Small Bank vs. Branch Bank.

By H. V. Cann In August Century.

It has become a mere platitude to speak of the great reforms and improvements in American banking brought about by the new law of 1913. Every one knows how the central reserves of gold and credit have been mobilized and what the benefits are of the sound note issues that are adjustable to the needs of the country.

These newly created safeguards against the old time panics are such outstanding features as to overshadow other advantages now enjoyed by the public from the daily operations under the same law. Readily available reserves and an ample supply of currency afford the very necessary provision against emergencies, yet for ordinary times and in the day-to-day work of financing the industry and commerce of the country other new developments are equally or more important. A low and stable rate of discount has for the first time been made effective throughout the country. A considerable volume of trade is being cheaply financed by bankers' acceptances. A national discount market has passed the first stages of development. Many economics are apparent in the settlement of domestic exchanges through a central gold fund.

Perhaps more important than all in ultimate effect upon American banking is the beginning of branch banking by the national banks. If many follow the lead of the two or three who have started to operate domestic and foreign branches, the possibilities for American banking are unlimited. Most people agree that branches abroad are needed, but opinions differ when a domestic branch bank system is proposed.

Years ago there used to be discussions of the relative merits of single independent banks and branch banks. The uninformed contended that a community is better served by a small locally owned bank than by the branch of a large institution. Those who are experienced in both kinds of banking do not doubt the superiority of the branch system that for more than 200 years has been tried under every conceivable condition. It grows in usefulness and strength everywhere. In fact, in every important country except the United States the day of the small bank is almost ended. During this generation the private bankers and small banks in Great Britain have gradually merged with large institutions until there are now only about half as many as there were 20 years ago. The present number is 79, with 9,100 branches. The branches have doubled in number during the same period, and there is one for about every 500 people. One bank operates 1,000 branches, several have over 500 branches, and all except the Bank of England have over 100. The same tendency is observed on the continent and in Canada; the process of amalgamation, the gradual decline of the small banks, has left only about half the number that were doing business 25 years ago. The 22 head offices in the dominion operate 3,000 branches there and 75 elsewhere. Competition has given the Canadians a bank office for about each 2,500 people. Here the national and state institutions combined show an average of one for each 4,000 inhabitants. The state banks furnish some examples in a small way of efficient branch bank service.

Sir Douglas Haig.

Alfred Gardiner in Century.

"I have seen Sir Douglas Haig described as 'a rough hewn soldier,' who, like Kleber, makes you feel brave to look at him. If you meet him with that picture in your mind you have a shock of surprise. It is true that his bearing is gallant and soldierly and that he conveys the sense of a man entirely master of himself and of his task. He is one of the youngest generals in the British army, but he is young looking even for his years. This suggestion of youth is due not only to the rapid movements of the stalwart frame, but more definitely to the smooth, untroubled face. In profile it slants forward from the retreating brow to the adventurous nose and the big, strong chin. Seen in front the face is square and massive, the mouth broad and decisive, the blue gray eyes are calm and direct.

"But in his manner, speech and habit of mind there is no trace of the 'rough hewn soldier.' He is as remote as anything that can be imagined from suggesting the hard, merciless features of the typical Prussian, Mackensen or Falkenhayn, for example. Despite his uniform, he suggested Oxford more than the barrack room, and one feels that he would be charming and reassuring by the bedside, whether as the rector or the doctor. He irradiates a certain atmosphere of what I may call benevolent alertness. He wins one's confidence by the obvious sincerity and candor of his speech, is tolerant of a contrary opinion and listens with respect to anything that deserves respect.

"But overemphasis, cocksureness, dogmatism have short shrift from him. It is not that he rebukes them by word, but that he makes them seem false and crude by contrast with his own serene and governed manner. He is like the skilful horseman who rules his steed, not by the whip and spur, but by the subtle authority of a superior will conveyed through hints that are at once gentle and indisputable. In the midst of his staff his mastery is obvious without being demonstrative. It has the art of evoking the maximum of thought and directing it into the right channels without surrendering any element of respect. It is the art of the judge who encourages the counsel to enlighten him, but preserves his right of judgment."

Uncle Sam and the Sleeping Princess.

From the Wichita Beacon.

Thirty per cent of our exports to Russia and 29 per cent of our imports from Russia were handled by German commission houses before the war.

