

SOLDIERS CRIPPLED BY THE WAR

USEFUL TRADES TO BE TAUGHT THEM.

The Canadian Hospitals Commission to Undertake the Work in Canada.

The Dominion Hospitals Commission has announced that it had undertaken the work of teaching new trades to the soldiers, who by reason of injuries received at the front, were unable to resume their former occupations. How are they going to go about it? How can life be made supportable for the wreckage of humanity war leaves in its wake? Here is a story from La Nouvelle Revue de Paris, showing how the problem is being handled in France.

Mr. Eduard Herriot, the Mayor of Lyons, has established a trade-school for the wounded—an institution which is being copied all over the country, and even in Algeria. In the Lyons school, which was opened on the 29th of last December, soldiers permanently maimed are taught such trades as shoemaking, cobbling, tailoring, gardening, carpentry, toy-making, book-binding, bookkeeping, stenography, and typewriting. Courses are also planned in harness-making, metal working, coopering, and possibly, jewel-setting. The school day is eight hours, and those whose trades involve manual labor also have courses of primary instruction in the evening.

Candidates for admission are selected with care, each name being proposed by the chief physician of the formation to the director of the Service de Sante, who transmits it to the Governor-General of the region, who accepts or rejects it.

The candidates thus presented are the "amputated" and the "wounded," the latter term including all infirmities consequent on a wound received in war. As to the first the task of decision is easy. Examination is made to see whether the cicatrization is solid, definite, with no fistul or painful spot. . . . In the second category the question is more delicate. We have examined a great number and retained few, for most were susceptible of improvement by proper treatment. . . . Furthermore the candidate must be incapacitated by the nature of his wound to resume his former occupation, and must lack resources for self-support. From the moral point of view he must enter the school with a firm and decided will to work and to learn. He is free to leave when he pleases, and the school reserves the absolute right to dismiss those whose conduct may produce trouble or scandal among their fellows.

Creates New Interest.

Mr. Gravier gives a vivacious account of his visit to the Lyons school, whose director he found just granting an interview to inspectors of labor and representatives of the press.

"At the moment he was speaking of the apprenticeship of shoemaking."

"You teach cobbling chiefly?"

"Some one asked."

"On the contrary, we have our workmen make new goods—that creates new interest among the students. There is a risk of discouraging them by repair work alone. It is important that they should achieve the production of something as soon as possible."

"In short, you skip the steps of apprenticeship?"

"Not at all, for we wish to make excellent workmen; but we guide the apprentice zealously at the beginning, so that he may arrive at a result which will encourage him, and inculcate taste and pride in the article he is making."

"How much time does it take to make a good shoemaker?"

"From a year to 18 months, according to aptitude."

"But it takes three years in current practice?"

"Yes, but you are speaking of young apprentices under a master—who, after they have learned to sew leather in their second year, lose time in sweeping out the shop or taking lessons. Moreover, at their age they are still thinking more of sport than of perfecting themselves in their trade. Whereas here we have to do with men who know what they are working for and who bend all their zeal, attention, and tenacity to the purpose of making progress."

Limbs That Are Necessary.

The question turns now upon the nature and gravity of the amputations which permit or interdict a given profession. Thus to become a shoemaker, it is necessary to have two sound arms and the stumps of legs to support the last. The director bade us note that the Ecole Professionnelle des Blessés does not wait to begin the education of its students until the Government has fitted the artificial limbs which it is bound to furnish them. Owing to the large number of those who require such appliances there may be a delay of two months or more. It is harmful to allow the man who has suffered amputation to remain unoccupied and inactive during this time."

On this point the author quotes an interesting observation of Dr. Carle, who is the author of a pamphlet concerning these schools, which is sent free on request. Dr. Carle remarks that the work of the orthopedist is by

no means complete when the first apparatus furnished by the State has been fitted:

"According to the occupation, and according to the skill of the pupil, this apparatus can be modified and perfected. In place of the classic crutch or the wooden hand, a delicate instrument can be fastened to the stump capable of taking the place of the missing hand. It is quite impossible in practice to establish a delimitation between orthopedy and re-education. The one infringes strongly upon the other, and the orthopedist must collaborate with the educator for the best helpfulness to the future workman. There is much to be created along this line and we hope to discover interesting modifications of the old apparatus."

Mostly Shoemakers.

The trade most often selected, we learn, is that of the shoemaker. It is easy to learn and can be carried on at home. Besides, the tools are not costly, and it may be quite profitable even in a village. The course in accounting is the only one which undertakes to furnish candidates for liberal careers, posts, and administrative positions.

