

# CANADIAN HOSPITAL NEWS

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## MUSIC

What's the matter with Fritz?  
He isn't singing now.  
Deutschland über Alles  
Is out of date, I trow.  
Die Wacht am Rhein has passed  
Into oblivion,  
It's hard to keep on singing  
When Fritzie's on the run;  
For Tommy presses strong  
A-running to Berlin  
His bayonet a-pressing  
Hard in Fritzie's skin.  
So that is why it's hard  
For Fritz to raise a hymn  
Cause he ain't no bloomin' cherub  
Nor yet a seraphim.

O.C.J.W.

From the diary of a German Infantryman we extract the following; "On the way back to the billets we were to sing "Deutschland über Alles," but this broke down completely. One never hears songs of the Fatherland any more. When there is singing nine times out of ten it is street songs in such a crude style as I have never heard before the war." When the spirit of a nation is broken it does not sing. It hangs its harps on the willows and sits down disconsolate. Our enemy has been disappointed—bitterly disappointed. His dream of world-empire has been shattered; his campaign of frightfulness has been frustrated. Hoping to scatter terror he has provoked laughter; seeking to destroy woman and innocent children he has caused their soldier boys to break into song. Yes, Tommy Atkins sings—and laughs—and jokes in the midst of his hellish work. From the trenches comes a steady stream of inspired poesy—of studies in black and white, that cause ripples of merriment and paroxysms of laughter. Kitchener's Army laughs and sings. That's the secret of success. The Spirit of our Nation is the Spirit of Song. The piper on the parapet is the vane of the Army. The wind is blowing victory-ward and the sound of the pibroch is wafted to the ears of the Hun. That's the reason Fritz doesn't sing any more. His spirit is broken. But while Tommy Atkins plies the steel he sings. And though the battle is not yet won, his is the Song of Victory.