This indirect method of doing business was expensive but our manufacturers ignored the losses, incidental to the commission system. Dealing through Germany was a habit.

This was quite in line with our general ignorance of all things Russian.

How many persons ever stop to think that the immigrants from whom we get most of our ideas of Russia are not Slavs at all? That they in no way are representatives of the 75 per cent of Russia's population which is the real Russian people?

Most intelligent persons know more about the literature of Russia, and the immigration problem she has sent us, than than they know about the commercial opportunities she offers.

Few realize how enormous is Russia's natural wealth in minerals, timber and agricultural lands, or remember the figures of her population—170,000,000—a population which furnishes the labor supply she requires for the development of her riches.

We have ignored Russia because we thought her asleep.

But now an "awakened Russia" has astonished the world.

Russia has discovered herself, economically, as a result of the war, very much as Uncle Sam has discovered himself commercially.

Uncle Sam is now the banker for the world. His export trade exceeds the vision of the optimists. But the big question which is now bothering him is how he can keep his foreign markets—after the war.

"By going after them," says the economists who are making a study of after the war trade possibilities. And the general impression seems to be that Russia is the country which presents the greatest trade opportunity which has ever come Uncle Sam's way.

Before the war Germany controlled half of Russia's trade.

After the war, it will be a long time before Germany can re-establish any kind of friendly commerce commerce with Russia. She has, however, aroused new desires and new needs in the Russian masses. The abolition of the vodka trade has given the people a savings fund with which to gratify their needs.

But Germany will not provide for them.

Students of international commercial conditions believe that the United States can do so.

Economists point out that trade between two nations can not endure unless buying and selling are reciprocal. Ships which carry our exports abroad must return with imports.

The foundation for the exchange of materials and products already exists between the United States and Russia. She needs cotton, carpet wools, vegetable fiber, timbers and aluminum which we need. We now takes locomotives, cars, agricultural implements and machinery of all kinds which we desire to sell.

Russia is ready to take a mighty forward leap in civilization and she needs modern scientific tools to help here. The United States has everything she wants.

Some Military Information.

To the Editor of the Milwaukee Journal: At a time like this, when the news reports are filled with army terms, think it would be of general interest to know what they mean. I am confused by reading of corporal sergeant, first lieutenant, second lieutenant and so on, without knowing the relative rank, also as to how many men in a platoon, brigade, regiment, company, etc. What is a commissioned and what a noncommissioned officer? If all these terms could be made clear it would help in understanding the news. I would also like to know how the West Point and Annapolis schools are supplied with students. Inquirer.

New Prague, Minn., July 8.

Commissioned officers of the regular army are commissioned by the president. The president nominates a man and commissions him "by and with the consent of the Senate." They are the commanders, or executives, of the army. Noncommissioned officers are appointed by the commissioned officers commanding companies, troops, batteries, battalions, squadrons, regiments or higher units. Some of the higher noncommissioned officers receive warrants from the secretary of war. They are assistants to the commissioned officers, and may be likened to the foreman of large industrial concerns, whereas the commissioned officers are heads of departments and managers.

A company is a body of men commanded by a captain, consisting of from 100 to 150 men. A platoon is half a company commanded by a lieutenant.

A battalion is a body of infantry, composed of two or more companies, forming one-third of a regiment. A regiment consists of three battalions and four companies each. A brigade is a body of troops, whether infantry, cavalry, artillery or mixed, consisting of two or more regiments and commanded by a brigadier general.

Major General—Highest ranking officer in the United States army at present; commander of a division; brigadier general, an officer who commands a brigade.

Colonel—Commanding officer of a regiment; lieutenant colonel, second in command of a regiment; major, commander of battalion or squadron.

Captain—Commander of a company of infantry or troop of cavalry, or battery of artillery; first lieutenant, second in command of a company, troop or battery; second lieutenant, the lowest commissioned officer.

Adjutant—A staff officer who assists the commanding officer in the details of his duty; adjutant general, chief of a bureau of the war department. In actual service in the field, establishes camp forms lines of battle, etc.; sergeant major, highest noncommissioned officer; sergeant, a noncommissioned officer who sees that good order is observed at quarters, instructs recruits and commands small detachments; corporal, lowest noncommissioned officer.

West Point Cadets—Each senator, congressman and delegate, including those of Porto Rico, Alaska and Hawaii, is entitled to name one cadet at the academy. The District of Columbia, two cadets. There are also 40 appointments at large specially conferred by the president.

