



America asks nothing for herself, but what she has a right to ask for humanity. WOODROW WILSON.

THE BATTLE OF VERDUN.

The Germans are still hammering away, without decisive effect, against the half circle of French steel and men which protects Verdun. This greatest battle of the ages will mark the culminating point of the present war.

A GRATIFYING BALANCE SHEET.

The official statement of the United States treasury, issued on the 18th inst., shows a remarkable falling off of expenses and a good increase in the nation's income, so far during the present fiscal year.

When the personal income tax is paid at the end of June it is believed that the revenues for the fiscal year will equal all of the nation's expenses for the year.

LET THE REPUBLICANS ALSO NOMINATE WILSON.

Were Woodrow Wilson a Republican President, with a record of achievement identical with his record as a Democratic President, the Republicans would renominate him by acclamation.

CAN'T WIN WITHOUT IT.

It will be something like two months hence that the platforms of the national political parties will be written. In this memorable year of grace, writing the ordinary platitudes will be as easy as usual, but in this same memorable year of grace the ordinary platitudes will lack efficiency.

AMERICA FIRST.

It matters little which party, as a party, writes it. No party can win next November which does not make those two words the upstanding sentiment of its platform.

First Real Flying Machine.

The flying machine (that is, the heavier-than-air machine) that first bore men through the air successfully was an American, and not a German machine.

New Vegetable.

Dasheens, a succulent vegetable, resembling the mushroom, are being shipped to the northern markets from Florida, where they are grown according to instructions sent out by the Department of Agriculture.

TWO PICTURES.

"Fate holds a ripe apple to our lips in Mexico. x x x A relatively short and certainly successful campaign against Mexico. x x x The inclusion within our sphere of influence of a vast, fertile, potentially rich territory. x x x If we win in a war against Mexico we know what we get out of it. x x x And it is practically impossible for us to lose. x x x Yet our President persistently turns from the golden fruit and as persistently seems determined to make us eat of the bitter one—humanity!"

Thus does the Chicago Tribune editorially yearn and yearn, even to slaver at the thought of the richness of the prospective pickings, for the conquest of Mexico. Thus does it mourn and mourn, even with tears, because the President of the United States declines to turn aside from his high duty of defending humanity's rights and American lives from wanton murder to the prosecution of enterprises which would put money in our pockets.

It may be said that there is a duty to defend humanity's rights and American lives in Mexico as well as upon the seas. Admitted; but the gravity of an offense depends somewhat upon the professed character of the offender.

While murders by semi-savages and murders by boastfulers of their civilization are alike murder, the latter shock the moral sense as the former do not. From semi-savages we expect savagery. In entering their neighborhood we foresee and assume the risk. That such risks must be assumed in going near nations deemed fully civilized we held incredible.

Contrast the picture above, which the artist confesses subjects him to an accusation of a "crass and base materialism," with that which is impressed upon the spiritual retina by Woodrow Wilson's brief definition of America's motives: "America asks nothing for herself but what she has a right to ask for humanity itself!"

Two pictures! One which is in very truth that drawn by the promptings of a "crass and base materialism"; the other drawn by the instincts of a noble idealism! One voicing the impulses of a handit smacking his chops at the sight of spoil; the other voicing the spirit of fathers and mothers who sent forth their sons "to die to make men free!"

Which is the true picture of the American soul? To every man and woman worthy of the name "American" the question answers itself. It answers itself now as it answered itself at Valley Forge, when the Alamo called, when Sumter and the slave called, when the oppressed of Cuba called. And the answer of the American soul now as then is not "What shall we get out of it?" but "What do just ice, duty, honor demand?"

NO GAINS AT VERDUN

GERMANS DROPPED BOMBS ON DUNKIRK AND ENGLAND. Four Persons Killed and One Injured, Says Official Statement From London.

London, April 26.—Following within a few hours the Zeppelin raid on England, German war planes in the morning raided the French coast town of Dunkirk, dropping six bombs. One woman was killed and three men wounded. According to a statement from the Paris war office, only slight damage was done.

Details of the Zeppelin raid on England revealed that several bombs were dropped and one man was injured. Four or five Zeppelins, according to the official press bureau, took part in the raid.

An official statement says: "The air raid over the Norfolk and Suffolk coasts appears to have been carried out by four or five Zeppelins, only two of which made a serious attempt to penetrate inland."

About seventy bombs appear to have been dropped. One man is reported seriously injured. No further details of the casualties are now available.

