefits from it, will help pay the cost.

Well, the Cubs lost, so Philadelphia and Pittsburgh are tied for fifth place this lovely morning.

Subject to change without notice.

PLEASE PRESERVE YOUR NEUTRALITY.

Sir: They tell us that the favorite chorus of the British troops is "It's a Long Way to Tipperary," but I understand that the London regiments sing "It's a long way to Longway."

A. G.

Dulcinea has come home from Bromfield. She attended the matches at the New Rochelle Tennis Club the other day. "What time is it by your gold watch and chain?" she asked her neighbor.

TO PEARL, ASKING FOR A POEM.

Lady, you ask me to write you a poem. What in the world shall I say? Lady, there isn't a thought in my dome, Seeing you drives them away.

How can I write when I look in your eyes? How can I think when you speak? Who could contend with your eloquent sighs, Or what suffices your check?

Thousands of notions arise in my mind; Millions of things you suggest, But they're too deep for mere verses, I find; Lady, they'll have to be guessed.

What are the words that can picture the smile? Lighting your purposeful face? I have exhausted a mountainous pile, Yet haven't mentioned your grace.

Lady, I cannot accomplish the task; You're too unearthly for rhyme; Ponder, my lady, the favor you ask— Give me a little more time.

IRWIN.

THE DIARY OF OUR OWN SAMUEL PEPYS.

September 7—With A. Samuels the Philadelphia pamphleteer to dinner, and he vaunted his prowess at tennis, which I feel certain he hath not, the swashbuckling zany! To the office, where until late, at this and that.

8—Up betimes and with R. Warwick the player-actor to the tennis-court and beat him, after some pains. To the office, at petty business, and to Mistress Blanche Rogers's for dinner, where I did have the best eye ever I tasted and was twice bolton.

9—With R. Warwick again to the court and again defeated him, which dispirited him greatly. Yet I can trounce him whenever I am so minded.

THIS IS A KNOCK AT SOMEONE WE'LL BET. (From the Evening Mail.) The streets are full of old women of both sexes.

PENSIVE PENTAMETERS. The melancholy days will soon be here! To me they are the gladdest of the year.

A Copenhagen dispatch from Berlin says that 23,000 military trains crossed 5 bridges of the Rhine, transporting 2,000,000 men in 19 days.

Nothing but Naval Whiskbroom, Says the German Committee. To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: In the issue of your paper of September 5 you have an amazing bit of information captioned to you from St. Petersburg—or rather (please forgive the lapsus penne) Petregrad.

Why Not an Export Duty? To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: "Why not an export duty?" is answered in Article I, Section 9, paragraph 5, Constitution of the United States, viz: "No tax or duty shall be laid on articles exported from any state."

Crow or Eagle? To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: "The Literary Digest" quotes a "correspondent" on Page 383, August 29, who forgot one bet. After meeting with a German biplane, hovering like a carrion crow, seeking other victims for death, he should have also observed "a French or English" monoplane soaring majestically like an eagle, looking for more victories.

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THE KRONPRINZ—Father has beaten me to it!

THE PEOPLE'S COLUMN

An Open Forum for Public Debate.

WAR AND CHRISTIANITY

The Doctrine of Brotherliness Now Needed More than Ever.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Your correspondent "Harrington" asks to-day, "Is it not time to throw Christianity overboard?" The reason for his query is the European war, which he takes as evidence that Christendom no longer believes the teachings of the Prince of Peace.

Now, it happens to be that the harbor of this town is an artificial, dug out basin and can be entered only through one big lock.

THE PRESIDENT'S PROCLAMATION. To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: I write you to say that I believe it would have been more appropriate and positively hopeful for the peace prayer proclamation of our God loving father than "God fearing" persons to unite their petitions to Almighty God.

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E. T. BEDFORD TO WED MISS GAYNOR

Late Mayor's Daughter and fiance get license—Ceremony September 16.

Miss Helen Deborah Gaynor, daughter of the late Mayor, went to the Municipal Building with Edward Thomas Bedford, 24, her fiancé, yesterday morning, and obtained a marriage license. The wedding will take place at the Gaynor summer home, at St. James, Long Island, on September 16.

The young couple arrived at the City Hall at about 10:30 o'clock, and Mr. Bedford enlisted the services of Lieutenant William Kennel, who was always in attendance on Mayor Gaynor at public functions, and who has helped several members of the Gaynor family to get their marriage licenses.

The bride-to-be put down her age as nineteen, and Mr. Bedford gave his as twenty-six. She lives with her mother at 29 Eighth av., Brooklyn, and he at 193 Clinton av., with his parents.

The engagement of Miss Helen Gaynor and Mr. Bedford was rumored in January, but was denied. It was announced about the middle of February.

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SUGGESTS BUREAU OF CITY COMMERCE

Commissioner Hartigan Outlines Scheme for Municipal Clearing House.

Commissioner Joseph Hartigan of the Bureau of Weights and Measures elaborated yesterday upon his scheme for a municipal food exchange, suggesting that there should be a municipal department of commerce. Since the beginning of the situation created by the war the bureau has been fulfilling the functions of all kinds of such a department.

The proposed department of commerce would be a clearing house of business and commercial information. The public would be furnished with the daily market news, as would be the producer and the shopper.

Having seen that New Jersey fishermen and farmers had promised the open markets if they could get proper facilities, the Union Lighterage Company wrote to him yesterday that they could supply light draft motor boats.

WORTHY FAMILY IN NEED. Aid Struggling Mother. Unable through illness to work after her husband's death, the mother of five little girls, ten and fourteen years old, was forced to use up the insurance which his care had provided in meeting their daily household expenses.

PLAY FOR THE WOUNDED. Westchester promises an interesting contribution to the Red Cross fund tomorrow afternoon at the Little Greek Theatre in Mount Kisco.

Blanche Bates and Other Artists to Assist Red Cross. Westchester promises an interesting contribution to the Red Cross fund tomorrow afternoon at the Little Greek Theatre in Mount Kisco.

Mrs. Sage is 86 Years Old. Mrs. Russell Sage was eighty-six years old yesterday. She spent the day quietly with friends at her country home at Lawrence, Long Island.

Player Sovereigns at Rye. Carter De Haven and his wife, Flora Parker, have been crowned king and queen of the Rye Beach Club.

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