Annapolis Midshipmen—Two midshipmen are allowed for each senator, representative and delegate in congress, two for the District of Columbia, 10 each year from the United States at large and 15 each year from the enlisted personnel of the navy, who have been one year in the service. The appointments from the district of Columbia and 10 at large are made by the president; while the 15 each year from the enlisted personnel of the navy are made by the secretary of the navy after a competitive examination. One is allowed from Porto Rico who must be a native of the island.

Some Ed Howe Thoughts.

My hero is probably a dub to you. I haven't one just now, but venture the prediction.

If you are a failure, your wife knows the trusts didn't do it; she knows you have the same opportunities other men enjoy, and do not take advantage of them.

A liar is always shocked if another man does not tell the truth.

Don't put a fancy polish on anything intended to be plain.

In spit of our terrible experience with pensions, we are not afraid of them. Indeed, that fool thing known as public sentiment suggests that pensions begin before war with Mexico is started.

Be fair with your enemies, if you can; but always be fair with your friends.

Women talk about men in the cold matter of fact way in which men discuss business.

The New York Independent lately attempted to tell the difference between the republican and democratic parties. There isn't any difference; the platforms of both are the same old tickle stuff we have been familiar with for years.

It Gets Results.

One of the largest manufacturing companies in this country has removed the soot from its smoke stack and chimneys by exploding blasting powder in them for several years, states the current number of the Engineering Record. The use of the method has not been the cause of any accidents or injury to the stacks. A gun is made by drilling a hole in the center of a piece of shafting and is loaded with the powder. This is exploded inside of the stack or chimney to be cleaned.

WAS LATE IN SIGNING

From the Washington Star.

A curious fact about one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence is that he signed the document two and a half years after its adoption; that he was not a member of congress at the time, and was permitted to affix his signature by a special resolution of congress.

The date of signing the Declaration of Independence by the various members of the congress of the colonies has long been a matter or doubt, Adams and Jefferson differing from other members in their recollection.

It is now, however, well settled from other documents that the Declaration as passed by the Colonial congress July 4, 1776, was signed on that day only by John Hancock, president, and Charles Thompson, secretary.

The Declaration was not voted on until the evening of July 4, 1776. The confusion on these matters arose from the fact that the resolution introduced by Richard Henry Lee, of Virginia, June 7, 1776, declaring "That these United Colonies are and of a right ought to be free and independent states" was adopted by the congress July 2, 1776, and published in the Pennsylvania Evening Post on that date.

July 4, 1776, after the adoption of the Declaration as prepared by Jefferson and reported by the committee, congress ordered an engrossed copy to be prepared for signing by all the members. This engrossed copy on parchment was August 2, 1776, signed in an open session of congress by all the then members of congress who were present. Seven of these were new members who had not been present July 4, when the Declaration was adopted. They were Clymer, Morris, Ross, Rush, Smith, Taylor and Thornton.

Thomas McKean, of New Jersey, was a member of congress July 4, 1776, and voted for the adoption of the Declaration, but left the next day to join his regiment and was absent at the time of signing by the others August 2. It was because of this, and still more because of his gallant efforts to uphold the Declaration, that two and a half years later congress passed the special resolution permitting him to sign and thus placing his name among the immortals.

This is the reason why the authenticated copy of the Declaration of Independence printed by Mary Katherine Goddard in Baltimore under a resolution of congress January 18, 1877, did not contain the signature of Thomas McKean.

Night-Flying Birds.

Frank M. Chapman in St. Nicholas.

"It is difficult to believe that at times during the season of migration the sky at night is filled with birds from dusk until dawn. Onward they hurry through the darkness. If they see the earth below, it must be too dim to guide them on their journey. Still, they find their way just as surely as do those birds which travel by day.

"The day fliers are hardy rovers which are used to the open, and do not hesitate to venture far from cover. But the night fliers are the shy, retiring birds of thickets and undergrowth which rarely go far from their own door step. Or, if they live in trees, their flight is usually only from tree to tree. The thrushes, warblers, vireos, and small flycatchers are all night fliers.

"For several reasons, we know more about the travels of the night fliers than we do about those of the day fliers. First, because many more birds travel by night than by day. Second, because practically all birds that fly by night are real migrants. Third, because the night fliers seem unable to avoid the light houses in their way, and the number killed by striking these beacons erected for man's safety has given us a vast amount of information concerning the birds that travel after dark.

