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MONTREAL, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1914.

Comforts for the Soldiers and Sailors

A London cablegram supplies some further information respecting the needs of the Canadian troops. A committee of ladies, we are told, has been appointed by the Minister of Militia to take charge of field comforts for the Canadian contingent. "Comforts," the despatch says, "are now needed by the men here (in England), especially cholera belts, sleeping caps, socks, and mufflers in great numbers; also cigarettes, pipes, and other Christmas presents for the troops." The authorities, the despatch adds, are anxious to give this publicity throughout the Dominion. The appeal for cigarettes, pipes and Christmas presents—the latter admitting of a broad interpretation—is all right. The giving of such things to the troops does honor to the giver and the receiver. But we again ask why there should be "needed by the men" such articles as cholera belts, caps, socks and mufflers? These are not articles of luxury. They are among the necessities of the soldier on active service, and should form part of his outfit. If the men of our contingent were sent abroad without such necessary articles of clothing, surely some one has blundered. Surely our Government, instead of appointing a committee of benevolent ladies to make a public appeal for such things, will see that hereafter they are supplied in the same manner as other clothing, from the Militia Department stores.

Down at Halifax the Chronicle of that city is raising a fund, in contributions of a dollar or less, for the purposes referred to in the recent appeal of Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Connaught—for the supplying of oilskins for the sailors of the British squadron in the North Atlantic. The appeal so made is creditable to the Chronicle, and to its readers who are responding liberally. But the reasons given for the appeal are deserving of notice. The Chronicle says:

"In the first place, as everybody knows, there are a number of British warships patrolling the North Atlantic in order to protect the trade routes over which the food supplies reach Great Britain from this continent.

"None of these ships are steam-heated, and the men are called to endure all the rigors of a North Atlantic winter in the discharge of their duty to the Empire.

"The Admiralty only serves out a limited number of oilskins and boots to each ship. This supply is sufficient in times of peace, but in times of war, when every man has to be at his post station whenever he is on duty, there are not enough oilskins to clothe more than twenty per cent. of the crew."

Could a more severe arraignment of the Admiralty be presented? The ships sent to war with only a clothing outfit adapted to the time of peace! Oilskins needed by all, but only one in five of the men supplied with them!

If these are fair examples of the manner in which our soldiers and sailors are fitted out for the war, we had better cease to talk of the Germans' supply system breaking down.

Good out of Evil

Life is full of troubles! No sooner had we mastered sufficient of the history and geography of Russia, Austria and East Prussia to be able to mumble over their unpronounceable names, than Turkey jumped into the fray with a lot of additional jaw-breakers. In a measure the entry of Turkey has been productive of good. Many men who had long since forgotten the geography and history taught them in Sunday School, to say nothing of the other Biblical lore, now find the Bible a ready reference when they want to learn the latest movements in connection with the Turkish army.

Turkey, as is well known, possesses the Holy Land. Fighting is now going on at Gaza, where Samson performed the herculean feat of carrying off the gates of the city. Troops are also congregating along the Tigris near the city of ancient Nineveh, towards which Jonah was headed when attacked by the first recorded submarine.

Jerusalem, the Holy City, is under Turkish rule, and may eventually witness fighting. The Red Sea, across which the Children of Israel walked, is to be bridged by bags of sand, if the plans of the Turks can be carried out, thereby duplicating in a measure the achievement of centuries ago. Altogether there promises to be a revival in Bible reading which will at least counteract some of the vile feelings engendered by the entry of the Turks, and the ordinary man's profanity at its inability to spell, pronounce or locate the names appearing in the press from day to day. It is a strange old world! However, it might not do any of us any harm to read a little more from the pages of "the world's best seller"—the Bible.

Industrial Education

There is now being held at Richmond, Virginia, the 8th Annual Convention of "The National Society for the Promotion of Industrial Education," which is attracting more than ordinary attention among those interested in this great question of vocational or occupational training. The need of promoting training of this nature is pointed out in the circular sent out by the committee. We cannot do better than quote a paragraph of two from this communication:

"In this whole country, according to the investigations made by the Commission on National Aid to Vocational Education, there are fewer trade schools than exist in the now unfortunate little German kingdom of Bavaria, a population but little greater than that of New York City. Until the outbreak of the European war more workers were being trained at public

expense in the City of Munich than in all the larger cities of the United States put together, although these American cities include a population of 12,000,000.