"Besides accounting, the students have courses in stenography, French, arithmetic, geography, English, commercial Russian—the last optional. This course will furnish especially bookkeepers for factories and large stores. A certain number of students even propose to be commercial travellers. We passed next to the book-binding atelier. Here, too, the one-armed were in the majority. Nevertheless they managed the pastebrush with dexterity with their single fist. The books entrusted to their care seemed dressed with the utmost neatness."

"Gaiety and good humor reigned everywhere. These men know that they could quit the school whenever they pleased. They also know why they are there and what they are working for. They appreciate their advantages. Their pensions will not be modified because they have learned a trade. Finally, they feel assured of finding openings when they leave the school."

WAR AND WHISKERS.

Neither Fashion Nor Law Has Been Able to Banish Them.

An enormous increase in the crop of whiskers has always been one of the by-products of warfare. The soldier is traditionally bearded like the pard. Nor need this fact be explained by the sordid motive of convenience. "If the Romans didn't wear beards," Mr. Dooley once sagely observed, "we wouldn't be afraid of them." A great symbolic principle is involved. Alexander the Great, to be sure, ordered his soldiers to shave lest the enemy seize them by the beard, and Scipio Africanus, a fighter of renown, was the first Roman, according to Pliny, to shave every day. Tacitus says that the Teutonic barbarians who overwhelmed the Roman Empire regarded a shaven face as a badge of servitude. Perhaps it was for this reason that the Romans from the time of Hadrian abandoned the habit of shaving. Yet bearded warriors have overcome Hector and Caesar Pompey. The mightiest Julius, it is said, could not have raised whiskers had he wished. Philip V. of Spain was in a similar predicament, and his loyal courtiers shaved to keep him company. A tax on beards was imposed by Peter the Great, and even in the last century they were taboo in some European countries because they were supposed to indicate revolutionary opinions.

Yet neither fashion nor law has been able to banish whiskers forever. They have been luxuriantly cultivated even in times of peace. The modern world has never returned to the Jacobean practice of trimming them in formal shapes like herds and evergreens, but the varieties of whisker-remain infinite.

Is the frequent use of the razor one of the consequences of pacifism? Do women prefer shaven chins, and is shaving a part of the suffragist movement? It might well be; in reactionary Turkey wives kiss their husbands on the beard. These are serious questions which the boldest sociologist would hardly dare to answer off-hand.

Even in times when whiskers were least in fashion the possessors of them have cherished them proudly. The clean shave administered to the convict is justly regarded as a humiliation. When Joao de Castro of Portugal captured Goe he demanded of the inhabitants a loan of a thousand pistols and gave one of his whiskers in payment. "All the gold in the world," he declared, "cannot equal the value of this natural ornament, which I place in your hands." There should be whiskers enough in the German Army to give the Belgians equal security for the contributions of money they have been ordered to make. The Kaiser's moustache should be worth millions as collateral. Perhaps he is holding it in reserve for the next war loan. He could console himself for its loss by reflecting that neither Napoleon nor Wellington wore one. He would still enjoy the satisfaction of having set for many years a fashion in moustaches, just as the lesser Napoleon made the "imperial" popular the world over. What styles will the war bequeath to us? If there must be universal whiskerage, let it be of rare and compelling beauty.

AUSTRIANS START HUGE BOULDERS ROLLING DOWN SLOPES AGAINST THE ITALIAN TROOPS



In their Alpine warfare the Italians the Austrians are resorting to a trick which is almost as old as the mountains themselves. They pile up huge boulders on the very edge of the mountain slope up but to use the exertion of mixing the small crude cradle on which these boulders are resting to start an avalanche of stone down the mountain side in the path of the on-coming Italians. The stone avalanche is as effective as shot and shell, for as it sweeps down the mountain side with the force of cannon fire numbers of dead and maimed Italians are left in its wake.

NORTH SEA FISHERMEN.

Find More Peril Than Profit on the Banks.

Fishermen returning to Norwegian ports from the North Sea banks tell of the disagreeable conditions they have to put up with in these war times. Day and night the fishing smacks are surrounded by torpedo boats, submarines, armed trawlers and aircraft of all kinds, the presence of which causes much inconvenience, although no direct attempt is made to interfere with the work of the fishermen.

Sometimes in the dead of night a searchlight will suddenly throw its dazzling glare over the deck of a fishing vessel, playing all over it, and penetrating every nook and corner, until the watch on board the man of war from which the light issues have satisfied themselves through their marine glasses that nothing suspicious is going on aboard the smack. Then the light is withdrawn as abruptly as it burst forth. A while later the dull thud of engine pistons may be heard, now to starboard, now on the port side, but not a ray of light is to be seen indicating the presence of any ship. Yet the Norwegian fishermen feel instinctively that they are being watched at close range by some prowling patrol vessel.