"By night as well as by day our ears can tell us much about the number of birds that are passing overhead. Indeed, during nights when many birds are flying, we can, from favorable places, such as high hilltops or cities in the birds' highway, hear their call-notes almost constantly. The hill brings us nearer the birds, and the city lights bring the birds nearer to us. Light seems to attract them as it does moths.

"An ornithologist at Madison, Wis., states that on the night of September 14, 1906, no less than 3,800 bird calls were heard from one place. The average was 12 calls for each minute, but at times so many calls were heard that it wdas evident the air above was thronged with birds."

Negro Sergeant Was a Hero.

James Hopper in Collier's Weekly.

I know of a certain expedition into Mexico from which newspapermen were barred—all but a few whose editors were made to go through all sorts of genuflexions in Washington and to lay down pots of gold as guarantee for said reporters' discretion. And these few were kept for a month prisoners in a camp at the rear and allowed to send out only stories of goats and lizards.

Why, of that expedition the best story is still unknown—the story of how a negro sergeant took 10 wounded men from a train wreck for I don't know how many miles on a handcar. Considered as a mere physical performance, the feat is a remarkable one. Have you ever pumped a handcar all alone?

But this was in a desert, along a rudimentary railroad of steep grades. And the car was not empty, but bore 10 wounded men. Besides pumping the car alone, this negro trooper cared for the wounded, and once he had to stop and burry one of them.

Well, the reporters were never allowed to send that story out. The censorship decided that it was not a good story for the people of the United States to know. Gee, I do hate all censorships!

To Outlaw a Grim Weapon.

From the Springfield (Mass.) Republican.

Little notice seems to have been drawn to the grim statement the other day, made quite incidentally in a report from Petrograd, that the Germans in one place, having used flame projectors, were refused quarter.

This amounts to a declaration of outlawry against this hideous weapon, which was first used in war, so far as known, by the crown prince's army against the French in the Argonne, but which was employed, together with poison gas, in a destructive way against the Russians in the fighting on the Dunajek in the spring of 1915.

Both poisonous gas and flame projectors were at first strongly denounced by the allies, but at least, so far as gas is concerned, the French and British seem to have given their sanction by imitating the Germans; to outlaw its use would now be difficult, except by international agreement.

If the flame projector, which is apparently a more abhorrent thing, has been used on only one side, it is open to the other to deny its standing as a legitimate weapon, and to punish its users as though they had been caught poisoning wells.

The Child and Adult Life.

From Minneapolis (Minn.) Journal.

It cannot be questioned that George Henry Payne has rendered a real service by writing "The Child In Human Progress" (Putnam), an exhaustive work on the social status of the child in all races and ages from ancient Tyre up to the founding of child welfare societies in our generation. For it is by experimentation that mankind makes progress, and in the light of what man has done, men may learn what is best to do.

Mr. Payne is to be highly praised for his industry in collecting so many facts from so wide a field. No fault can be found in the main, with his presentation of facts. But in all discussions it is necessary to realize that it is not so much the facts in themselves that are important, as the degree of justice with which the relations between those facts are ascertained. If there is a serious fault in Mr. Payne's work, it is concerned with his perception of relations.

He is evidently one of those who look upon our age as vastly superior to all other ages—an opinion reached by a process of feeling rather than of thinking. He is, like so many of our time, a victim of the illusion of headlong progress. Being a specialist in child welfare, he is inclined to make the social status of the child the sole criterion of civilization.

He conjectures that the human race has existed something like 240,000 years, 10,000 of which cover the period of civilized man. Humanized man, he says, has been in existence "not more than a few hundred years," and it is within only 50 years that the race has been concerned with the protection of the child.

From his standpoint, therefore, it would seem that within our own time the world has abruptly and somewhat unaccountably decided to soar. The fault in the deduction is apparent to any sober thinker, free from the characteristic myopia of our time. Civilizations are judged by what they produce, and by nothing else. That Mr. Payne's position is untenable is shown by the judgment he reaches in applying his universal criterion—child welfare—to civilizations.

