

FACTS CONCERNING GREAT BRITAIN'S OUTPUT OF MUNITIONS.

In these days of stress and of herculean effort, we have almost lost our perspective as regards the magnitude of the accomplishment of the Allies. What, before the war, would have been regarded as verging on the impossible, has now come to be looked upon as an every day matter and to be accepted, almost without comment. The following summary of what Great Britain has actually accomplished since the fateful 4th day of August 1914, must however impress even the most casual reader with the magnitude of the task.

In June, 1915, the Ministry of Munitions was formed. Taking 100 as the figure of manufacture of munitions by weight at that time, the figures at various periods were:—

August, 1914	12
December, 1914	16
June, 1915	100
December, 1915	200
June, 1916	920
December, 1916	1,540
June, 1917	2,800

Steel Output of United Kingdom.

1914	7,000,000 tons
1917	10,000,000 "
1918 (estimated)	12,000,000 "

Of the steel produced, 24 per cent. is devoted to shell-making; 21 per cent. is devoted to Admiralty work.

Ammunition Output (Comparative).

	1st year	2nd year	3rd year
For light guns	1	5	19
For medium guns	1	5	25
For heavy guns	1	6	70
For very heavy guns	1	21	220

Gun Output.

	1st year	2nd year	3rd year
Heavy guns and howitzers	1	5	27
Very heavy ditto	1	5	13

The Expenditure of Ammunition per week is now 65 times greater than the average weekly expenditure during the first ten months of the war.

Machine Guns.—The output has increased 39 times.

Railways.—2,000 miles of track, 1,000 locomotives, and many tens of thousands of wagons have been shipped abroad.

The Ministry of Munitions handles 50,000,000 articles per week, and sends abroad 60,000 consignments per week.

Labour.—In October, 1917, about 2,000,000 men and about 700,000 women were engaged on munition work proper.

In July, 1917, the number of

women employed in Government work of all kinds stood at 1,065,000. According to the Board of Trade "Labour Gazette" of November 16th, 1917, the number had risen to 1,302,000 before the latter date. Women do 60-70 per cent. of all the machine work on shells, fuses, and trench-warfare supplies, and have contributed 1450 trained mechanics to the Royal Flying Corps.

TROUBLES OF A CLOVER KICKER.

By J. A. Wilson, M.G.C.

An experienced city salesman, with the gift of the gab, full of pep, there with the goods, in short, the sort of a man who would try and make you believe that a jack-rabbit was a rattle-snakes sister, finds to his regret, that his "side-kick" whom he has enticed away from home does not deliver the goods! At the outset the usual promises had been made, — he would be shewn how to make a "good and profitable living", have an easy time, see all the sights which nature has provided on our American sawdust and all in return for doing nothing except "sell a little cutlery each day and get big results".

The victim belonging to a country-fied town, carrying with him, as much brains, personality, and appearance, as some of the fellows, see loitering around the Parade Ground, imagining they are soldiers of all ranks) falls for the stuff he has been handed. Well the two start out, over the road, from east to west, and they reach that grand western town of Sacramento, Cal. There is a little ill-feeling aroused between to two, on account of the inexperienced man being inefficient in his adopted profession, and consequently having real difficulty in keeping himself in collar buttons, shoe strings, and other things a fellow needs at certain intervals.

Well, to make a long story short, the regular salesman decides that he had better dissolve partnership with his country friend. So one day, while they were conversing with each other, seated in the hotel lobby, the real salesman was heard to speak in sympathetic tones, as follows:—

"Say, Josh, me and you have been good friends for quite a while, but why don't you go back home, yes go back home, to that little angel faced girl, whom you promised to marry,—you know the one I mean,—the one you left in your small town in New York state, the one you have loved all

your life, until I butted in, and separated you both; and as for the remark you made, about her, saying, 'that every time she sipped he rsoup, she made a noise live as if someone was raking cinders,' has nothing at all to do with the principal of the girl, so just you take heed and go right back to the one who is waiting so patiently for you."

The rube, all amazed, with eyes as big as saucers, rising from his chair, just as if he had been struck with a pin, from behind, excitingly exclaimed with arms frontwardly stretched:—

"Jack, I appreciate those few kind words; they have reached my heart, and as for your advise, am very much obliged, but, it shall be tonight I start on my way to that small town, and I will count the days, hours, minutes, and I will even count the miles, and when that train reaches that small town, where my sweetheart has been so long waiting for me, I shall jump off that train, dash over to the girl's home, ring the front door bell, and as soon as she opens the door, I shall throw my arms forward and say, 'Dolly, Dolly, my sweet Dolly! Do you want to buy a noiseless soup spoon.'"

ST. GEORGE CARRIES ON.

During the past week, a copy of the "Official Magazine of the Canadian Engineers" has been received from the C. E. T. D. at Seaford, England. This periodical is known as the "Canadian Sapper", and, as might be expected, is a credit in every way to the men of the Canadian Engineers who are responsible for its publication.

The "Canadian Sapper" is a pretentious publication of quarto size and its thirty pages are replete with information, wise and otherwise, concerning a wide range of subjects. The "Poets Corner" also contains a number of original and exceptionally clever contributions in verse. A grim touch, suggestive of the stern realities with which the Canadian Engineers at St. Johns are not as yet familiar, is added by such captions as "Roll of Honor" and "Honours List".

Throughout the many bright pages of the "Sapper" is seen that irrepressible and indomitable spirit which goes a long long way toward successfully overcoming the discomforts and hardships inseparable from training camps under actual war conditions. "Knots and Lashings" extends its hearty congratulations to all concerned in the publication of the "Canadian Sapper".

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