In such circumstances there naturally is not much rest or comfort for the fishing crews. They are on the alert nearly all the time, prepared to take to the dories at any moment, if need be, as so many of their comrades actually have been forced to do. To ship aboard a North Sea fishing smack offers at no time any inducements to a mariner seeking an easy berth, and of late only sailors with a reinforced nerve system and a devil-may-care disposition can be expected to sign for a season on the banks. The difficulty in mustering a full crew of able men has prevented many fishing vessels from going to the banks this summer, and those who really have ventured out have reaped little profit from their dangerous task, due to the extraordinary insurance rates which the owners have been obliged to pay on vessels as well as on cargoes.

In sharp contrast to the conditions off the Norwegian coast is the fishing situation on the western shore of Jutland, the mainland of Denmark. Here the fish are running close in to shore in enormous quantities. Observers have noticed that there are three parallel belts of fish lining long stretches of the coast. Nearest the shore are large shoals of herring, which are sometimes pressed up on the very beach by the mackerel, standing a little farther off land and forming the second belt. The mackerel in their turn are flanked on the outside by an almost compact wall of hake, through which they cannot break without running the risk of annihilation by their rapacious finny enemies. The Danish coast dwellers have benefitted considerably by the unprecedented run of fish. Mackerel, especially, have been caught in fabulous numbers, the catch being despatched almost immediately after each haul directly to Altona, Germany, where

big prices are being paid for the fish. Another source of income is being derived from the large quantities of wreckage from torpedoed ships which is continually drifting to the shore.

COULD NOT READ NOR WRITE.

German Tale of An Analphabetic Teacher.

Among the Russian prisoners recently captured by Field Marshal von Hindenburg's army was a man who, the Germans say, gave evidence of refinement and education, could talk agreeably almost on any subject, had been an instructor in high school in Riga, but could neither read nor write.

At first this was not believed, and the Germans by various tricks and devices tested him and tried to surprise him, but his statement was found to be correct.

In his youth this Russian prisoner had no opportunity of learning to read or write, and when he became a young man he found it too difficult. However, he had a thirst for knowledge, and he went to Libau and obtained a position. During the evening he attended lectures on scientific and philosophical subjects and retained much of what he heard. Later, when there was a vacancy in a high school of Riga he applied personally for the position and obtained it. He had become proficient in physics by attending lectures on the subject and proved an efficient instructor in this branch, as well as in gymnastics, and the fact that he could neither read nor write did not detract from his value to the school.

When the war broke out he went to the front and now that he has been taken prisoner he expressed a wish to the Germans to be permitted to have, during his leisure moments, the privilege of a teacher so that he might learn to read and write.

AN OVERRATED GENERAL.

German Crown Prince's Reputation Has Suffered.

For more than 10 years the Crown Prince of Germany has stood for all the more eager, head-strong and powerful elements in the German army, and is believed to be chiefly responsible for the precipitation of the terrible war. He and his coterie fancied that he was going to achieve great reputation as a soldier, and he was given command of the army, which it was expected would take Paris, while Von Kluck was distracting the French and English by his rapid advance through Belgium. The Crown Prince gained a little victory at Longwy, and to celebrate this there were a million postal cards scattered through Germany showing the Crown Prince in Uniform, with the inscription, "The Victor of Longwy." Since then his reputation as a General has steadily diminished, and the manner in which he has been defeated in his repeated attacks on Verdun has brought his reputation to a low ebb.

Louishkin, the giant Russian drummer of the Imperial guards, was 8ft. 5 in. high.

OMENS FORETOLD WAR.

Signs in the Heavens That Are Recalled by Disaster.

Of course the greater part of mankind has long since outgrown the superstitious belief that wars epidemics and calamities are always overshadowed by heavenly omens, such as comets, eclipses and so forth. It is, however, interesting to note that the present war was preceded by a number of phenomena which in past ages would have made everybody feel sure that some great catastrophe was at hand.

Among these phenomena, Camille Flammarion, the noted French astronomer, notes the following:

The total eclipse of the sun of August 21, 1914, which was visible in Europe and Asia.

Delevan's "Naked Eye" comet, known as the war comet, discovered at the close of 1913, and destined to remain visible for five years. This might be taken by the superstitious to augur seven years of war.

A transit of Mercury on November 7, 1914.

The fall of a thirty-five pound meteorite in England last October.

The great Italian earthquake of January 13, 1915.

The seeing of what was believed to be a tri-colored star, but which astronomers declared was only an optical illusion, much exaggerated by popular imagination.

Unseasonable weather of June, 1914, with a minimum temperature of 41 degrees one day in Paris.

RUSSIAN PEASANTS READ.

Develop Literary Trait as Interest in the War Grows.

"So intense is the interest in the war among the Russian peasants," says a writer in the Novoe Vremya, "that every train stopping at a wayside station is besieged by peasants of both sexes and all ages, stretching their hands to the passengers and crying, 'Give us a paper.'"

