

Germans Are Wilting

A NEUTRAL who professes some knowledge of military history asserted the other day that Britain was never able to win more than one great fight in any of her wars, but that it always happened to be the last one. Beneath the exaggeration of this opinion may be discerned the distinctive military quality of the British, namely, their ability to hold on, and in the face of repeated reverses to come cheerfully and confidently to the final struggle, where they have been successful ever since there was a British nation. In the present war it has been made plain that the British race has lost none of its nobler qualities, and there is doubt in no quarter as to the final issue of the war. This war has come to be a question of holding on, and bitter and desperate through the fight is, our people are entitled to a knowledge of the fact that in Germany the pressure of the war is becoming daily more pronounced. A correspondent of the New York Herald at Zurich, who has been traveling in Germany, finds that a great change has come over the people in the past six months.

Sick of the War.

He hears talk of quitting; the upmost word is not victory, but peace, although most of the people continue to hope for victory. Nevertheless, it is peace they desire above all things. Their fighting spirit is not rising, even though the tide of their armies' victories shows little sign of turning. On the surface the people are with the Government, and no open criticism of the Kaiser appears; but underneath he finds a growing discontent with the continuance of the war, which the Germans had expected to be over before now. Every month that passes takes its heavy toll of German lives and imposes fresh hardships upon the masses of the people. The newspapers are now venturing to publish letters from the front which discourage the notion that the German soldiers are supermen. Germans in the trenches are allowed to inform the people at home that bravery and military resourcefulness are not exclusive German characteristics, and even to rebuke those who continue to madly cheer for the war.

Rhine Ready for Peace.

He says that the recent peace demonstration ordered by the Cardinal Archbishop of Cologne would have been impossible six months ago, and though the actual procession was frustrated at the last moment by the authorities, they feared to interrupt the preparations which had preceded it, knowing very well that the Archbishop represents the feeling in the Rhine provinces and in other parts of Western and Southern Germany, where the majority of the people are Roman Catholics. For months past the Archbishop has been advocating peace, and when he announced that upon September 26 there would be a procession in Cologne of those in favor of ending the war at once, thousands of Roman Catholic clubs and societies prepared to take part in it. The authorities hesitated to interfere until it was announced that the Socialists were to participate, when they forbade it on the ground that it would lead to disorders. So the demonstration was cancelled, but nobody has ventured to rebuke the Archbishop, who continues his demands.

Vorwärts Protests.

It is the rise in the cost of living, and especially in the price of food, that increases more than anything else the growth of war weariness. A remarkably outspoken comment on the food question which appeared in the Socialist Vorwärts was as follows:

"One of the most dangerous deceptions perpetrated during the war is the pretence that Germany, although cut off from all her overseas supplies, can feed her own population. The fact is that the population of Germany cannot be properly fed by products of her own country. The war has proved beyond all doubt that it is impossible to produce enough articles of nourishment or to raise a sufficient number of cattle to feed the German people without foreign assistance. It is true that we shall be able to hold out for some limited time, but only at the cost of the health and strength of the nation, now being undermined by systematic deprivation and underfeeding."

Textile Industry Ruined.

From another source it is learned that the great textile industries of Germany are stagnant. This is caused by a lack of raw materials, and means that not only are hundreds of thousands of people out of employment, many of whom, of course, are serving as soldiers, but that there is increasing difficulty in supplying the forces with clothing. The Government is being called upon to provide for the idle men who are not fitted for military duties, on public works, to furnish temporary financial assistance to those without means and to keep the insurance policies of all of them in force until the end of the war. The German Government may be able to solve this problem, as it has solved others in the course of the past fifteen months, but it is in the position of a tiring horse obliged to face one fence after another, each higher than the one before. Pressure from within and from without increases, and while such enterprises as Germany is now conducting in Serbia may temporarily cheer the people it does not lessen unemployment, reduce the cost of existence to the masses of German people, nor does it lessen the terrifying lists of dead and wounded which stare the readers of newspapers in the face each morning.—Toronto Mail and Empire.

Sand dunes of the Sahara desert move about 50 feet a year.

BUELOW CARRIES THE OLIVE BRANCH

Visit of Diplomat to Switzerland Is Significant.

