THE EVENING STAR,
With Sunday Morning Edition.

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The Next Senate.

Friday's Star contained interesting accounts of the senatorial contests in Wisconsin and New Jersey. In the former the republicans, and in the latter the democrats, are walking the floor.

Senator La Follette is running as the republican nominee, and yet has a record in office which gives him something of a democratic aspect. On several very important issues he has voted in the Senate with the democrats. He is at present canvassing his state without mentioning the name of the republican candidate for President.

Senator Martine is running as the democratic nominee in his state, and yet is looked at askance by some of the President's friends there. He has voted in the Senate against several of the administration's measures, and glories in the record.

If the republicans of Wisconsin knife Mr. La Follette at the polls, a democrat will be elected, and if the administration democrats in New Jersey knife Mr. Martine a republican will be elected.

Now, a vote in the next Senate may be worth a great deal. At present the democrats have a majority of sixteen. That this will be reduced is altogether likely, and some of the republican managers believe it will be wiped out.

If the vote is close in that body after March next we shall see some very pretty maneuvering there. The most skillful politics is required, and is played, in the Senate, where the rules allow elbow-room. The minority has a chance, and usually improves it. House measures are often, and sometimes radically, changed.

A small majority, one way or the other, will therefore require teamwork in the next Senate. If Mr. Wilson remains in the White House he will have to get, and continue, on terms with all of his party's members in the Senate if they remain in control there; and if Mr. Hughes enters the White House and his party captures the Senate a like necessity will press upon him.

The tariff is coming up again. The large and difficult problem growing out of the so-called eight-hour law will have to be solved. Mexico is a live wire, and may become more heavily charged after the election. Something new and difficult in connection with the European convulsion may arise at any time. Clearly, therefore, the Senate's importance in the general scheme, whether presented by democrats or republicans, could not be overvalued. For this reason every senatorial contest this year is being watched with lively concern.

Many epigrams have been evolved and many poetic phrases have been set rippling through the public consciousness during the present campaign. But in justice to Mr. Bryan it should be noted that no gem of rhetoric has been produced that equals the "cross of gold and crown of thorns" speech.

When Champ Clark observed in connection with the Maine result, "Beaten good and plenty," it was thoroughly understood that he did not expect his September remarks to hold good for November.

Every November election arouses the fear in the minds of numerous politicians that the coming Thanksgiving is going to be a failure.

T. R. has referred contemptuously to the ostrich. It should be remembered that the ostrich is a terrible bird when he kicks.

Rumania and Russia.

Rumania, entering the war evidently in the belief that the allied powers were prepared to lend aid and to prevent disaster, or perhaps underestimating the aggressive power of Austria and Germany and Bulgaria, now calls for help to prevent a repetition of the fate of Serbia, crushed by the central powers and Bulgaria as between the jaws of a vise. The invasion of Transylvania, begun with a dash which carried the Rumanian armies through the passes of the Carpathian mountains and actually upon the plains of Hungary beyond the hills, has been turned into a retreat which has carried the Teutonic forces to the very threshold of Rumania. If the advance of the Austro-German army of the past week or so is maintained another fortnight Rumania will be overrun in the north. In the south no change is reported in the situation, the Bulgars being held south of the Danube and the Constanza-Bucharest railway line.

The Rumanian situation is intimately associated with that of Russia. When Rumania entered the war it was believed that Russia would pour a great force into that country for operations against Bulgaria, in a movement toward Constantinople. Some Russian troops have appeared and evidently saved Rumania from an invasion from the south. But there has been no mention of a large contingent. Meanwhile the Russian campaign in Galicia seems to have come to a halt. The question naturally arises, Has Russia once more reached the point of exhaustion of munitions? This was the reason for the German advance into Poland and other parts of Russia a little more than a year ago. When the great Slavic advance began last June it was explained that Russia was in receipt of enormous quantities of ammunition and guns, and had been able to re-equip her armies and to recruit them back to full strength. Unless the winter is advancing at such a rate as to check operations there must be some cause not disclosed for the halting of the Muscovite advance. The Teutonic forces are certainly no stronger than they were in June, but, if the Russian reports are to be believed, are greatly weakened by enormous captures of prisoners and by other losses. Russia may have lost proportionately more heavily, or may be at the end of munitions resources, or may be faced with a superior leadership, if the climate has not vetoed active operations. The terrain is no less favorable to Russian advances than was that over which the czar's armies swept in the summer. Furthermore the entry of Rumania into the war has added an anti-Teutonic factor which cannot but count in Russia's favor on the east front. The mystery of the checked campaign remains to be solved.

Sulzer and Tammany.

A supporter of the President, seeking to draw a sharp contrast, says that William Sulzer is supporting Hughes and Dr. Eliot of Harvard, Wilson.