In discussing Greek civilization of the Fifth century before Christ, which unquestionably reached a height never since attained, he cites the practice of exposing defective children at birth. Wherefore, he argues, our civilization is superior to that of the Greek; for, have we not child welfare advocates in steadily increasing numbers and are we not legislating against child labor? But, on the other hand, Mr. Payne forgets to ask whether we can now match Eschylus, Sophocles, Euripides, Aristophanes, Socrates and Plato, and whether our society is, in general, better ordered than was Greek society under Pericles.

It is unfortunate that Mr. Payne, in his zeal for child welfare, should have represented so unjustly the state of Athenian civilization; for in the supreme matter of the conduct of life we of this generation have more to learn from the Fifth century Greeks than we could teach them.

Furthermore, Mr. Payne is rather too vague. The uninformed reader would gather that there was essentially no difference between Homeric, Spartan and Athenian ideals. For his purposes, the generic term "Greek" is sufficiently specific. Nor does he think it worthy of notice that Athenians of the Fifth century were considerably interested in the problem of mentality, physically and spiritually educating their young men. This lamentable tendency toward special pleading constitutes a serious defeat in a work that in some other respects commands esteem.

Mr. Payne has also fallen into the prevalent error of regarding childhood as an end in itself. He remarks with an air of triumph that this is the "century of the child," without reflecting that a century which is too much a century of the child is likely to be a childish century! He has nothing to say of indulgence and the increasingly noticeable loss of the sense of obedience in the young; nor does he consider the baneful effect of slackened discipline upon education in general.

The book is generally admirable on the factual side; but so far as its philosophical aspects are concerned, Mr. Payne's work shows in a surprising degree the womanization of contemporary American thought by the substitution of sentiment and immediacy for logic and the long view.

BEER NOT COOLING.

As I write I am able to see a group of workingmen building a house. The house, a brick building, is up as far as the second story. The men are brick masons, hod carriers, mortar mixers, carpenters, and general helpers. There is practically no shade. The temperature in the shade for several days has ranged from 68 to 88. The humidity has ranged from 68 to 91, being between 70 and 72 most of the time. The wet bulb temperature has ranged from 76 to 80, going up considerably during a rain. It has been clear most of the time.

This is a dry district. Every morning a beer wagon drives up and leaves bottled beer. I notice that the men drink a bottle of beer from time to time. A mason stops laying brick for a few minutes, wipes the sweat from his face, drinks a bottle of beer, looks around a bit, picks up his trowel and goes back to work.

A member of the crew of the Deutschland is quoted as follows: "Yes, we have beer on board, but not a drop of it is taken on stormy days or night. There is no need for prohibition either. We have all tried at one time or another to quench our thirst with beer in our rest hours, only to suffer the tortures of hades when we are back on our post. It makes you perspire 100 times worse than does water, and water we drink like camels. We take enough of it in eight hours of rest to bathe us in the four hours on watch."

The workmen on this building next door will do well to listen to this sailor on the Deutschland. Beer contains 4 per cent of alcohol. A pint of beer contains eight-tenths of an ounce of alcohol, nearly a tablespoonful, equivalent to nearly two tablespoonsful of whisky. While cold beer tastes cool and pleasant to a hot man, it does not "cool him off."

On the other hand, it heats him up. The alcohol and solids are burned into heat. The effect of the alcohol is to send an excess of blood to the skin. Whenever a large amount of blood goes to the skin it causes a feeling of warmth. When a man drinks beer he causes himself to feel hot. He also actually increases his body heat. He increases his chance of sunstroke at least 100 per cent.

The best drink for a man at work in hot weather is clean, cool water. If the contractor next door knows what is good for him and for his men he will hire a water boy and furnish plenty of clean, cool water to the men on the job.

Cruelty to Horses.

Letter to Editor of New York Times.

A majority of our aldermen recently voted against a proposed ordinance, the passage of which would have effectually prevented much cruelty to the draft horses of this city, besides much needless delay and inconvenience to the general public.

A great deal of nonsense has been written and spoken regarding the usefulness of all appliances to keep horses from slipping in winter. The fact remains, however, that the horses of some business houses here never do slip, while thousands that are unprotected slip and fall constantly in icy weather, and will it has been decreed, continue to do so until the board of aldermen shall pass an ordnance making owners responsible for failure properly to protect their horses from slipping and falling in our streets during the winter.

Meanwhile, that all the year round abomination, the nose bag, continues in general use. In other cities the horses are given a reasonable opportunity to enjoy their noonday meal, but in New York, no matter how hot the day or how tired the horses, when feeding time comes their heads are jammed into these stuffy bags, strapped there, and generally left so until long after they have finished eating.

