

Public Opinion

EXPENSIVE, BUT IMPROVING.

(Cleveland Plain Dealer.)

The war is costing Great Britain \$25,000 a minute, and is beginning to be worth the money.

BASEBALL!

(Ottawa Citizen.)

Americans took a village eight times from the Germans and then captured and held onto it, thus winning in the ninth, as it were.

WATER-POWER RIGHTS.

(Christian Science Monitor.)

It will take generations for the American people to "recapture" rights which they have already permitted to pass out of their hands. Why should they, even amidst the distractions of war, with their eyes wide open, permit priceless water power rights to be included in the list?

WOULD YOU?

("Hello," London, England.)

If you were in business for yourself, would you give yourself a job?

If you asked yourself to give yourself a character, what would you say about yourself?

If you were working for yourself, and you asked yourself for a raise for yourself, how much would you give yourself?"

SOME SURPRISES COMING.

(New York Tribune.)

If there is a league of nations after the war Germany will not sit at the head of the council board or figure arrogantly, as of yore in its proceedings. She will enter it abased and chastened, if she enters it at all. Germany's sins are as scarlet. The leper she has become must be quarantined until both soul and body are cleansed. There are, therefore, some marvellous surprises in store for German leaders who think that after the war all that Germany has to do is to appear again in the company of other nations, crying light-heartedly: "I have forgiven myself. Look to it, therefore, that all the rest of you, grant me forgiveness."

THE POWER AND DANGER OF IGNORANCE.

(Christian Science Monitor.)

It is unquestionable that ignorance is the easiest way of reducing mankind to subjection. Education invariably creates a demand for higher social and moral conditions. For this reason the real autocrat always reduces education to its lowest ebb, with the result that the effect is always the same when the animal bursts its bonds. La grande noblesse was astonished at the savagery of the faubourgs and the villages when once the red nightcap had made its appearance; and in the same way, to-day, the aristocrat of Russia has been ground under foot by a peasantry, which has never been taught any higher creed than the revenge of the slave upon the taskmaster.

INEFFICIENT EFFICIENCY.

(The Wall Street Journal.)

In showing that inefficiency is often mistaken for efficiency, the vice-president of one of the largest express companies pointed out that claim departments of express companies and railroads are supposed to be operated with maximum efficiency. The smallest claim, he contended, received the same efficient investigation as the largest. Whether this pays may be gathered from his narration:

"I met an old friend who jokingly told me his wife had been trying to collect a claim against my company for several months. My interrogation revealed a prima facie justification for the claim, which amounted to 75 cents, but apparently it was the principle involved that led her to push it. I reached into my pocket and paid him the money, feeling it was worth 75 cents to square the company. Upon returning to the office I got the files and found six letters had been sent the claimant, who had sent five to the company. The stationery and stamps had cost the company approximately 25 cents, while time consumed by investigators, stenographers, etc., probably amounted to several dollars. There were, no doubt, numerous instances of this kind which never came to my attention. There has, however, been none since. That 75 cents is the best investment I ever made for the company."

STUPID BRITISH.

(New York World.)

Haig's army appears to be totally unconscious of all the repulses it suffers in the German official bulletins.

THE NEED OF THRIFT.

(Grain Growers' Guide.)

True it is that in many households injunctions to thrift are unneeded, not to say impertinent, advice. But there are very many people throughout the length and breadth of the land who have need of being so counselled. For never was there a time before when there was greater reason for saving every dollar that can be saved, never a time that called more plainly for thrift in every way in which it is possible to practise thrift.

A SENSIBLE STEP.

(Ottawa Journal.)

By prohibiting publication of enemy-language newspapers in Canada the Government performs a major service for war effort. At the outbreak of war some excuse existed for permitting continuation of such prints, the main excuse being that the world was not as well acquainted then as now with universal Teuton perfidy. Four years of war, however, have taught us that trusting to German or Austrian honor is perilous folly, and, in the light of that costly lesson the cause of peace, order and good Government in this country dictated that papers controlled by men of enemy origin be compelled to address their readers in language all may read.

"CAN'T AFFORD IT."

(Chicago Tribune.)

You can't afford to give a thousand dollars, but you could if your child fell ill.

You can't afford a new house, but you could if it were burned.

You can't afford a new coat, but you could if it were worn out.

You can't afford a Liberty bond, but you would lose your child and your wife and your home and your business and your coat if the Kaiser won this war, which is precisely what would happen if every one refused to make a little sacrifice. And the Kaiser wouldn't give it back with four and a quarter per cent interest, either.

Whom are you for?

TO STOP WASTE OF PAPER.

(New York Mail.)