"In a democratic country the education of its citizens is one of the most important functions of the State. A worker who is not trained to work is not educated. Neither is he educated if he is trained only to work. The State alone can give him the broadest training possible in the given time, and without sacrificing the training for his job, is the belief of the National Society for the Promotion of Industrial Education.

"From every side comes the insistent demand that this education be given. It comes from the labor unions and from the manufacturers' associations, from the social worker, from the untrained man who wants his son to get a chance he never had, and from the untrained woman who wants her daughter to develop far beyond herself.

"Increased demand for trained workers makes an irresistible appeal for vocational training. The European war, and its disastrous results will be certain to emphasize this situation," says C. A. Prosser, Secretary of the National Society for the Promotion of Industrial Education.

Canada's greatest problem has to do with this question of vocational education. The war has emphasized our need of trained workmen. In a score of instances there are opportunities for Canadian business men to capture the trade formerly carried on by Germany, but we are unable to do anything because we lack trained workmen. One or two examples will suffice to bear out this contention. Our textile mills and other companies using dyestuffs have been seriously handicapped through the shutting off of the German supply. Canada might build up a dyestuff industry, but does not possess the necessary workmen.

A short time ago, a Royal Commission on Industrial Training and Technical Education issued its report. That report and subsequent investigation by independent authorities lead to the conclusion that the biggest problem confronting the people of Canada at the present time has to do with the education of her young people. The wonderful success which Germany has attained in the commercial world is due almost entirely to the importance she has attached to industrial and technical education. If Canada is to make anything like similar progress, she must adopt some of the methods followed so valuably by Germany and other European nations. Canada should have conventions similar to the one now being held at Richmond, Virginia.

Men and Money for the War

Money in bringing the war to a successful conclusion. At the session of Parliament which was opened a few days ago, Premier Asquith called for an additional million men, which will bring the total number of men in the field up to 2,250,000. He also asked for \$1,125,000,000, which follows the \$500,000,000 already authorized for war purposes.

These announcements mean but one thing, and that is that Great Britain is going to see its way through to a successful finish, no matter what it costs in men, money, or munitions of war. It is undoubtedly true that Germany gained some advantage by first in the field with an overwhelming force. Many of these men have now been killed, wounded or taken prisoners, and tens of thousands more will have similar fates during the winter months. All this time Britain will be pouring fresh men into the field, and long after Germany has every available man in the Empire fighting at the front, Britain's resources in men will scarcely be touched. It has already been proven that the individual British soldier is more than a match for the German. The "thin Khaki line" has held against overwhelming numbers of Germany's finest fighting men. In other words, French's "contemptible little army" has grown into a formidable fighting force, and as time goes on their numbers will be so augmented as to make the Kaiser and his war lords revise their original estimates of Britain's prowess as a military nation. The vote by Parliament authorizing the raising of a million more men and of \$1,125,000,000 expresses the voice of the nation that they will see this thing through to a finish, no matter what it costs.

The Boston Journal remarks that "the United States is a nation of money changers, governed by valon keepers." The editor must be a pro-German or else has indigestion.

The railway men of Great Britain have contributed more than their quota to the forces fighting the battles of the Empire. Up to the middle of October, 54,000 out of a total of 648,000 employed by the railways of the United Kingdom had enlisted for foreign service.

As pointed out frequently by the Journal of Commerce, hasty legislation on the part of the City Council in connection with the Tramways should be avoided. What should be done is to appoint an independent commission to investigate the whole question and draft up a model agreement which should then be submitted to the electors for their approval or disapproval. As at present constituted, there is no one at the City Hall who has made a study of the whole question, and if a bill is railroaded through, it must of necessity prove faulty.

The effects of prohibition in Russia are almost unbelievable. From being the most drunken nation in the world, the Russians have been suddenly cut off from all access to vodka, with the result that they are now saving the money which they formerly wasted in liquor. Despatches from various cities announce that savings banks are being opened to receive the savings of the peasants, while from all parts of the country statements regarding the improved appearance and habits of the people are striking evidence of what prohibition means to a country. People who reviled Russia must now revise their verdict.

The Krupp factory in Germany employs in the neighborhood of 60,000 workmen a year, and pays out in wages \$25,000,000. The chief owner of the works, Bertha Krupp Von Bohlen, receives a yearly income of \$5,000,000. Krupps are now about to increase their capital, but if they are wise they will wait until they see what the Allies intend doing with their works at Essen.