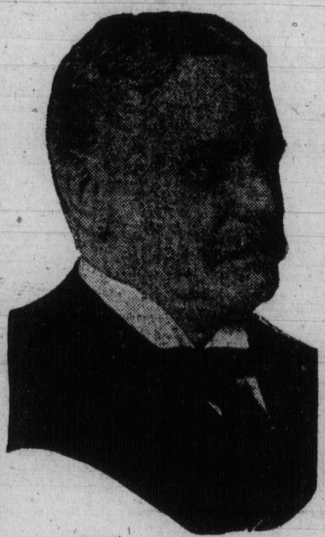
BERNE NOW PEACE CENTRE

Presence in Swiss Capital of Former Chancellor of Germany and Also of Representatives of Other Powers Indicates That Berne Will Be Place of Peace Parleys.

THE arrival of Prince von Buelow at Lucerne is regarded as an event of transcendent importance, to which the press of Central Europe has suddenly awakened, says Andre Beaumont in a letter from Milan. The general impression, despite official German denials, is that a foundation exists for the reports that Germany is seeking the possibility of opening negotiations for an armistice.

At any rate, von Buelow is allowing the Swiss press freely to present him as the bearer of an olive branch. The correspondent of The Secolo states, after inquiring from reliable sources:

"Von Buelow is doubtless entrusted with an extremely important mission. The internal situation of Ger-



PRINCE VON BUELOW.

many and Austria is pressing hard on a large majority of the population.

Tragic State of Affairs.

"Information from persons who have visited Germany and Austria, the evidence of deserters and letters written by Germans to friends in Switzerland suggest a tragic state of things. The people of Austria look upon the coming winter campaign with a feeling of horror. Milk, butter, petroleum, leather, fat, cotton, meat, and vegetables are rising to fabulous prices.

"In Germany the misery of a large class of the people is great. Next year it will be greater. The armies will also diminish, and in the spring the Government will be obliged to call out the last reserves, pressing into the service all hitherto discarded men, including the half-lame, blind, asthmatic, and diabetic.

"And when this army has been sent to the firing line and sacrificed, the question will be 'What then?'

"Not all the Bulgarians and Turks called to the rescue can then save Germany. It is better for her to try to obtain peace now while recent military successes give her a basis upon which to build pretensions to favorable terms."

A significant fact is the sharp decline in the price of shares of German industries connected with the war and the sudden rise of shares in industries unconnected with the war, which points to a belief in Germany that von Buelow's alleged peace mission will prove successful. It also accounts for the simultaneous reports of peace missions from all the neutral capitals, including the Vatican.

Germany has mobilized all her secret influence among the neutral nations to create an atmosphere favorable to peace proposals. The union of voices rising from The Hague, Berne, Stockholm, Copenhagen, Madrid, New York, and Washington is remarkable.

The sending of Count Ehrensvaerd to Berne as the representative of Sweden is considered a diplomatic event of the first order. His mission to Berne was primarily to organize a Pacific League of Neutral States for self-protection during the European conflict, but soon afterwards the rumor spread in Berne that he was also grouping the allied States with the object of offering themselves as mediators.

Berne has suddenly come to be looked upon as an important diplomatic centre. Turkey has felt the need of re-establishing her Legation in Switzerland, abolished years before. Japan has appointed a Minister to Switzerland, and the latest report is that Bulgaria also is about to send a representative.

The correspondent of The Resto del Carlino of Bologna states that hints have already been thrown out in official circles in Berne as to the terms upon which Germany would be willing to accept peace negotiations.

According to these rumors, Germany would agree to withdraw her armies from northern France, and that Belgium and Poland should be created autonomous States. Germany would not ask for a war indemnity, but would only demand the restitution of her lost colonies, the making of an international agreement as to the liberty of the seas and the signing of commercial treaties in her favor.

LABOR AND ART CLASHED.

The Battle Was Rather One Sided and Labor Won the Night.

Among the experiences which Sir Frederick Cowen, the eminent composer, relates in his book "My Art and My Friends" is the following: Once while conducting in Melbourne a terrible noise of hammering started overhead as soon as the concert began.

"I put down my baton and stopped," writes Sir Frederick; "so did the noise. Thinking it was over, I began again; so did the noise. I then sent a messenger with a polite request that the noise should cease. After about ten minutes, during which the hammering grew more and more persistent, the messenger returned, and I said to him: 'Did you give them my message?'