America has made a tremendous drain on its forests to supply it with the paper it demands. The paper-mills have stripped the East of trees, the woods of which are serviceable. Canada is paying heavy tribute. Now there is call for the government to turn over the forests of the Pacific states and of Alaska. To make one pound of paper requires two pounds of coal where water power is not employed. Paper requires a long haul. No industrial process requires so much energy as paper making does in turning wood into microscopic shreds and then transforming into the multitude of forms in which we receive it and know it by the term "paper." It costs from 4 to 6 cents to produce an ordinary newspaper. Yet newspapers are sold at a fraction of this. Must not the public be educated to get more out of their newspapers and other periodicals by placing a higher value on them?

PATHETIC WAR INCIDENT.

Lieutenant Turner of Saskatchewan lost his eyesight at Ypres. Some time ago he was taking his coat from the checker in a prominent London restaurant when a man beside him, noticing his blindness, took it gently from him and held it while he slipped his arms into the sleeves. Believing the service was rendered by an attendant, Lieutenant Turner offered him a shilling as a tip.

"That won't be necessary," kindly said a friend of the lieutenant, with an apologetic nod to the man who had held the coat. "The man who helped you was General —"

The blind soldier blushed and asked the pardon of the general, but the latter was equal to the occasion.

"I won't accept your apology, but I'll accept your shilling and I'll treasure it as a souvenir of one of the best soldiers who ever fought for Canada and the allies."

COMPENSATION TWO WAYS.

(New York Sun.)

Mortorless Sundays are helping to make the world permanently safe for democracy, and temporarily and incidentally safe for pedestrians.

AN AVIATOR'S REASON FOR FEARLESSNESS.

(Milwaukee, Wis., Free Press.)

We at home are learning in our fashion the same lessons our men are learning in the trenches, lessons of reverence, of humility, of childlike dependence on the unseen. It is a philosophy forced on us whether we will or no, and fortunate are the natures sensitive and responsive to its teachings. For it is imposed on us from without by a power greater than we are; and as we frail atoms of mortality find ourselves caught in the mighty crash of elemental forces, it offers us at once a shelter and a rock to set our feet on. "I could not be fearless in the air, as I must be," wrote a young aviator, "were it not for the consciousness of God's protection." The feeling so simply expressed rises from the profoundest depths of the human spirit, and is common to those called to perilous service, and to those who wait for them at home, racked with suspense, their hearts steelled for the worst.

IT'S ALWAYS THAT WAY WITH THE BRITISH.

(New York Commerce & Finance.)

"Perfidious Albion," someone called Great Britain. What the Germans will call the British after this war, we know not, but they'll call them something awful. And why not? Captain von Mantey, of the German navy, is credited with discovering a new and dreadful crime of which the English have been guilty. They have deceived the Germans, the trusting Germans.

Here is the way it happened, according to the Herr Captain. When the Germans started on their U-boat campaign of frightfulness they made all sorts of estimates as to the sinkings. The results were up to their average of expectations. The sinking of 600,000 tons a month up to August last was enough "to bring England to reason," but it didn't. England should have sued for peace and Germany expected a peace proposal, but "the British deceived us," says the Herr Captain.

Darn those British! What a shame it is that they should dupe the German in such a way. If they had any respect for what is right and proper they would have called the war off then and there, and there would have been rejoicing in Germany instead of woe.

The British have been guilty of many wrongs, have much for which they should do penance, but of all their crimes none is so black as this in deceiving the Hun.

But, probably, John Bull is more to be pitied than blamed. It's almost a habit with him not to know when he is licked.

ON TAKING YOUR SECOND WIND FINANCIALLY.

(Commerce and Finance.)

In any and every contest of speed or strength, whether it be foot race, horse race or clash of nations, there is a fine show of spirit and desire in the early stages of the struggle.

The muscles respond well, the lungs function as they should and confidence gives spur to effort.

A time comes, however, when the strain begins to tell. The muscles flag, the bellows begin to protest and the inclination is to shorten your stride and lag a bit.

He who weakens then knows defeat.

Victory is to the stout of heart, the resolute, who by power of will overcome the desire to halt.

He who takes a long breath, filling his lungs with the pure air of unconquerable purpose, has gotten his second wind.

It is on our second wind and not on our first that we triumph.

In the war now under way the strain America has had to bear has been on its financial and material resources.

It has been heavy but, heavy as it has been, it has been nothing compared with that our Allies have had to bear.

We have poured out billions, many billions.

We must pour out billions more.

It may make us take a long breath but that is all.

We are in the homestretch, well down the homestretch, toward the finish.

All we need is Six Billions for the Liberty Loan, and we have taken our second wind financially, the second wind that carries on to victory.