Agriculturists in the United States are beginning to ask why they can only grow a dozen or so bushels of wheat to the acre, while most of the European countries grow double that quantity. For example, it is pointed out that France and Minnesota each plant 16,000,000 acres in wheat, but France produces 324,000,000 bushels, to 165,000,000 produced by Minnesota. Kansas, Missouri and Iowa have the same wheat acreage as Germany, or 5,000,000 acres. These three states combined only grow 55,000,000 bushels, while Germany produces 140,000,000. The New World has many lessons to learn from the Old.

VALOR OF THE FRENCH.

Much lies behind these pithy and modest daily reports from the French Minister of War. The advance here, the village taken there, often means some of the bravest and most desperate fighting the world has ever seen. Competent observers who have of late visited the front report that the French army is displaying heroic valor in this mighty struggle. For weeks now the French troops, only aided on one section of their line by our own gallant countrymen, have held up the enemy at every point. They have had to face the most formidable attacks, and have repeatedly repulsed them. They have won ground at place after place. The heavy losses of the Germans, which are now admitted even in Berlin, attest their unconquerable heroism. The French army has always enjoyed an incomparable reputation for intrepidity in attack. Since this war began it has earned fresh and even greater fame for its unshaken tenacity and its indomitable doggedness. The British nation watch with the profoundest admiration the ceaseless struggle which the French army is maintaining with so much skill and success. It retains entire confidence in the strategy of General Joffre, and is proud to know that the British army is fighting under his direction, side by side with his brave troops. It discerns in the stern courage of France a determination equal to its own. Shoulder to shoulder, the allies in the west will continue to wage this war with unflinching zeal until France is cleared of the foe, until the Belgian nation is restored to the possession of its own country, and until the menace of Prussian domination which has so long brooded over Europe is shattered forever.—London Times.

ITS PRO-GERMAN.

It appears that a great many Canadians have found the Literary Digest too indigestible since the war began, and they can't stomach it.—Hamilton Herald.

"A LITTLE NONSENSE NOW AND THEN"

"Sir, your daughter has promised to become my wife."

"Well, don't come to me for sympathy, you might know something would happen to you, hanging around here five nights a week."—Houston Post.

Misses: "Why have you put two hotwater bottles in my bed, Bridget?"

Bridget: "Sure, mum, wan of them was leaking, and I didn't know which, so I put both in to make sure."—Punch.

An Alaska pioneer was telling how crowded a certain ship was during the gold rush. One day a man came up to the captain, and said:

"You will have to give me some place to sleep."

"Where have you been sleeping?"

"Well," the passenger replied, "I have been sleeping on a sick man, but he's getting better now, and he won't stand it."—London Evening Standard.

"Patriotism brought on this abominable world war. Down, then, with patriotism!"

The speaker was Dr. Lyman Baldwin Beecher, the new thought clergyman, of Duluth. He continued:

"No patriot is a war man. Let us, then, treat patriotism hereafter as a joke. Let us emulate the young lady to whom a patriot said:

"What is sadder than a man without a country?"

"A country without a man," the young lady answered."—Philadelphia Bulletin.

By way, perhaps, of discouraging a too-ready American sympathy for the French, a German paper calls attention to the following in a French paper:

A famous Parisian beauty was once looking at a statue of General Washington. In the company was a patriotic citizen of the United States.

"There," cried the patriot, "was a true nobleman. Never in all his life did a lie pass his lips."

"Just so," remarked the beauty dryly. "Americans always speak through their noses."—New York Evening Post.

In the estimation of the small boy, Maj.-Gen. Sam Hughes is a very strong man, as the following story now going the rounds would indicate:

The six-year-old son of a well-known Ottawa woman went home from Sunday school and said that his teacher had told him about a strong man, whose feats of strength were elaborately narrated in the Bible.

"Say, he was a strong man, mother," said the boy. "He could kill men, throw doors and gates off their hinges, and pull down buildings."

"What was his name," asked the mother.

"Sam—Sam—," prompted the mother.

"Peas: that's it, Sam Hughes!" exclaimed the boy.

DADDY KNOWS.