Still, if Mr. Sulzer is to serve in this matter, why not in fairness give him the benefit of his full record? He supported Mr. Wilson four years ago, and in turn was supported by Mr. Wilson. The vote which gave New York to Mr. Wilson for the presidency made Mr. Sulzer the governor of the state. And the power which marshaled that vote at the polls was Tammany Hall.

On March 4, 1913, in that great parade up Pennsylvania avenue in honor of Mr. Wilson's inauguration as President, Gov. Sulzer, who had already taken hold at home, rode horseback at the head of the New York contingent; and New York added much to the impressiveness of the spectacle. He never resembled Henry Clay more strikingly in his life. The next day he was one of the most conspicuous of the callers at the White House, and received, as others did, a very hearty welcome. New Yorkers, with eyes on "plums," were paying court to the governor for a nod or a letter in the interests of their applications for office.

Presently, the governor and Tammany fell out. The former accused the latter of a disposition to boss him, and the latter replied making accusations against the former of a very grave character. Tammany proved too much for the governor. He was impeached, and dismissed from office. Since then he has drifted politically. Last summer he was defeated in an effort to secure himself the nomination of the prohibitionists for President. If he is now a Hughes man it is by choice, so to say. He tried to be a Sulzer man.

Dr. Eliot is not the proper citation. Why not Tammany? The interesting point is that while Mr. Sulzer has gone over to Hughes, Tammany remains with Wilson. There is some question as to how ardently Tammany desires Mr. Wilson's re-election, but it is in the Wilson column, and all democratic calculations about New York are based upon the hope, if not the assumption, that Tammany will "tote fair." If it does not; if it sulks or betrays on election day, the republicans will have a walkaway.

If Mr. Wilson wins, Tammany, as the report goes, will be an honored guest during the second term instead of the outcast it has been during the first. If Mr. Hughes wins, the wildest of fancies will not associate Mr. Sulzer with any "pull" with the administration.

Carranza has issued a decree prohibiting bull fighting. Any U. S. citizen in Mexico who happens to be the owner of a bull may now feel that some authoritative steps have been taken to safeguard his property.

The eight-hour legislation would no doubt have been more appreciated by railway workers if the cashing-in process could have been rendered less complicated.

No man can be a true optimist who insists on digging up old-time price lists and comparing them with present quotations.

The Public Playgrounds.

A few years ago public playgrounds were in the nature of an experiment in Washington. The success of the Charlesbank playground in Boston was urged as an indication of the value of these recreation spaces maintained at municipal expense, but there was some skepticism in Congress on the score of the need and the practicability of maintaining grounds of this character where the children might exercise. There can be no present doubt of the value of the public playground system. Washington would not consent to the abandonment of the grounds that are now in existence and would protest against any curtailment of the activities. The value of these recreation places has been unmistakable. Thousands of children have enjoyed the grounds, gaining undeniably in health, and at the same time learning useful lessons. They have been improved in their conduct by playing under supervision. They have gained mental benefits from the instructions given at the grounds. During the fiscal year ending June 30 last, the total attendance at the playgrounds was 1,094,174, a daily average of 5,029. Recently wading and swimming pools have been added at some of the grounds, and the latter have permitted the conduct of contests that have been of great value in training the children to care for themselves in the water. In view of the inadequate public bathing beach facilities these playground pools have been of immense benefit.

In the annual report of the playgrounds department, just submitted, it is recommended that every playground be equipped with a wading or swimming pool, and furthermore that more grounds be provided to give better accommodations to the children, who should find a public play space close to their homes. Every neighborhood should have one of these spaces where the children can engage in games and exercises without playing in the streets, where they are exposed to constant peril. These playgrounds in Washington have unquestionably saved many lives, not merely in keeping the children out of acute danger in the streets, but in the strengthening of their physical health. Washington's comparative immunity from infantile paralysis this summer may possibly be attributed in some measure to the excellent health of the little folks resulting from their outdoor games on the playgrounds.

Another Poliomyelitis Theory.

Recently a western physician announced that he had, he believed, hit upon a possible agency for the cure of infantile paralysis, in the use of a serum obtained from the tonsils and adenoids of patients. He had experimented with small animals and had produced symptoms of the disease in them, which in bacteriological research is usually followed by the development of a curative serum. Now comes a Baltimore physician with the statement that he has found that the disease principle is lodged in the intestines of the victim, and that from that source may possibly be obtained a clue to the cause and perhaps the cure of the disease.

The divergence of these suggestions for the treatment of the dreadful affliction that has swept this country during the past few months and taken a terrible toll in lives should not cause discouragement. It is rather a sign of persistent research. Eventually the secret of anterior poliomyelitis must be disclosed through the efforts of scientists, working on the numerous cases under their observation. It is possible that both of the recently advanced theories are correct, and that the disease principle is lodged in and transmitted by different organs of the body. With so many men of ability laboring to solve this mystery and so much material at hand for their investigations it is incredible that the disease should continue long to baffle science.

