

## GERMAN OFFICERS ARE A CLASS APART

Selected From Higher Class  
es of the Fatherland—  
Have Many Privileges

NO PROMOTION  
FROM THE RANKS

Officers Require Consider-  
able Income to Maintain  
Necessary Appearances

The demand for a "democratization" of the army, such as was raised in England after the Curragh incident, has long been known in Germany. But it comes from the Social Democrats alone. The rest of the country, however much it may protest against particular restrictions, agrees on the whole with the attitude and arguments of those in authority. In a conscript army, it is said, the officers' corps must inspire respect, and without "birth and training" respect is impossible. As a result, for all practical purposes, the army remains the prerogative of a special class.

From every officer aspirant in Germany is demanded proof that he springs from an "honorable and reputable family," and this demand is strictly interpreted. No one whose relatives are touched with the taint of retail trade can expect admission, no son of a subordinate civil servant, no commercial or financial employee of a "Volkschullehrer," of anyone in fact below the academic class or that of the larger industrialist. The Jew too, is

strictly excluded. Theoretically there are no restrictions of creed, but there the officers themselves step in with their veto. Every regimental mess has the right to elect its new members and although in the past the kaiser himself has consented to propose Jewish candidates, they have been invariably rejected. In Bavaria there are occasional exceptions, but even here the Jewish officer is very rare.

As the result of this right of election many regiments are still exclusively noble and for the "burgedlich" officer the field of choice is strictly limited. In part this is the result of tradition, which assigns particular regiments to officers from particular families. But to a large extent it is due to the fact that the aristocrat naturally prefers service in Berlin or some other large centre of the dreary round of garrison duty on the Russian or French frontier. To the lieutenant of noble birth every mess is open, to the non-noble only those which are not already filled by his aristocratic competitors.

### No Promotion From Ranks.

For all practical purposes promotion from the ranks does not exist. There have been instances in war-time when

## COAL!

We have just landed a small vessel's cargo of extra good quality, and have another cargo due to-day.

Also in stock and to arrive.

PICKETS, RAILS, POSTS, BIRCH  
JUNKS ETC.

W. H. HYNES.



a non-commissioned officer has been made lieutenant, but in every case these "ranker" officers have been put on the retired list at the end of the war. Occasionally, too, as a reward for most exceptional services, a non-commissioned officer is raised on retirement to commissioned rank, but as the title is little more than honorary it forms no real exception to the general rule. The officers of the clothing and supply departments have, it is true, almost all risen from the ranks, but the line of distinction drawn between these officials and the active officer is very sharp. Even the army surgeon himself is treated as an inferior and has no right of admission into the officers' mess.

In general it may be said that for the German officer a private income is essential. It is perhaps just possible for him to drag out an existence on his very meagre pay in one of the frontier garrisons, where mess expenses are small and no social demands are made upon his purse. But even then the difficulties of making both ends meet are so great that only quite exceptional

characters have determined enough to continue the struggle. For the sons of officers who have distinguished themselves in the state service an exception is made in that financial aid is very often given out of the kaiser's private purse. In the two personal regiments of the kaiser, the Guards du Corps and the 1st Foot Guards, both of which are stationed in Potsdam, financial help is said to be almost invariably given, and that in very large amounts.

Before entering the army and before permission is given for him to marry the officer must produce evidence to show that he is able to support himself "in a manner befitting his station." This necessary income varies with every regiment. In some exceptional cases, as has been said, it is just possible for the officer to live on his pay. In the Guard Cavalry, the most select of all regiments, an income of at least £400 to £600 is required. In certain Westphalian and Silesian regiments, patronized particularly by the sons of the great industrial families, the standard of living is probably much higher. But in general heavy expenditure is discouraged, and running into debt is fatal to an officer's career.

### Caste and Promotion

Whether birth still plays an important part in the promotion of the officer within the army itself it is difficult to judge. There are many complaints among Liberals and Socialists that the non-noble officer can never hope for a position of real authority. At the first glance this charge would

### COAL FOR THE POOR

The "Can't Lose" will bring a load of coal from Sydney for disposal at St. John's in about 10 days. Orders now booked. Price \$6.50 delivered. Orders should be left at the office of the Trading Co. The quantity is limited and this chance may not offer again before Christmas.—jyl,t

appear to be well grounded, since no officer of really high rank bears a "bourgeois" name. But the injustice is more apparent than real. In practice the non-noble officer, if he shows real merit, is rarely kept back; he is promoted, and at the same time receives a patent of nobility. In this way the efficiency of the army and the shibboleth of caste are equally maintained.

To the impartial observer, with the experience of other armies before him there can be little doubt that the supposed military interests which demand these class distinctions are nothing more than the interests of the privileged class itself. Nevertheless, one thing must be said in justice to the German aristocrat. As an officer he takes his duties very seriously, and, unless appearances are very deceptive, still performs them as well if not better than the officers of more democratic armies. Politically the aristocracy as a class may be one of the greatest stumbling blocks in the way of Germany's development: from the purely military standpoint it is still an enormous asset.

### Attempts Suicide With Insect Powder

Montreal, July 18.—When the man Marie Felcovitch expected to marry said with a tragic air, "Then it's all off—I'm going West," Marie walked into the kitchen and taking a package of insect powder swallowed as much of it as she could. Then her relatives wanted to lynch the young man.