Let us dry our tears, now, laddie,
Let us put aside our woes;
Let us go and talk to daddy,
For I'm sure that daddy knows.
Let us take him what we've broken,
Be it heart or hope or toy,
And the tale may hide unspoken,
For he used to be a boy.

He has been through all the sorrows
Of a lad at nine or ten;
He has seen the dawn of mornings
When the sun shone bright again;
His own heart has been near breaking,
O, more times than I can tell,
And has often known the aching
That a boy's heart knows so well.

I am sure he well remembers
In his calendar of days,
When the boy-heart was December's
Though the sun and flowers were May's,
He has lived a boy's life, laddie,
He has known just how it goes;
Let us go and talk to daddy,
For I'm sure that daddy knows.

Let us tell him all about it,
How the sting of it is there,
And I have not any doubt it
Will be easier to bear;
For he's trodden every byway,
He has fathomed every joy,
He has travelled every highway
In the wide world of a boy.

He will put aside the worries
That his day may follow through,
For the great heart of him buries
At the call of help from you,
He will help us mend the broken
Heart of ours or hope or toy,
And the tale may hide unspoken—
For he used to be a boy.

—J. W. Foley, in Youth's Companion.

THE GENTLE GERMAN.

Immanuel Braun writes in the course of a letter in the German weekly journal "Mars":

Near X, the brigade received the order to attack, and a little later we got the short command: "At six o'clock sharp the regiment is in possession of X."

It was in the night—a cold fog lay over the field—when suddenly the first shots rang out. Three kilometres this side of Y, the hindrances began. The broad road was blocked by felled trees; the troops marching in the open fields fell into pits and were caught on barbed wire.

Finally at half past five we were far enough advanced to storm the village. One section of our company had, as patrol, with great daring stormed one house in the darkness of the night and this section now experienced a fearful hail of bullets in the middle of the village. These comrades must be saved.

Out of every nook and hole the bullets whistled; stones showered upon us from the roofs. With a hurrah we went on notwithstanding the fact that we were received by a rain of bullets. Each house was taken by our embittered soldiers. They broke the doors in and everything that came in the way was smashed. Women of fifty, and sixty years, with faces frightfully distorted, came to meet us revolver in hand. The bayonet did horrible service. Every room had to be fought for.

With aversion—but we had to bow to necessity—we dealt with women and armed boys. The houses were the graves of their possessors who were driven back into the flames. Our soldiers had compassion on the cattle; the animals ran roaring through the streets.

Farther we went over this field of dead. There are the smoking ruins of the village. Burning corpses of the former residents lie in the street. Everywhere a terrible smell. Smouldering sofas, beds, curtains, bodies, dead horses, a great heap of ruins!

Halt, that are those figures. Fifty, sixty, seventy women approach us. So soon as they see us there rises a terrible lamentation and praying. "Grace, monsieur, grace!" A pitiful procession of half-dressed people, with babes on the arm, and dragging with them graveyards and sick women. Women and children fall on their knees, grasp our feet, and stammer out words: They hold up before us crucifixes, money and silver spoons.

One's heart stops still at the thought—if this misery were to befall our own people in the dear Fatherland! It is only with great difficulty that the lamenting people can be calmed. Words are not sufficient, I show them the church as a place of refuge. They all crowd around us to press our hands to kiss them. My simple, brave fellows found it hard to bear this. One relieved his feelings by exclaiming: "I would rather fight with those accursed peasants than hear the weeping of these women!"—Manchester Guardian.

THE TICKER'S WAR STORY.

It is an old saying that the ticker tells what men think. It is now telling stories of the war that can be read by those who thoroughly understand foreign exchange and those it tells are not what the papers print as war news. Reichsmarks are quoted at about 87 in New York for demand bills. Under normal conditions 94 would be low for demand bills on Berlin. Sterling demand bills on London are worth about 4.874, which is close to normal. We therefore find that we have to pay a premium for remittances to London, whereas we can get bills on Berlin at a great discount. If the Berlin foreign exchange market is working in a normal way bills payable in New York must be commanding a high premium, while they are selling at a discount in London. Foreign exchange works like a teeter; when one end is up the other end is down.

Sterling bills are high in New York because we are trying to avoid sending gold to London or Ottawa to the credit of the Bank of England, and we are willing to pay the prices of keeping our gold. Owing to the war the cost of shipping gold to London is high and the premium we have been paying for sterling bills recently is a very small addition to what gold laid down in London would cost. Ordinarily foreign exchange rates do not break through the gold import and export points, because gold begins to flow as soon as it is cheaper to ship it than to buy exchange.