Indiana's literary talent could have done some wonderful press work if it could have been persuaded to concentrate on either of the vice presidential candidates.

In christening their submarines the Germans have systematically refrained from efforts to rival the euphonious designations of sleeping cars and apartment houses.

Villa's exploits again call into question Carranza's abilities as a disciplinarian.

SHOOTING STARS.

BY PHILANDER JOHNSON.

A Solemn Warning.

"Do you think our republic is in danger?"

"Certainly not," replied Senator Sorghum. "It is reasonably safe now. All I say is that I shudder to think of what may befall it if I should happen not to be re-elected.

Doggie's Obligation.

You pay his license to renew;
For life you feed him free.
A doggie is man's friend so true—
At least he ought to be.

Vanished Simplicity.

"What's all this talk about a full dinner pail?" asked the woman with a positive manner.

"Why," replied the campaigner, "I am endeavoring to call your attention to the advantage of an abundant noonday lunch."

"Well, I'll have you to understand that my husband doesn't expect me to fix up any lunch for him to carry around. Dinner pail, indeed! When the whistle blows at noon he eats at a cafe, where he has all the luxuries, including the privilege of tipping the waiter."

The Traditional Wager.

"I'm glad my wife is in politics," remarked Mr. Growcher.

"Why?"

"Maybe she will get rid of some of those freak hats she has been buying by paying them out in election bets."

A Complicated Reasoner.

"How are you going to vote this fall?"

"Goin' to vote the prohibition ticket," replied Uncle Bill Bottletop.

"But the other parties are strong for killing of the demon rum."

"That's jes' the point. The prohibition party is about the only party that isn't liable to get pull enough to put our township on the dry list."

Response.

Oh, the world will be smiling instead of rude
If, in passing on your way,
You hold yourself to a gentle mood
And toss it a big bouquet.
The words may seem prosy,
But the sentiment goes;
The world will seem rosy
If you hand it a rose.

Oh, the world will seem cruel and all unjust
If the rose's grace you hide
And yield the briar with reckless thrust
As you bid men stand aside.
It's a circumstance plain,
Just as sure as you're born!
It will prick you again
If you hand it a thorn.

WHAT THE GOVERNMENT IS DOING

Fisheries Bureau.

One of the most inconspicuous but none the less interesting of Uncle Sam's public works is the bureau of fisheries—a part of the Department of Commerce. The bureau, although little has been said about it, has been of much benefit to both the fishermen and general public during the past few years.

When an opportunity for the development of a new fishery, based upon the tilefish, was recognized, the bureau set out by advice and propaganda, and actual temporary direction of the fishery in all its phases, to initiate the fishery and make it a success. The result of its efforts is known to some extent. The fish was practically unknown to the market before 1915, but within nine months after the first movement by the bureau 6,838,000 pounds of tilefish, valued at $255,000, had been marketed. An absolutely new fishery was established, with consequent benefit to fishermen, dealers and the public. The efforts in promoting the utilization of other waste fish are also meeting with marked success.

The bureau has also taken up the problems of such vital public interest as a study of the habits and propagation of fishes that destroy mosquito larvae, and are nature's protectors of public health. The problem of the decline of the shad, which has confronted the bureau for years, has been taken up by a more comprehensive and vigorous investigation than has been attempted in the past. The halibut fishery of the northwestern states has been directly aided by investigation and surveys which were promptly productive of results. The important tuna fishing and packing interests of California have sought successfully the bureau's aid, and a careful and extended investigation of the habits of the tuna has been in progress for some months.

Looking to the benefit of the salmon fisheries of the western states and Alaska, a thorough study of the habits and propagation of the salmon has been pursued, and already, it is said by officials, results are attained which will materially aid both the states and the federal government in the propagation and conservation of the salmon.

The propagation of the fresh-water mussels, on which the pearl button industry depends, has been put upon a really effective basis by the aid of appropriations from Congress providing means and personnel for practical field operations.

During the past few years fish hatcheries have been constructed under the supervision of the bureau at Louisville, Ky., and Orangeburg, S. C., and others have been established at Springville, Utah; Saratoga, Wyo., and Block Island, R. I. Work has been begun on the new biological station at Key West, Fla., and the Saratoga station is practically completed.

* * *

Inquiry Into Job Selling.

The attention of officials of the Department of Labor has recently been directed to the question of job selling, and an investigation has recently been completed. Job selling involves the practice of paying to the foreman in industrial plants a fee for securing work and also for paying money to the foreman from time to time in order that the workman may not lose his job or may receive more desirable work.

The attention of officials was first brought to this matter during the course of a recent strike, when one of the demands of the strikers was for the discharge of a foreman to whom the foreign workmen were required to contribute money from time to time in order to hold their jobs or to secure the advance in wages. In response to this and subsequent complaints an investigation was instituted which developed the fact that the collection of fees for jobs, or assessments of various kinds, by foremen was carried on in a large number of establishments.

