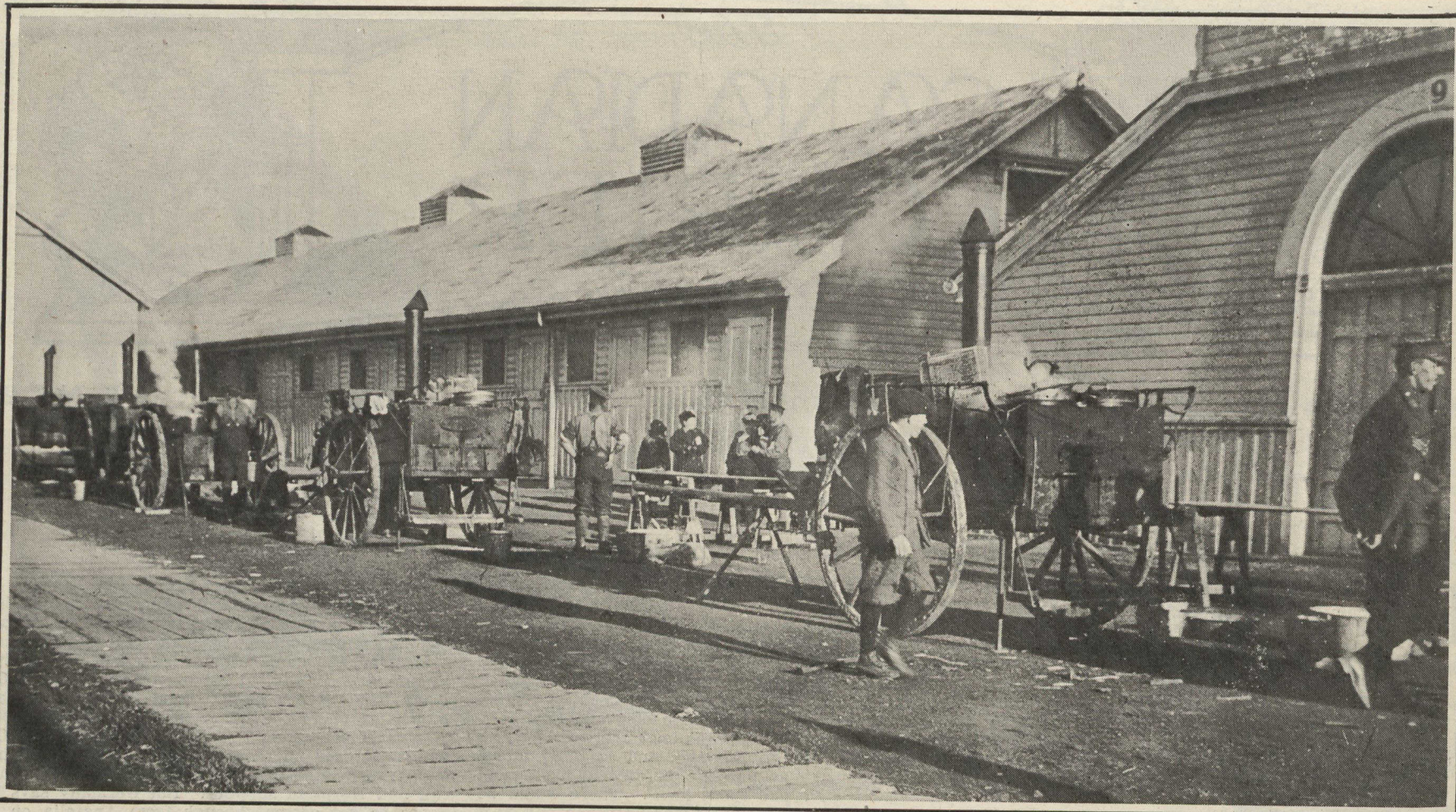




WHAT EVERY CANADIAN REGIMENT NEEDS.

A set of Field Kitchens that will feed a Battalion of one thousand men. The military authorities have now decided to supply every new Battalion with four Field Kitchens out of public funds. Hitherto these Kitchens have been secured by the Commanding Officer through funds supplied by his friends. The new plan is a great improvement—in fact is the only just plan. It will be the same of machine guns. The only essential feature of regimental equipment not henceforth supplied will be a set of band instruments.

her operating centre; and everybody knows from experience by this time that Germany is always weakest when she tries the game of long-distance warfare. England has never known any other kind of war. She has always fought away from home. Germany, like the devil, never cares to wander far from his own fireside. German war genius cannot exert itself in the German way when it comes to fighting along the seaboard. She must have her incomparable railways with Berlin as the centre.

It is pretty generally admitted now that England and France have arrived too late to save Serbia. That country is too close to Bulgaria, the hater of Serbia, and to Austria, who, for over a year, has had it on her programme to crush the life out of that Slav country. German club and cash-bags diplomacy were too powerful in Bulgaria. England trusted too much to Bulgaria, which was known by Sir Edward Grey long ago to be pro-German. There is no honour in Bulgaria and we are better off without her as an ally, even though the price of getting rid of her infernal partnership will be the destruction of the poor little suffering country that is one of the little peoples like Belgium and Poland, whose rights this war is being waged to protect. What England has failed to do in and for Serbia she will not fail to do in the part of the world to which Serbia is the door.