Renewed heavy fighting in the region of Dead Man's hill is reported from the Verdun front. The Germans and French are taking the offensive alternately. According to Berlin and Paris neither side has gained any ground.

Three successive attacks were made by the Germans. The Paris war office announcement of the afternoon says the first two assaults failed completely and that the third attack, although assisted by the use of gas, also broke down. The Germans sustained heavy losses.

According to Berlin the French made heavy counter-attacks. The French advanced in waves against the German trenches, but were driven back under the fire of infantry.

Further details of fighting on the west front are told in an official French statement as follows: "There has been great activity on the part of the artillery in the region of Avocourt. Some time during the night the enemy endeavored, but without success, to occupy our advanced posts of the Avocourt redoubt."

Early Discouraged. Mother—"No, Betty darling, I can't button your boots for you. Now you have a little sister you must learn to do things for yourself." Betty—"Shall I always have to do things for myself?" Mother—"Yes, darling." Betty—"Then I don't flunk I shall like life."—Punch.

London, Two British light cruisers and a destroyer were hit in a 20-minute engagement with a German cruiser squadron at daybreak, following a raid by the Germans on Lowestoft. The German vessels escaped.

The raid on the eastern English coast was preceded by a similar raid on Zebrugge and other Belgian coast towns in possession of the Germans by a British squadron. Zebrugge was vigorously shelled and some ships were sunk. Three German destroyers are said to have been hit.

The following official statement on the Lowestoft raid has been issued: "At about 4.30 o'clock in the morning the German battle cruiser squadron, accompanied by light cruisers and destroyers, appeared off Lowestoft. The local naval forces engaged it and in about twenty minutes it returned to Germany, chased by our light cruisers and destroyers."

On shore two men, one woman and a child were killed. The material damage seems to have been insignificant, so far as is known at present. Two British light cruisers and a destroyer were hit, but none was sunk."

The German squadron raided the English coast under cover of darkness. The Germans bombarded Lowestoft at long range. The victims all were killed in bed.

Zebrugge Raid Described. The British raid on the Belgian coast is reported in an Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Amsterdam. The dispatch says the following message has been received in Amsterdam from Flushing: "Several British war ships, accompanied by destroyers and other vessels, bombarded Zebrugge and the German batteries off Heyst, Blankenberghe and Knocke. The bombardment was one of the heaviest since the beginning of the war and also one of the longer duration."

The damage done at Zebrugge is said to have been enormous. The harbor and docks were hit several times and some ships were sunk. "British aircraft also threw bombs on German batteries."

BRITISH FIGHT GERMAN FLEET

Teutons Flee After Raid on East Coast of England. FOUR PERSONS ARE KILLED Kaiser's Squadron Bombed Lowestoft at Long Ranges—Three British Ships Hit During Battle.

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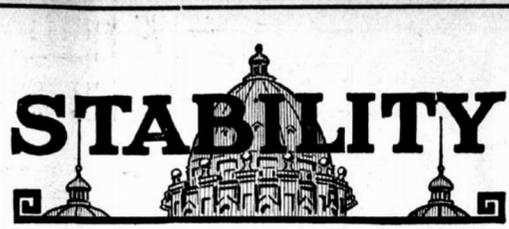
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WAITING!



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Japanese Proverbs.

Proverbs have great influence with the Japanese in their daily lives, according to a writer in the Christian Register. Among their countless adages these, with their English equivalents, are quoted: "Some insects feed upon smartweed" (There is no accounting for tastes). "If in a hurry, go round" (The more haste, the less speed). "Live under your own hat" (Let well enough alone). "The mouth is the front gate to misfortune" (The tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity).

Others "Best Selves."

We all find a good deal of comfort in thinking of our best selves. If we thought very much about our worst selves we should be pretty miserable. Such thinking as we do about "worst selves" is usually about the worst selves of other people. And our consciousness of the worst selves of other people usually corresponds with our power to bring out those worst selves. —John D. Barry.

Richmond Blessings.

In the window of a colored restaurant on the North side: "Come in and get your fill of sausage and old Virginia corncakes, with plenty of sure-ground sirup, and get a glimpse of the land where the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest." —St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Cultivate Little Courtesies.

There is a saying that it is the "little foxes that spoil the vines;" that is, the little annoyances that eat into the raw of existence. With truth we may add that in as great a measure the little courtesies help to build character and increase the joys of living.

May It Last.

"Is their married life happy?" "Nothing else. She thinks he is the wisest person on earth and he thinks she is the most beautiful. Perfect, eh?" —Louisville Courier-Journal.



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