Those directing the investigation found that in some plants the customs have been established for years. With some foremen a box of cigars or a bottle of whisky was a sufficient "present" to secure a job for ten years. Presently the applicant learned that money was more acceptable, and $5 was the usual fee for the unskilled labor; the applicant then learned that $2 or $3 extra would help him to get a job without waiting—or, in other words, it would place him on the preferred list; then the price rose to $10, and from that to $15, and at the time the investigations were begun it is stated that the fee "expected" was generally $15, $20 or even $25, for a job paying approximately 25 cents an hour.

It is said that the employes paying these fees were almost altogether non-English speaking foreigners, and those who profit from the fees are usually English speaking, or able to speak English, and quite generally of a different race from those who are exploited.

Evidence gathered by the investigators showed that the shrewder foremen, occupying comparatively high positions, seldom received the money directly from the applicant, but usually have a number of men who act as go-betweens. These go-betweens, it is said, were found in many cases to be of the same race as those exploited. It was also found that in many cases the go-between performed the service without pay—first, because it enabled him to get in better with the foremen and thereby secure better work, and, secondly, it enabled him to get work for his friends and fellow-countrymen and gave him some standing among them.

It was found during the course of the investigation that on the whole there were many reasons to believe that more or less grafting of this kind in the form of job selling by foremen, in collecting money from workmen for retaining them during slack times, for assigning them to more desirable jobs, or for increasing their wages, and in conducting raffles for the benefit of the foremen, is carried on to a greater or less extent in most of the large industrial plants where immigrants are employed.

As a result of the findings of the investigation it is said that drastic steps have been taken by many of the manufacturers to punish the foremen found guilty of such methods, and of installing methods for preventing such graft methods in the future. In the majority of plants it is believed that the practice has been practically broken up. In certain of the plants looked into during the course of the investigation three foremen have been discharged by the company officials, who were convinced of their guilt without trial; three threw up their jobs and left the state they were working in during the course of the investigation; two others stood trial and were convicted; three go-betweens pleaded guilty, and others received varying degrees of punishment. The punishment provided by law in the state of Ohio, where most of the investigation work was done, is a fine of $50 to $100. In that same state an effort is now being made to induce the legislature to enact a law covering not only the taking of a fee for a job, but also other forms of grafting on the part of foremen in industrial establishments. It its more than likely that the same kind of investigations will be carried on from time to time in the different states, owing to the success which was obtained in this first one.

* * *

Recruiting the Army.

The War Department is making strenuous efforts to recruit the army in accordance with laws enacted at the last session of Congress, and some novel methods have been put into operation. The failure to get as many men as was expected is accounted for by officials of the department by the wave of prosperity that is going over the country, whereby men have obtained jobs easily and at good salaries.

To meet the demands for the present and the immediate future, the recruiting service must be capable, it is said, of furnishing annually an average of one recruit per thousand of population. Officials of the War Department say that this can only be accomplished by canvassing every accessible locality in the United States, and establishing, through the aid of the available postmasters, subagencies. The postmasters are to be allowed a fee of $5 for each recruit enlisted through their good offices.

While the present organization of the recruiting service is considered satisfactory, the time has come, officials say, to establish definite limits to each district, not only to facilitate the work through the postmasters, but also to give each recruiting officer exact information as to the outlying areas for which he is responsible. Hereafter, without lessening the efforts that have heretofore been taken to procure recruits in the cities and large towns, special additional effort is to be made thoroughly to "comb" all the rural sections. This can be done effectively only by securing the co-operation of the postmasters.

Officials of the War Department have devised another plan for recruiting, this being in the form of a recruiting party to "canvass" in the rural districts. Expense money is to be allowed for this service.

Figures now held by the department show that the cavalry is now in excess, showing its popularity, and recruiting officers have been advised to try to make enlistments for another arm.

Under the law authorizing furlough to the reserve after one year's service, any young man who meets the requirements for enlistment may receive, without expense to himself, a training and discipline of much greater value than that for which thousands of business men and students all over the country have been willing to take at their own expense at Plattsburg and other training stations.

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Insuring Farmers.

The office of markets and rural organizations, Department of Agriculture, has recently made a careful study of various kinds of property insurance of interest to the American farmers.

There are four kinds of insurance written, the officials found, in which the farmer is particularly interested. These are insurance of buildings and personal property against loss by fire or lightning, insurance of the same objects against loss by windstorm, insurance of growing crops against hail, and insurance of live stock against death by disease or accident.

It was found that to the average farmer in this country the first two kinds of insurance usually make the strongest appeal. One reason for this, it is said, is doubtless the feeling that fire and windstorm are the destructive agencies that most frequently, at a single stroke, deprive their victims of the accumulated earnings of many years. Another reason, it is thought, for the obtaining of the first-named insurances is the fact that these are relatively less expensive. By this is meant that a larger percentage of the money collected from the insured can be used to compensate the sufferers of loss than is the case with hail or live stock insurance.