The same old condition prevails in the lack of drinking places for horses. What few there are do not begin to accommodate the demands made upon them in very hot weather. The niggardly way these things are managed is not at all to our credit, and is very much of a disgrace to the city.

Added to these and other things that tend to make a horse's life miserable, is an instrument of torture called the "overdraw check." This thing is the special delight of a certain class, who fonly imagine that it puts an appearance of style and spirit into a team to draw their heads up as high as their necks will permit, and then by means of this pernicious attachment to straighten their noses out so they point almost directly ahead instead of pointing toward the ground, as nature intended. Any one who has been obliged to hold his head in an unnatural position for any considerable time will be able to appreciate how horses must feel during that kind of treatment, and will understand why they keep their heads in almost constant motion at such times. It is a pity that some folks have such mistaken notions of the grace and beauty of the arch in a horse's neck.

These faithful, patient and long suffering friends of mankind have still another deadly enemy here to cause distress, disaster and always more or less suffering. Three kinds of drivers predominate—boys, young and ignorant, always with whip in hand tearing along; inexperienced men who know less about a horse, probably, than anything else they come into contact with, and last, but not least, just plain brutes, the character, disposition, and intelligence of whose horses are usually better than those of the drivers.

Poor beasts, with little else in life but hard work, and whose only comfort is food and drink, the sooner they are banished from little old New York the better.

WHERE SHAKESPEARE'S ENGLISH IS STILL SPOKEN

From Harper's Magazine.

It is said that when the Kentucky mountaineer begins to read at all, he displays so marked a preference for Shakespeare that it is invariably the works of that poet that have most frequently to be rebound in any library to which he has access. The reason he himself gives for this predilection is that the things Shakespeare makes his characters do always seem so "natural."

So also must seem the things he makes them say. Words and turns of expression employed by Shakespeare and in the King James version of the bible are of such common occurrence in the mountain speech that it is quite possible for a native student of his own people's peculiar characteristics to argue, with no small show of reason, that "the purest English on earth is that of the Kentucky mountains—however unpolished and crude it may be grammatically. Another asserts that this racy idiom is the one real literary dialect as yet produced in America.

Just because the mountaineers are, for the most part, either illiterate or able to see few newspapers, they have no stereotyped forms of expression. For them the language is in the same state of fluidity and flux that it was for Shakespeare and his contemporaries, so that they are always free to vary and invent, and are often forced to feel around, as it were, not only for the right word, but for their own word, which, since they have a natural esthetic instinct for verbal shapes and sounds, gives their speech a remarkable sense of freshness and stylistic distinction. Moreover, the very fact that their vocabulary is extremely limited tends to foster a fanciful and figurative form of expression, as in the case of the old preacher who, referring to the white-haired among his auditors, called down a blessing upon those "whose heads were bloomin' for the grave."

But what at first sight appears most corrupt or colloquial often proves on closer acquaintance to possess unexceptionable linguistic credentials. What, for example, could possibly have a more bucolic or Boeotian flavor than the use of the verb "to talk" in the sense of "to court" or "to woo?" Yet, in "King Lear" we find Regan saying, precisely:

"My lord is dead; Edmund and I have talked."

In Shakespeare also we find "holp" for "helped," a form of the preterite common in the mountains, as are also "whap" for "whipped," "wrop" for "wrapped," "clomb" for "climbed." If a mountain man becomes suddenly bereft of his senses, it is said of him that "he's took a franzy spell," and this rustic pronunciation has the authority of no less a poet than Sir Philip Sidney.

There is also sound logic, if not literary authority, for "ary" and "nary," which are nothing more or less than contractions of "e'er a" and "ne'er a"—corruptions, if one chooses, but notably euphonious and convenient—and the forms "fadder" and "furder" for "farther" and "further" have exactly the same justification from an etymological point of view as "murder," which used to be written "murther;" while the impersonal pronoun "hit" is no mere cockneyism for "it," but the original Anglo-Saxon form of the word.

Verdun of Presidential Campaign?

From the Washington Herald.

Indiana probably will be the Verdun of the coming campaign. The state has furnished a presidential candidate for the prohibition party and vice presidential candidates for the democrats and republicans. Further, the state is to elect two United States senators, one for a full term and the other for four years. After it is all over, Indiana at least will know it has been in the fight.