Hearing that there was trouble in the Polish quarter, Captain Turner, of the Frontenac street police station hurried out with reserves. In her home at 306 Harbor Street, he found the young woman and at once sent for a doctor, who sent her to Notre Dame Hospital.

The quarrel was about \$100 which the man in the case had given the girl to spend on furniture and which he wanted back.

### A SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS MAN

Every successful business man can give reasons for his prosperity. Most essential to any success is a careful and ceaseless attention to details. Every well conducted office or store in the world finds that simple and effective filing systems are an absolute necessity. No employer will waste his own time or allow waste with his staff by using old fashioned methods. The benefits derived from the time and money-saving system which "Globe-Wernicke" devices encourage are self evident. Not a paper can go astray when the "Safeguard" method of this Company is used. And no matter how complicated your filing problem, no matter how peculiar, no matter how small or how large, the "Globe-Wernicke" can provide you with the equipment that will place every record at your finger tips. Why not investigate? Mr. Percle Johnson represents the "Globe" in Newfoundland.

### Tailoring by Mail Order

I make a specialty of  
Mail Order Tailoring

and can guarantee good fitting  
and stylish garments to measure.

A trial order solicited.

Outport orders promptly made up and despatched C.O.D. to any station or port in the Island, carriage paid.

JOHN ADRAIN,  
MERCHANT TAILOR,  
ST. JOHN'S.  
(Next door to F.P.U. office.)  
jan20,tu,th,sat

### FOR SALE!

One Good Pair  
CROSS FOXES!

—ALSO—

1 Pair RED FOXES

Immediate Delivery

—APPLY—

The Newfoundland  
Fox Exchange.

P. H. COWAN'S OFFICE.  
276 Water St. P.O. Box 67.

## BURRELL'S LONDON PAINTS.

BURRELL'S BLUE LABEL MXD. PAINT  
Snow White Zinc. Highest quality White Paint imported, in all size tins.

### ENGLISH MIXED PAINTS

A good paint at a very low price. All colors, in 1 Gln., ½ Gln., ¼ Gln., also in 1 & 2 lb. Tins.

BURRELL'S PAINTS, GROUND IN OIL  
All Colors.

### BURRELL'S LINSEED OIL

In Casks and all size drums. 1 Gln. to 10 Glns.

### TURPENTINE

In Casks and Tins.

### BURRELL'S SANITARY DISTEMPER

In Powder, all colors.

### SAPOLIN GOODS

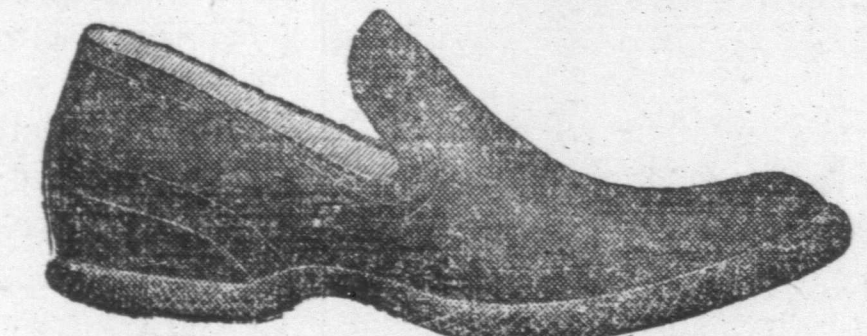
Varnish Stains, Stove Pipe Enamel, White Enamel. Gold and Aluminum Paints, etc.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

## Steer Bros.

'Phone 647.

## WALES GOODYEAR BEAR BRAND RUBBERS.



Isn't this a splendid shoe? But remember this is only a picture, the reality is far handsomer. CLIMAX BLIZZARD Shoes beautify plain feet, and enhance the beauty of pretty ones. You will have every comfort with them, and this comfort will be increased by the knowledge that when you have paid for one pair, your pocket book will not be called upon for any more money for rubbers for a considerable time. The prudent head of a family will no longer waste his money buying rubber shoes which will last only two or three weeks, next winter he will furnish the whole family with CLIMAX BLIZZARDS, and one part of his financial problem will be solved.

LOOK FOR THE BEAR—TIS ON EVERY PAIR.

Cleveland Trading Co., St. John's, N. F.

## ASPHALT FELT

We have just received a shipment of

1000 Rolls No. 3

Asphalt Felt

OUR PRICES WILL SUIT YOU.

WHOLESALE ONLY.

BIRD & SON, Hamilton, Manufacturers

The Direct Agencies, Ltd.

SOLE AGENTS.

## Stoves! Stoves!

Tinware! Tinware!

We have received a shipment of

STOVES

"Star Stirling," "Improved Success,"  
"Improved Standard."

We also carry a large stock of

Tin Kettles, Boats Kettles, Measures  
and Funnels.

Local Councils and Union Stores requiring such goods should order at once.

Fishermen's Union  
Trading Co., Limited.

# Buy Your Gems In Tins of Fifty

On your week-end fishing trip  
On your ten day vacation  
On the steamer's round trip

## Smoke "Gems"

Buy 'em in tins of fifty  
Fifteen coupons in every tin.

Coupons mean premiums.

Imperial Tobacco Co.,  
(Newfoundland) Ltd.