The fact that hail and live stock insurance is less generally carried by farmers in this country does not signify, the experts say, that these forms of protection are not important. Few farmers are so rich that they can wisely go without insurance. It is fortunate also that few are so poor that they are compelled to go without a safeguard that to the average farmer may be classed as a necessity. The very farmer who has but a few buildings and little personal property, and is perhaps least able to pay for insurance protection, is really the one who can least afford to go without it.

Figures show that about two-thirds of the farmers in the United States have found a method of providing themselves with fire insurance at greatly reduced cost through mutual or co-operative insurance associations, embracing a single county or some such limited territory. Dependable and cheap windstorm insurance has similarly been provided by means of larger mutual companies, often operating in close relationship with the local fire insurance mutuals. A smaller number of farmers have also provided themselves with hail and live stock insurance by means of mutual associations.

* * *

Increased Use of Natural Gas.

More natural gas was used in the United States last year than ever before, according to figures which have just been compiled by the geological survey. The quantity used was 628,578,842,000 cubic feet, which is said to exceed by nearly thirty-seven billion cubic feet, or 6 per cent, the former record, established in 1914.

According to those who have compiled this work, the average price of this gas at the point of consumption was 16.12 cents a thousand cubic feet, and its total market value was $101,312,281, a gain in price of $7,196,857, compared with the figures of 1914.

Of the total production of natural gas in 1915, it is estimated that 217,202,943,000 cubic feet was distributed to 2,195,081 domestic consumers at an average price of 28.32 cents a thousand cubic feet, and to the remaining 18,358 industrial consumers at an average price of 9.7 cents a thousand. The percentage of the total quantity consumed for domestic purposes was slightly greater in 1915 than in 1914.

The authorities say that increases in the yield of gas may be attributed, in Ohio, to the remarkable success of drilling in the Cleveland gas field; in Oklahoma to a decided expansion of the local casinghead-gasoline industry and to a greater utilization of the vast reserves of gas in the Cushing district, and in West Virginia to increased demand for this ideal fuel from sources outside the state.

CAMPAIGN COMMENTS.

From the Toledo Blade.

"Twould be no more than fair for Mr. Hughes to let Mr. Wilson have the support of women who are opposed to equal suffrage.

From the Raleigh News and Observer.

The Hughes and cries of the republicans continue in a perfect holocaust of words.

From the New Orleans Times-Picayune.

Persons who believe that Mr. Hughes' campaign speeches are ineffective are invited to consider the report that a Kentucky colonel shaved off his whiskers the other day after reading a Hughes speech.

From the Milwaukee Journal.

Now, if the colonel and Mr. O'Leary will only keep quiet a few days, the candidate may get a fair share of limelight.

From the Detroit Free Press.

Since they are asking Hughes what he would have done had he been president he might reply that he would have paid some attention to the one-term plank on which he was elected.

From the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Judge Hughes is taking to the road again. And his old traveling companion, the unanswered question, has doubtless engaged the stateroom next to his.

From the Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph.

From the way he's going after the administration it's hard to believe that in his college days Mr. Hughes didn't play foot ball.

From the Portland (Ore.) Telegram.

Since his speech accepting the nomination, Wilson's batting average has dropped several points.

FIFTY YEARS AGO IN THE STAR

Sensation Denied.

The friction between President Johnson and Congress was brewing about this time fifty years ago, although the houses were not in session. Rumor mongers were busy respecting this situation, and a nation-wide sensation was caused by the publication of the Philadelphia Ledger in a news dispatch which had an immediate and disastrous affect upon the stock market. The Star of October 11, 1866, thus described the dispatch, and formally denied it:

"Gold in New York had gone up to 153⅞ today on the strength of a sensational dispatch in the Philadelphia Ledger to the effect that the President had sent in to the Attorney General a series of interrogatories as follows, and that the Attorney General would give an opinion against the legality of Congress:

"'1st. Is the present Congress, composed of members from the northern states alone such a Congress as the Constitution requires, or is it an illegal and unconstitutional assemblage?

"'2nd. Would existing circumstances justify the President in sending his next annual message to an illegal and unconstitutional assemblage, pretending to be the Congress of the U. S.?

"'3rd. Does that clause in section 5, article I of the Constitution, which makes each house the judge of the election returns and qualifications of its own members, give to the present Congress the right to exclude the members from ten states, or to impose dishonorable and unconditional terms upon their submission?

"'4th. Does the President's oath of office require him to enforce those provisions of the Constitution which give to each state an equal right of representation in Congress?

"'5th. What steps do the Constitution and his oath of office require the President to take in order to secure the assemblage of a constitutional Congress.'