"Before the war the Russian peasant looked upon a newspaper as material for rolling up a cigarette. Now he reads it from beginning to end. Every bit of an old newspaper is received as a crust of bread by a starving beggar."

This prompts the writer to urge the establishment of a great "People's Newspaper," to be run by the state, not only as a newspaper for the masses, but also as a means of popular education.

"Russia," he says, "has never developed systematically. All her progress has been sudden and by huge strides. Peter the Great started reforming his nobles not by trimming their patriarchal beards, but by shaving them all off at once."

"The Russian people stopped drinking not gradually as a result of a systematic temperance movement, but as a result of a drastic Government measure. Why should not a great State newspaper for the people, circulated by the million, educate our people in the shortest time, instead of a slow process of elementary school education."

TRAIL OF THE HUN IN THE JUNGLE

INSTANCES OF HIS HANDIWORK IN INDIA.

In Our Eastern Empire the German Has Proved a Cad.

Chatting to a friend recently returned from India, a London Answerer man asked him whether there was much behind the statements that Germans had grossly abused our hospitality whilst residing there.

"Rather!" he said. "In fact, if you were to publish all the stories which I could tell of the wiles and practices of which Germans throughout the great Dependency, many of your readers would regard them as fiction."

"Here's an illustration. About ten years ago, during the worst period of sedition movement, I discovered the trail of the Hun even in the jungle. I had been shooting all day, and was trying a short-cut through a very lonely district, right on the top of the Western Ghats, in order to attempt to catch my train at a wayside station. A house loomed into view, rather pretentious, surrounded by a dense garden, and I decided to give up my quest for the train, and essay a call at the house for a cup of tea."

"As I approached the house sounds of industry were plainly heard, and before reaching the porch, a European came forward, and crisply asked my business. He was a Hun without a doubt, but invited me into the house, with very evident reluctance."

"In a sort of office he partook of larger beer, whilst mine host searched me with piles of questions. I told him where, whom, and how I was, and politely asked him the character of his industry."

Spreading Seditious Prints.

"It was nothing more than a printing and lithographic press, the leading product being cheap and nasty playing-cards to sell in the native bazaars."

"Whilst we were chatting I observed several highly-colored portraits of various leaders of sedition hanging on the walls, and mine host told me that his presses were working all hours turning out thousands of these prints, the coloring of which alone was quite sufficient to inflame human passions."

"Before leaving him I begged specimens, and forwarded them to the India Office, with the suggestion that here, indeed, was a concrete case of Berlin aiding and abetting the sedition movement. Beyond a formal and sterile acknowledgment, nothing further eventuated, and no investigation resulted. But you may take it from me that that young German was by no means paying his way legitimately, and the production of cheap playing cards was simply a cloak to hide the real purpose of the press."

"Take another instance of the Hun's handiwork. Many large British firms in Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, and Karachi were frequently at a loss to account for the success of German firms quoting for contracts. "In nearly every case noted the German just managed to get the orders."

The Native Clerks Were Bribed.

"It was eventually discovered that German agents bribed the native clerks in the British offices, not only to secure information concerning special contracts, but also the names and particulars of large regular customers."

"To circumvent this procedure, the British firms were compelled to keep a dummy set of books in the office, the real set, or actual ledger, being carried home each evening by some responsible member or partner in the firm."

"Socially the Hun was treated with the usual British courtesy. He could join practically any club or gymkhana and his business standing was always carefully recognized in municipal or other events of importance."

"And yet it was a sine qua non with the Hun never to allow a Britisher, as guest or visitor, into the German clubs, and to render this attempted insult worse, natives would be occasionally invited."

"Nothing in the way of business ever came amiss with the German. He would dabble in forms of commerce which his British rival would contemptuously ignore."

"Moreover, the Hun away from home made no effort to hide his preference for unmanly pleasures. While the Briton sought sport, the Hun sought vice."

"There you have the two national characteristics—vice versus vitality."

Up to John Barleycorn.

Willis Hammond filed a petition for divorce in Belmont county courts, naming as co-respondent John Barleycorn, a "figurative" person. He asserts that his wife has fallen in love with "one John Barleycorn," and she was unable to properly conduct her household duties.

Employer—"So you want me to raise your salary? Can you give me but two good reasons even why I should do so?" Meek Employee (sadly)—"Yes, sir; twins!"



CHAPTER

Uncle John

MISS SPENCE (to the pupils. T. . . .) "The pupils. T. . . ."

As for Penrod him

Nothing is more treac

The unanimous gasp

recovered her breath

deliberately to the pin

"And then, for

is pathetic stories son

"Penrod Schofield, at

The miserable child of

"What did you mean

to me in that way?"

He hung his head,

with the side of his

swallowed, looked up