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MEHR LICHT!

If a final touch were needed, then, in Foch's death, it has been supplied, to demonstrate that science is driving the ghosts of glory from the field of arms. On Flanders fields behold the regimented hosts of men too young to die. Behold them swept away. The fields are fairer where they pour out the last full measure of patriotic devotion. But Marshal Foch, who commanded ten million men engaged in five simultaneous battles along a front of three hundred miles in 1918, when he was already sixty-seven, lives on as the master strategist—to die of senility ten years later, as prosaically as any citizen Jacques in the humblest arrondissement. The great memorials of his career are not of his death, but of how he, already an aged man, could send hundreds of thousands of men to death here, and equal numbers there, to hold his lines and write a page or two of history in the weird annals of mankind. The ensuing peace rankled exceedingly. Veterans of field and forum fell into lugubrious disputes as to who caused the war and who really brought about victory. The World War therefore fell short of success as a war ending war and making democracy secure. Hence war we shall have again, sculptors may as well prepare pedestals now for heroes who will soon claim them for their effigies. Nevertheless, the day will dawn when their chisels will have a more imaginative theme when they deal with Mars, and when heroes of steel and iron and *t-n-t* will be put to rest in the classics with Jove and his javelins, Caesar and his chariots, Alexander and Bucephalus.

Humble as we are, yet we dare, in noticing the occasion of the passing of Marshal Foch, master hero of the world's most heroic epoch of carnage, to say that war is obsolescent right now; that this world will find other ways of retaining in youth the attributes of manhood, and so, in the fullness of time, will make war obsolete. To hold otherwise is to despair of human progress, and vainly controvert even the rules of physics: for as men continue exercising their faculties in research on the problem of war, these faculties will expand in scope until they encompass the solution of war.

Mehr licht! cried Goethe, and his light will shine to illuminate our dark ways of life long after the flames of war have been snuffed out. It will be science that makes war too terrible to endure. The first law of life will at last assert its privy dominion over the affairs of men, and parliaments will sit whose envoys sign open covenants worth something more than the current pound price of old paper: worth indeed the honor of the nations, felt then to be better preserved in the unbroken word than in the dispatching *west* of hordes of conscripts. For if France gives Foch a national funeral, the apogee of the people's commendation, which he deserves, Hugo had one, Pasteur had one. To vision war dead by its own implacable hand is not to dream of Utopia, it is merely to put the bench and the law above the bludgeon and the blunderbuss. The latter is the law of force is called violence, and begins to be judged dissipated," said Hugo, on the centennial of the rational conclusion of a conflict in the episode, Foch's dashing and stupendous cost. Not so long ago, when a son of martial France himself that war confronted him, as the Germans did, rally his last defense will inevitably be broken. Foch's cry echoes forever in the human heart, with the retreating drums. *Mehr licht!*

WE "TAN" SEE IT COMING

By mandamus, the insular auditor has been hailed before the supreme court by Tan C. Tee, contractor for seven units of the Iloilo marginal wharf, and told by the court to certify that funds for the work are available, if they are, and sign on the documents. The matter is ministerial.

the lowest responsible bidder: moreover, and as against what the auditor believed, acceptance of a bid on a job is not, the court holds, a contract. An offer is made, this offer is accepted, still it is not a contract, and the time for the auditor to perform his merely ministerial function concerning funds available for the job, which fact the law enjoins it upon him to certify, is when the formal agreement, later to be signed by the contracting parties, is drawn up and sent to his office in proper form for the certificate to issue.

But the court takes occasion to say that whereas decisions of the auditor are binding on the executive, when not reversed by the secretary of war, they are not binding on the courts; numerous precedents are cited and the statement made that by a series of decisions the authority of the auditor has been materially modified from what it once was. It is, therefore, timely to inquire if the islands aren't getting away from safe financial anchorage, and into dangerous waters which they have not sounded and where pilots will be required. Checkmating the auditor may be a fine show, but it's a costly one. Shall we not soon arrive, at the rate we are going, at the time when special agents will come out to Manila to administer the proceeds of our government loans, and contractors in their good graces will come along with them? This, right now, is the humiliating and costly experience of ten several countries in South America. The difference between our present credit and theirs is about 50% in our favor. As this largely comes about through the powers the insular auditor has had heretofore but seems to have no longer, if Congress wishes to do us a friendly act it will redefine without further delay the powers it intends the auditor shall exercise. The auditor's original powers were none too great. The government that has so radically curtailed them has already written *finis* to its independence of its creditors.

SUGGESTIONS

As soon as the government gets around to advertising the islands, the tourist traffic will become important. To spend a matter of \$10,000 a year with two or three of the *Big Seven* magazines—*Harper's*, *Atlantic*, *Review of Reviews*, *World's Work*, *Scribner's*, *Century* and *Golden Book*—would do it. To this end the Ayuntamiento should be converted into a permanent museum and art exhibit, with its courts, two spacious ones devoted to orchids and ferns. For a time at least, offices could remain housed on the upper floor, or part of it, but immediate steps in the utilization of the lower floor, particularly Marble Hall, should secure this building forever to the uses of art and history. Functions, such as banquets, interfering with this purpose should be held elsewhere. Going farther the government should take a leaf from Java's ledger and designate entity to mark specifically historical buildings in Manila, which should not be destroyed save by official consent. Proper memorial tablets should be placed on them. The cooperation of the monasteries should be obtained, that proper historical notes in English inscribed on tablets be placed in all the monastery churches, the chapel of the Clare nuns, and the Cathedral. Fort Santiago might come in on this. Then there's the beach question. Manila lacks a first class beach in her immediate environs, but has one half an hour away on the Cavite road, where the sun is all anyone could desire and the bottom shelving sand. Here a suitable pavilion should be built and a concession let, when thousands of Manila as well as tourists with either no time nor means for Baguio, would patronize the place as one of healthful seashore recreation. There is ample parking space. Cavite might well share the expense of this project, for the price of maintaining a market there. No wonder tourist ships come and between daylight and dark, for we keep concealed or only half accept all the wonders and pleasures we have to offer. This costs us more than the natural disappointment of many hundreds of visitors. What we formerly said about Mehan Gardens we don't repeat. It stands with us now added. It is time for the government to be practical about tourist trade and the pleasure and comfort and health of the city.

DR. QUEZON

We are able sometimes to disagree with the senate president in grudging him the doctorate in law conferred upon him by the University of the Philippines. We heartily congratulate him, and the university well. The incident marks another step in scholastic progress here, and appropriately coupled with similar honors for a woman, an educated girl, Miss Librada Aveñeo, founder of Centro Escolar, cannot be gainsaid. They will conduce to the enlightenment in the islands and to men's and women's