"We have authority for saying that there is not one word of truth in this dispatch to the Ledger. The fellow who would fabricate a story so mischievous at this time of feverish excitement deserves to have his ears cropped."

A subsequent issue of The Star carries a statement by the Philadelphia Ledger disclaiming the dispatch as based upon facts given by one in whom the Ledger declared it had no confidence.

* * *

Violent Storm.

Washington was swept by a terrific storm on the 10th and 11th of October, 1866, in the course of which an unprecedented quantity of rain fell, swelling the streams, bursting sewers and causing widespread damage. It was estimated by Prof. Henry of the Smithsonian, according to The Star of October 11, 1866, that between 9 a.m. Wednesday and 9 a.m. Thursday five and one-fifth inches of water fell in Washington. Rock creek left its banks and the torrent swept away much property. The bridge near Lyon's mill and the smaller bridge in that vicinity were carried away Thursday morning. A short time later the "paper mill bridge" was swept from its place and small buildings began to float down the stream. The railroad service between Washington and Baltimore was seriously delayed, as the embankments were endangered by the freshets and the trains were compelled to creep along slowly. Residences along East Capitol street, which had just been lately graded, were flooded, the water being waist deep on the lower floor of the home of Thomas E. Dant, at the corner of 9th street. Wednesday evening, during the storm, a wagon, in which were riding two passengers, in addition to the driver, was suddenly stopped at the corner of 14th and F streets, the driver discovering that the horse had sunk into the street. The driver and his passengers attempted to rescue the horse by unhitching the wagon, and the horse and a large part of the wagon disappeared, having fallen about fifteen feet into the sewer, which had given way. The sewer at the corner of 15th and H streets also gave way during the night. A singular feature of this storm was that it was accompanied by severe lightning. One of the bolts struck the flagpole over the ferryhouse at the foot of 7th street, and glancing from the flagstaff to a street car, standing in front of the building, stripped the harness from one of the horses without doing the least injury to the animal. The conductor, who was alone in the car, was thrown down, but not hurt. The water in the Washington canal rose above the walls and in the lumber yard district about 12th street the pavements were flooded. At 11th and B streets there was a veritable lake.

* * *

Still Another Gift Concert.

Notwithstanding the numerous exposures of the gift concert fraud, these enterprises continued to secure patronage. Another one had been promoted in Washington and the drawings were to take place on the evening of October 11, 1866, an immense crowd packing the National Theater despite the inclement weather. There was uproarious impatience when, after a committee had attempted to report on the manner in which the tickets had been handled for the drawings, a representative of the management declared that owing to the non-arrival of the coupons by mail the drawing was to be postponed for four days. The Star at this time was filled with letters protesting against the frauds, but nothing was done to put a stop to this form of enterprise.

* * *

Trial of Davis.

In The Star of October 13, 1866, is printed correspondence between the President and the Attorney General with reference to the prospective trial of Jefferson Davis, president of the late Confederate States of America. The President in his letter to the Attorney General noted the fact that the trial had been set for the first Tuesday in October, 1866, at Richmond, but it had developed, however, that there would be no session of the court in Richmond during that month, and there was some doubt whether the next regular term would be held. The President therefore asked the Attorney General what steps should be taken to bring about a speedy, public and impartial trial. Attorney General Stanbery, in his reply, explained the reason for the delay in the court sessions in Virginia, due to certain changes in the circuit by act of Congress, and stated that the obstruction could not be removed by executive order. In his judgment Mr. Davis must wait for trial until the courts were ready, and meanwhile he suggested that he be turned over to civil custody by the commandant at Fortress Monroe.

THE GAS HOG.

To the raucous honk of a ribald horn
And the clatter of evil claims,
And a roar from under a battered hood
Streaked gray with the suns and rains,
With a load of grub for man or beast,
In a cloud of dust I pass,
And only checked my speed to swill
A hogshead or so of gas.

A dusty demon in dungarees
Grips hold of my steering wheel.
His eyes are flint, and his lungs are brass,
And his nerves are fastened steel.
I go all night and I go all day
And never go any or grass,
Or feed of oats to fill me up,
But only a drink of gas.

The aeroplane is a pretty thing
As it spins in the distant blue
And the racing car is a brother o' mine,
And a wonderful traveler, too.
But I am the king of the long, long road,
And lord of the motor class,
For the army mule has lost his job
To the army hog of gas.

—Minna Irving in Leslie's.

THE GENIUS OF GENERAL JOFFRE

Review of the Campaign.

In the French press M. Joseph Reinach has explained, so far as government may permit, the military movements on the western front directed by Gen. Joffre. The recent general tableau of the strategic operations on that front is in the form of a study whose precision is a marvel, reflecting with singular clearness the genius of the generalissimo of the Franco-British armies.