Very pertinently Rt. Hon. C. F. Masterman, in the London Daily Chronicle, asks and answers the question about Serbia:

"But what chance is there of keeping shut that little door to the East? The Serbians are fighting heroically; but everyone realizes that in their present strategic position they may be compelled to retire to the hills. In that case the door may be opened. Can it be kept open? I am doubtful if that is possible in such a country at such a time. Germany forced her way through Belgium and has retained that way by terror and overwhelming numbers. But Belgium is a peace-loving land. Serbia is a people delighting in war. Belgium could be terrorized by unfamiliar atrocity. Serbia has lived in an atmosphere where atrocity is taken and given for five hundred years. Belgium is mostly a flat plain seamed with roads and railways. Serbia and Macedonia form a tumbled sea of hills. The Serbians may break up into guerilla warfare amongst those hills as Spain did before the advance of Napoleon's armies, and prove equally unconquerable."

At present Germany is losing no more men than she can help in the advance through Serbia. She can no longer afford to lose men. Therefore she is blasting her way with big guns through Serbia and saving her infantry.

London John Bull hits off the situation in terse phraseology that leaves no doubt as to England's task and opportunity in the near East. It says:

"We are not a back-door people, but if we have to deal with back doors let us tackle them. We've got the men, we've got the ships, and we've got the money, too, to kick the Devil back through his own back door to the Balkans and lock him into Germany where we can deal with him."

"If we had possessed any mite of sense we should

have taken the necessary measure long ago. Half a million of armed troops in Serbia six or even three months ago would have stopped all the Balkan rot. Now we are faced with the just punishment for leaving poor little Serbia the job of putting her lonesome foot in the jamb of the Devil's back door.

"It's a stiff job, but we can do it. Thanks to the Navy,

we can land the men and the guns to head off the Kaiser from the East. Thanks to the Navy, we can fill the Balkan States with victories. The Dardanelles will be a side-show compared to what we must do in the Balkans. Shall we fail to slam the Devil's Back Door in his face? "Never while Britain lives!"

"Only—let us get on with the job."

SIR CONAN DOYLE'S OPTIMISM

What Britain Has Accomplished

MOST optimistic is Sir Arthur Conan Doyle in his opinion of the British part in the war. Conan Doyle is no mean student of war. Every time he goes into print he leaves a degree of reasonable inspiration with the reader, without being a mere incurable optimist. In his article in the London Chronicle, recently, he says:

"Consider what we have done in the short space of time, and compare it with the opening of any of our greater wars. In our war against the French Republic it was nearly two years after its inception that Howe's victory gave us a gleam of success. In the great war against Napoleon it was again two years before Trafalgar ended the fear of imminent invasion, and 12 years of very varying fortunes before we won through. Now look at the work of 14 months. We have annexed the whole great German Colonial Empire with the exception of East Africa and a district in the Cameroons. Thanks to the splendid work of our Navy, we have swept the German flag, both Imperial and mercantile, off the face of the ocean. We have completely sterilized her fleet. We have repelled her serious submarine attack, and played our game so skilfully that the flux of time shows us stronger, not weaker, in comparison. We have conquered South Mesopotamia from the Turks. We have completely repelled their attempted invasion of Egypt. We have helped to save Paris. We have, with French and Belgian assistance, but mainly by our own exertions, stopped the advance upon Calais, inflicting a loss of several hundreds of thousands upon the Germans. We have, by our intervention at Antwerp, helped to extricate the Belgian army. Finally, and greatest of all, we have raised an enormous voluntary army, which is large enough to turn the scale between the European forces, and we have converted ourselves with wonderful adaptability into the great factory and munition store of the Allies. That is our story, and if any man cannot see that it is a wonderful one he is not merely pessimist, but blind.

"What have we to put on the other side of the account? I am dealing for the moment with large results and not with details. Where have we failed? In the whole world our most severe critic could only point to one place—the Dardanelles. But have we failed in the Dardanelles? I believe that if we should never force the Straits the enterprise has none the less been worth the undertaking. We have lost 100,000. How many have the Turks lost? Cer-

tainly not less. We have held up a great body of their best troops, who would otherwise have been operating against us on the Egyptian and Mesopotamian fronts, or in the Caucasus against the Russians. Ian Hamilton has taken the pressure off Maxwell on one side and Nixon on the other. But the greatest of all results from the Dardanelles expedition is that it has united us with Russia as nothing else could have done. She cannot now say, as she might have said, that we thought only of our own Empire. We have spent our blood and our ships in trying to force the gates which close her in. When the episode remains a historical reminiscence, like the passage of Duckworth in 1807, this great result will still remain."

HE enumerates the battles of the war on land and finds the military record satisfactory. He sees no reason for pessimism:

"Not only have we nothing to reproach ourselves with and a very great deal upon which to congratulate ourselves in the actual war, but we have, as it seems to me, made remarkably few mistakes beforehand. Thanks to the firmness of McKenna in the matter of the eight great ships, and the driving power of Churchill in the years immediately before the war, our Navy was ready, as it has never been before, for a supreme struggle. Of the four army corps which were the most that we have ever thought of sending abroad two and a half were in time for the first clash and the others followed after. We played our part as we said we would play it, and we won our game so far as we can count the gains and losses between Germany and ourselves. If McKenna and Churchill put us in a strong position upon the water, Haldane forged the weapon which was to do such great service upon the land. The British military machine, as we (and the Germans) know it, the splendid Territorial Army, the Officers' Training Corps (which has been of such vital service), the conversion of the Expeditionary Force into a practical reality, all sprang from his clear and far-seeing mind. When one remembers his long defence of the Territorials, the gibes to which he and they were subjected, the ridicule with which his assertion was met that they would have time after the outbreak of war to become good troops before taking the field, and when one sees how entirely his forecast has been borne

(Concluded on page 6.)