

The Christmas Message For Allies

DO THE RIGHT AND DO IT NOW

The Christmas message for the Allies Chief of the Imperial General Staff—this year is not to be "Peace on the man in whose human hands lie earth," but "Do the right thing and do it in time."

The Allies do not want Peace now, except on their own terms. Except on those terms they will have no Peace whoever may offer to negotiate. That is the fundamental fact of the present time.

Size of our Task.
But the decision to have no Peace except on their own terms measures the size of their task, and the time it will take to achieve.

There will be no Peace at Christmas, 1916. God willing, there will be a triumphant Peace for the Allies by Christmas, 1917.

The message for Christmas comes from Sir William Robertson, the

will be much greater in future. Success in war, as in nearly everything else, goes to those who show the greatest determination and who can best set their teeth."

Nation Not Yet Awake.
A day or two before Sir William Robertson gave that message he also said:

"I have no hesitation in saying that there is urgent necessity for more men of military age for his Majesty's Forces."

"We are now engaged in the greatest war ever known and are fighting for an object vital to our Imperial existence and to the cause of humanity and civilization. There is no doubt whatever of our ability to win the war if only we really put our backs into it."

"We have not yet done this. We still do not recognize that issues at stake nor the efforts that we ought to make and can make if we will but try. I have every confidence in my countrymen, but they are not yet fully awake."

The Time for Action.
"If the back of German resistance is to be broken in next year's fighting the Government have no time to

lose in getting the necessary men," says the "Observer." "The Army chiefs must know well beforehand what forces they can count upon in planning their campaign; the men must be trained—and the interval between now and next spring is already short enough for that—and the units at the Front must have time to assimilate the drafts sent to them if they are to be coherent and efficient."

"We have to meet and to checkmate a most determined German effort to avert defeat. Everything is to be thrown into the scale against us, and we certainly shall not meet it effectually by 'doing things rather more or less.' Surely the time has come to call upon the older men for such help as they can give, either for Home Defence or in public work of national importance, so that the crowd of young men now retained in this country may be utilized for service in the field."

Defeat is Not Thinkable.
"Our plans are not laid or conducted, and never will be laid or conducted, on the supposition that defeat is even thinkable," says the Times. "But we do believe that upon this success or failure now there depends the difference between a crushing blow, and it may be a final blow at Germany next year and an indefinite prolongation of the struggle with all the accumulated loss of blood and resources which it would involve. We do not doubt for a moment that Ministers are giving the problem their most anxious consideration. Of course they are; but if they allow the perplexities to hamper decision much longer decision will be too late."

What Our Men Can Do.
"The men must be forthcoming by the spring," adds the Times. "All that is left of the winter is not too much for their training. Every day counts. The events of this year show what our soldiers can do, if only the nation at home do their duty by them. Broadly considered, this year's campaign is a record of steadily increasing success in our attack, accompanied by a casualty list steadily and rapidly decreasing in proportion to the results attained. It has produced a new perfection in the use of our artillery and in the combined employment of this arm with our infantry."

What the Germans Are Doing.
"With these palpable evidences of their growing superiority to the enemy before their eyes, the moral of the army is rising every day. Their temper as a fighting force was never finer. But for one consideration their confidence in early and complete success would be quite undisturbed. That consideration is uncertainty about the supply of men. Everybody who is in touch with the army at all knows that this is the paramount question which occupies all minds, from the mind of the humblest platoon commander to the mind of the Commander-in-Chief."

"The German Government have a Bill before the main committee of the Reichstag at this moment for the mobilization of the labor of all males between 17 and 60, and they describe it as a war measure surpassing in importance all that have gone before. The German people, the Minister in charge of it has declared, 'must exert the extreme national power' and 'prove to the whole world Germany's determination to fight with all her forces to the uttermost.'"

"That does not necessarily mean that we are bound to take the same step, but it does emphasize the urgent need to fill up existing establishments, to form adequate reserves, and to keep up a steady flow of drafts throughout next year's campaign."

Wanted, a Single Authority.
The Prime Minister still thinks that the whole manhood of the nation should be organized."

"We are well enough aware," says the Times, "that this question of Man-Power is occupying the closest attention of a number of able and patriotic men in the Adjutant-General's Department of the War Office, in the Man-Power Committee, and in the Government generally. But the question is still being handled in niggling, piecemeal fashion. It has not been gripped as a whole on broad and courageous lines."

"While the Germans propose, in the words of the Chief of the War Department, to 'add to the Army all men liable for service who until now have been regarded as indispensable at home, and to supply their place by 'labour taken from the less important industries,' our Departments are busy making bargains and giving pledges which they think will avoid trouble."

"What is wanted now is a single authority strong enough to carry them out by silencing departmental wrangles. Broadly speaking, the two great obstacles to reform at this moment are the list of reserved occupations and the hopeless failure of recruiting in Ireland."

Just Time Enough.
"There is no more than just time enough, for the winter is slipping on," says the Daily Telegraph. "Germany, it should always be remembered, began her great offensive against Ver-

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In a world where death is there is no time to hate.—Hubbard.

She has put her whole civil population on a war footing; she has not recoiled even from the infamy of the Belgian deportations in order to set free Germans of military age for the ranks of the army. However colossal the efforts she has hitherto made, they will be easily surpassed this winter.

"That is what the Allies have to meet and overcome."

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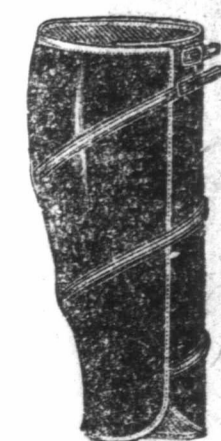
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