Rules for normal times do not apply very closely to the case of exchange on Berlin at present, but the continued decline in reichsmarks to the present low level tells bankers and foreign exchange experts that gold is at a considerable premium in Germany in spite of the vast accumulations reported by the Reichsbank.—New York Commercial.

HEARTS THAT STOP STILL.

"One's heart stops still at the thought—what if all this misery were to befall our own people in the dear Fatherland!"

"This from a German soldier's letter telling of the plight of women and children of Belgium in the wake of Germany's army of invasion.

Perhaps here is one German who will not wonder that the heart of the neutral world has "stopped still" at the spectacle of a great nation, a nation that lays claim to leadership in civilization and culture, wantonly afflicting such misery upon the people of a neighboring nation whom it had given its solemn pledge to protect.—New York Herald.

TEA AS TOBACCO.

Smoking tea, to which some of our soldiers have been reduced, is a practice which has very deleterious effects, and those Tommies who have tried it may come to wish that they had preferred the craving for a smoke rather than its indulgence in this manner.

There have been many suggestions for a substitute—a harmless substitute for tobacco, and a very simple remedy (or should one cautiously say suggestion?) is for the sufferer to such a piece of ordinary liquorice when he feels the craving for the weed. Potato leaves have also been tried, and are said to be milder and free from poisonous properties.—Exchange.

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ARGENTINA AND GERMANY.

"La Prensa," the principal daily paper of Buenos Ayres, reports a German cultural propaganda for which much is hoped at Berlin.

It appears that the Germans for a long time have maintained a school system in various countries of Europe and South America, where the German language is taught and Germanizing influences are inculcated. In Brazil alone there are six hundred German schools. In Chili, an official report to Berlin says: "The Government and the people are well disposed toward the propaganda. But in Argentina, the attitude of affairs is not wholly satisfactory to the German Foreign Office."

The people prefer, it seems, to be Argentines rather than be Germanized. How foolish of them! And yet how natural!—Pravda Journal.

U. S. STONE PRODUCTION.

The value of the stone production in the United States in 1913 reached the grand total of \$83,743,339, according to E. F. Burchard, of the United States Geological Survey. This is an increase of \$5,329,775, or 6.4 per cent. over the former record-breaking figures of 1912. The value of the granite produced increased 10 per cent., and that of trap rock nearly 23 per cent.

MAKING ENEMIES.

General Lessor, who is responsible for the recent experimental mobilization of Toronto's military forces, is humiliated by General the Hon. Sam Hughes' public declaration that the mobilization was "ridiculous nonsense." The incident serves to show the Minister of Militia is so profoundly adored by the officers of the Canadian militia.—Hamilton Herald.

SHOWS BEAUTIFUL QUIET CONFIDENCE

Britain Believes Her Bankers Situation of War Without Disturbance

NEW YORK BROKER IMPROVED

Banks Made Showing in Mother Land Almost Unbelievable for Country Plunged in War.

New York, November 20.—Henry L. Doherty, of the firm of H. L. Doherty & Co. who has been in London on financial business since early in the war, returned on the Cunard liner Transylvania.

"Business is going on in Great Britain as if there were no war in existence," he remarks. "The spirit of optimism is prevalent everywhere, particularly in the banks, a showing almost unmade by a country plunged in war. In spite of the fact that the Exchanges are closed, there is a fair amount of investment buying, and bankers and brokers are in constant inquiry regarding investments."

"General business is fairly good in spite of the fact that there is a falling off in many of the industries to an effort at economy; but it is not by any means bad. The increased Government loans or decreased returns upon investments, no doubt affect investment business, but bankers are not by any means discouraged. The beautiful, quiet confidence among bankers and other institutions without disturbance.

"Manufacturing, of course, is somewhat affected, but in many cases it is nearly normal. The falling off in private trade, which affects the working over time. There is an activity in the industry that is encouraging, and everywhere pressed—not so much in words, as in action, queries—a conviction that the investment in American securities by Great Britain will be of more than ever before.

"I was besieged with questions about American securities—national, railroad, industrials and in Great Britain, major portion of it in London wherever I went. All of my time abroad was taken up with the matter up with the American State Department in an attempt to secure the correspondence.

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