The great war dates from August 1, 1914, with Austria's ultimatum to Serbia, followed quickly by Germany's declaration of war against Russia. France mobilized in turn by virtue of her treaty with Russia, when Germany declared war against France.

The plan of aggression is revealed from August 2, in the morning, when the neutral territory of Luxembourg is invaded by German troops. On the night of the same day on Belgium's refusal to lend her territory Germany launched a new ultimatum to Belgium, her territory was violated by the marching German armies, and in view of this violation of guaranteed neutrality England declared war against Germany on the 4th. The redoubtable war had commenced.

Alsace-Lorraine was accepted as the point of German attack by the French general staff. The fact is the political situation in France precluded all idea of an offensive war, the socialists and certain republicans forming a peace phalanx which had well nigh committed the country to a "peace at any price" policy, and which would have actually dismissed the three-year men. The political conditions in France manifestly prevented M. Reinach from treating, even touching upon, a question which is connected with the political influence then dominant, but now submitted absolutely to the "sacred union" which prevails.

August 5 Liege fell before more than the half of the mobilized effectives of the German army and Gen. von Kluck, advancing along the two banks of the Meuse, described on his extreme right an immense hook with the object of enveloping the French, defeated the Belgians at Tirlemont and after a serious check at Dinant inflicted by two French divisions under Gen. Franchet d'Esperey, entered Namur.

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Resistance by Belgium.

The German general staff counted upon the non-resistance of Belgium. The surprise was effected, but it did not expect the evolution of the popular sentiment in France, all of which permitted Gen. Joffre to profit by the Belgian resistance, which was formidable and effective.

August 20 the center of the left wing of the French army of the northeast received the order to attack from Conde to Longy at the same time that the British under Gen. French, recently landed, held the extreme French left. But the more numerous and better equipped German masses pushed back the French center under Langle de Cary and de Ruffey. This recoil uncovered the French left and the British army gave way August 22 and 23, notwithstanding the success of Franchet d'Esperey in staying the overlapping movement of the German right wing, commanded by von Kluck. The battle at Charleroi terminated the first great engagement of the war—an engagement justly entitled "the battle of the frontier."

Gen. Joffre, with the knowledge that neither in men nor material was he able to cope with the adversary, decided on a retreat to French territory, preparing as he marched for the supreme contest in his mind. The general-in-chief understood the peril of such a decision, the peril of displeasing the army, and the greater peril of alarming the people.

The general orders to the three armies of the northeast issued August 24 were formal. The junction of the 4th and 5th armies and the British forces would form "a mass capable of renewing the offensive during the time that other armies would restrain the efforts of the enemy." The fifth article of these orders stipulated that before Amiens between Domart and Pouthieu or Corbies or behind the Somme would be grouped from August 27 to September 2 a new army constituted by new elements transported by railways ready to take the offensive in the general direction of Saint-Pol-Arras or Arras-Bapaume.

The rapidity of the German advance prevented Gen. Joffre from halting on the lines indicated, namely: "He will retire to a position which will give the commander-in-chief the power of assuming the offensive." That is to say, where 70 per cent of the chances favor success, a principle observed notably by Napoleon, who invariably refused to fight unless of such chances.

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Joffre's Power.

Gen. Joffre possesses in a high degree the power of infusing his armies with the quality of confidence. August 27 the 6th army was constituted under the orders of Gen. Maunoury and placed near the British army in the region of Amiens extending toward Dammartin, between the Oise on the west, Ourcq and the Marne on the east, while prior to the menace of envelopment by von Kluck the 3d, 4th and 5th armies between which was interposed the 9th army, commanded by Gen. Foch, which achieved partial victories at Duk, Signy, l'Abbaye and Guise. The Germans in the meantime occupied Amiens, La Fere, Rethel, Soissons, Rheims. Fearing to be cut off from Havre, the British transferred their naval base to Saint Nazaire.

The general-in-chief continued his retreat, supported on the west by the intrenched camp at Paris, on the east by Verdun, while the French armies of the Vosges and Lorraine held firm and steadfast. September 1 Gen. Joffre addressed a new order—"instruction"—indicating with entire frankness that the retreat might extend to the Seine, to the Aube, to the Camp de Mailly and to the north of Bar-le-Duc. The following day a complementary note went so far as to announce that the zone of retreat might even extend more to the rear on a line from Pont sur Yonne, even reach Nogent and Arcis, or Brienne to Chateau and Joinville.

An order to the army assigned reasons for the retreat thus:

"To contract our lines, complete our effectives, prepare with all chances for our success the general offensive which the commander may order in a few days."

In the execution of the retreat the left army defiled, September 3, near the capital, which the government had quitted, having confided the defense to Gen. Galliéni. The army of Gen. von Kluck advanced on Paris in effect at the rate of twenty-five miles a day; it traversed Compiegne, Senlis, Chantilly; it was one day's march from the coveted city.