"Yes, sir."

"And what was their answer?"

"They said, 'Tell Mr. Cowen we've got our contract to finish by a certain time and we ain't going to stop for no concert or nobody.'"

"Upon this I turned to the audience and said:

"Ladies and gentlemen, as you have possibly noticed, there has been a fight between labor and art. Labor has won. I am very sorry, and I wish you all good night."

"Then I dismissed the orchestra, and there was no concert that evening."

FIRE RISKS ON FARMS.

Safety First Should Be as Much the Rule There as Elsewhere.

A contributor to Farm and Fireside shows how appalling fire risks are on farms. He tells how to reduce some of these fire risks and writes in part as follows:

"The inveterate smoker is about as dangerous as a walking stick of dynamite. It makes me shudder to see a man smoking around the farm buildings. One man I know never will forget the way he was run off the farm when I caught him smoking a cigarette while stacking hay.

"Another dangerous practice of which the average man is guilty is that of carrying ordinary matches loose in his pockets. He should carry either safety matches or keep the ordinary kind in a metal box.

"On most farms the lantern is still the usual light for working about the buildings after dark. A good way to keep it clean and safe is, first, to take out the burners and clean them by boiling in strong soapuds. This will keep the ventilating passages of the burner working properly. Then wipe all leaking or spilled oil off the base.

"Never set a lantern down. Either hold it or hang it up. Then when it is accidentally struck it will swing instead of upsetting."

A Gladstone Anecdote.

Lord Alverstone tells this anecdote of Gladstone in his "Recollections."

"Mr. Gladstone was very much interested in the Caucasus. I had a friend, Captain X., who had recently come home from that district, and I gave him a letter of introduction to Mr. Gladstone. A few days later I met Mr. Gladstone in Parliament street. He stopped me and said, 'Your friend, Captain X., knows more about the Caucasus than any man I ever met.' A few minutes afterward I met Captain X. in Pall Mall. I said to him, 'Well, you have made a great impression, Mr. Gladstone.' 'Have I?' he said. 'Yes,' I replied. 'He says you know more about the Caucasus than any man he ever met.' 'Well,' said Captain X., 'that is very strange, for, though I was with him for three-quarters of an hour, I made only three observations.'"

Leather Medals.

Leather medals were originally conferred as a genuine mark of honor. When King John of France, captured at Agincourt, was forced to pay to Edward III. of England a ransom of 3,000,000 gold crowns to effect his release he was left without precious metal for coins or decorations. So he found it necessary to pay the palace expenses with leather money. He also used leather medals when he wished to confer honor on some nobleman. The custom quickly arose of presenting leather medals as a burlesque distinction.—American Boy.

Discretion.

"Mother"—Elsie's eyes were round with horror—"that little boy next door just said the awfulest thing."

"Come tell mother, dear."

"Oh, I couldn't possibly tell you; it was too awful."

"Elsie, tell me instantly."

Elsie backed toward the door. "I think I'd better run out in the garden and play. I feel it coming on that I'm going to tell."—New York Post.

Sound Advice.

"I wish Ingomar to think only of me."

"I would not distract his thoughts too much from business, my dear," counseled her mother. "Remember you will need a great many expensive things."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Why He Failed.

"I understand his marriage was a failure."

"Yes; he tried to run it the way he ran his business."

"How do you mean?"