The German general staff had understood nothing of the strategic retreat of Joffre, so contrary to French habits, but thought the retreat real, definite. It supposed the British army hors de combat, the French army diminished, undone. The German staff did not ignore the existence of the army of Maunoury, since become the army of the Ourcq, then the army of Paris, Galliéni having given him the mission to cover the capital north and east. But the German staff did not fear the army. Because of its improvisation, being composed hastily and of "odds and ends," it was incapable of opposing von Kluck. Now von Kluck had a different opinion, and pronounced against an immediate offensive against the capital, and his counsel prevailed.

September 3 von Kluck thus stopped his march on Paris, obliqued to the southeast to fall on the British forces and the French left. Several hours later Gen. Galliéni signaled the change of direction of the enemy to the generalissimo, which was confirmed by aerial reconnaissances.

Five German armies of von Kluck, with the army of the crown prince, whose left wing touched the Meuse, entered the vast passage between the intrenched camps of Paris and Verdun. The 1st German army inclined from the Oise toward the Marne, passing in turn before Paris and also before the army of Gen. Maunoury; the peril of envelopment is averted. The part to be enacted by the general-in-chief was now to begin. It was the moment for the offensive.

September 4 Joffre commanded halt to the retreating armies to all except the 3d and 4th, which would not halt until the morrow. The attack was ordered for September 6. The disposition of the different armies of attack had been prepared. The German army now was moving from the immediate region of Paris to the valley of the Marne near Bar-le-Duc. Its back was to the Seine, facing the Marne. The central German mass of von Bulow and von Hausen was confronted by the army of Gen. Franchet d'Esperey, by the 9th, under the orders of Gen. Foch. These were shaped like a T west of the British army and the 6th army of Maunoury, on the east were the armies of Langle de Cary and of Sarrail, the 4th and the 2d. These last faced the Duke of Wurtemburg and the crown prince. Maunoury threatened the German right flank and Sarrail the left.

Since the noon of the 5th the 6th army was marching in the direction of the Ourcq, and on the evening Maunoury engaged a German corps covering the march of von Kluck.

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Proclamation by Joffre.

The night of the 5th the general-in-chief addressed to the army a proclamation which was read to the army on the 6th: "At the moment when the battle on which depends the safety of the country commences, it is well to recall that we should not look behind, but to the front; all efforts should be employed to attack and crush the enemy; a troop which can no longer advance should die rather than recoil. In the actual circumstances no weakness can be tolerated."

The battle of the Marne was engaged between more than 2,000,000 men, and on fronts of more than 200 kilometers. It lasted from the 6th to the 11th of September. This battle respected not the unities of time, place and action. The greatest battle ever imagined was composed, in fact, of twenty battles, the loss of a single one of which would have led to a disaster to the French.

Maunoury, who would turn von Kluck, followed up his attack of August 5 on the 6th and 7th. But the 6th French army, although overfought and overfatigued, was tireless, and von Kluck, who perceived the peril, repassed the Marne and threw himself on Maunoury. It was then that Galliéni sent to the front, in the night of the 7th and 8th, half by rail, half by automobiles, a division which had arrived in Paris from Africa.

September 9 was the decisive day. Von Kluck, in order to defend himself from the enveloping tactics of Maunoury, was reinforced by Bulow. The 2d German army, than weakened, its British vis-a-vis, by the expectance to cross the Marne, and with the 5th French army attacked the enemy's flank. Von Kluck failed to defend his left, and, menaced by envelopment by the Anglo-French, von Kluck was forced to give the order to retreat. Extricated by the 6th army of Maunoury, the 5th army of Franchet d'Esperey extricated, in turn, the heavily pressed 9th army of Foch. The armies of von Bulow and von Hausen, beaten in turn, were obliged to follow von Kluck in his retreat to the north. In the night of the 9th Gen. Foch ordered an attack by the flank, surprised and crushed the German guard, and the night of the 10th Foch established his headquarters at La Fere.

September 10 the victory spread over the entire field of battle. Successively the enemy armies beat a retreat. Maunoury, superior to Bulow, pursuing the retreat, completed the disappearance of von Kluck. He ascended the Ourcq, while the Germans retired to the forest of Villers-Cotterets.

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Much Ground Regained.

From August 23 to September 12, Castelnau and Dubail, the 2d army, called the army of Lorraine, and the 1st army of the Vosges assumed the offensive, and, having forced the Germans back, saved Nancy and the Vosges, occupying the line of the forest of Champenoise, Gerbeviller, Lunerville, Saint Die, Bacarat, Pont-a-Mousson. All the line of the Meuse was taken from the Germans, now on the defensive, and under cover of trenches prepared in anticipation of just such a situation.

The war in the field, the war of movement was finished; the war of trenches commenced, and Gen. Joffre was obliged to adopt and adapt tactics which were comparatively new and ill accorded to the natural temperament of the French soldier. But comp