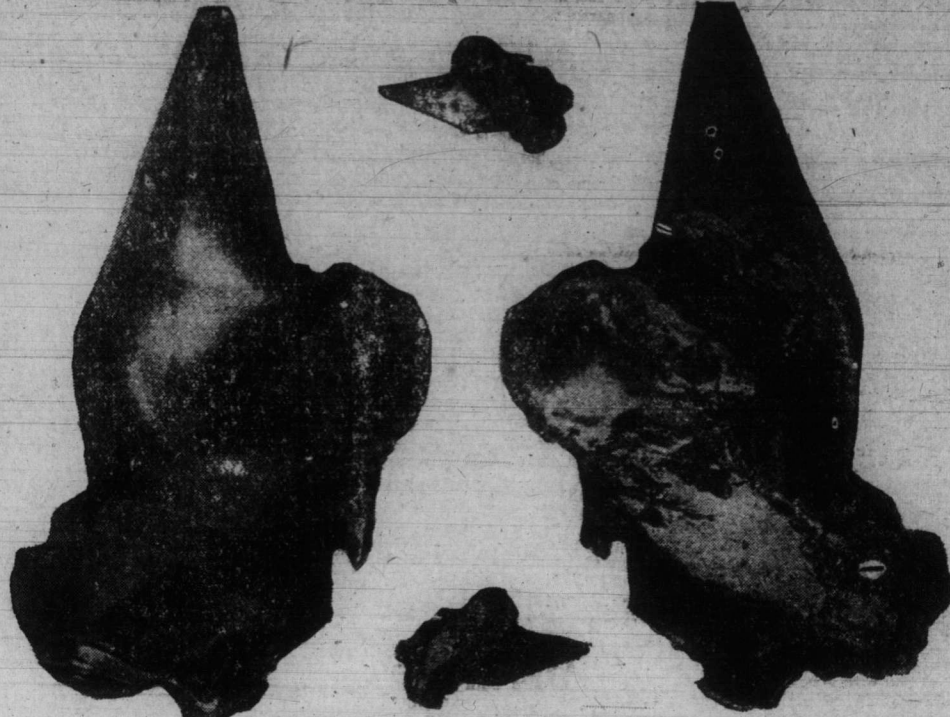
"He was never in the office."—Detroit Free Press.

Gentle Gertrude.

Penelope—Gertrude is a gentle creature, isn't she?—Percival—Yes; instead of whipping the cream she just scolds it.—Youngtown Telegram.

It belongs to great men to have great defects.—French Proverb.

GERMAN EXPANDING BULLETS



A COUPLE of German base explosive bullets are here reproduced, having been extracted from a wounded man. The photographs were received from Mr. George McL. Brown of London, Eng., European Manager of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company. The smaller photograph shows the actual size of the bullet and the other an enlargement of same.

Humor and Philosophy

By DUNCAN M. SMITH

PERT PARAGRAPHS.

SOME people give you the impression that they are going around with canned sunshine that is all of two years old trying to make you believe that it has been but just plucked from Old Sol himself.

If time were money you couldn't get the pennurious to stop a minute to save their lives.

Our failure to inherit money accounts for the poverty of most of us.

A rainy day is a great dampener to the enthusiasm of plenickers.

Being able to foresee unexpected conditions is where the good guesser gets the start of the rest of us.

There is no excuse for ignorance in a married man. What he doesn't know his wife can easily tell him.

It isn't easy to cheat ourselves unless we are dead willing to be cheated.

When a woman thinks she is pretty she is certain that every other woman knows she is.

You may put your best foot forward, but you can't keep it there. It has to be back half the time if you make any headway.

The Suspicious.

Oh, when a fellow comes along And hands you out a little song About a plan he has in mind Designed to elevate mankind And wants your help to come his way It isn't very nice to say, "What's in it?"

He has a great and noble cause That ought to win the world's applause. That ought to be the very thing In life to soften down the sting. But on it you cold water dash By bringing in the hint of cash—"What's in it?"

He may, this man who only dreams. Be poor in purse, but rich in schemes. You who are practical suspect That he would with your purse connect Or that it will not bring you gain, And so you ask him to explain—"What's in it?"

Alas, the schemes that rise and fade And with the dead are lowly laid. That might have been given a show Have put a crimp in pain and woe. Did not the man who would unmask Some subtle scheme rise up and ask, "What's in it?"

Aztec Emeralds.

Among the Aztec treasures of Mexico were found many fine emeralds. They were exquisitely cut, and it is from this source that the magnificent emeralds now forming part of the royal collection of Spain were supposed to have come.—Exchange.

Imagination.

"A poet needs a great deal of imagination."

"Yes; if he really waded around in the wet grass looking at sunrises and listening for robins he wouldn't last long enough to write much poetry."—Washington Star.

Limitations.

Jack—I hear that you have quit the literary game. Jill—Yes; I despaired of ever writing up to my publishers' printed estimates of my work.—Life.

Broad Brimmed Hats.

Toward the end of the thirteenth century big broad brimmed hats were fashionable in Austria. They were of such huge dimensions that a face under one of them could not be recognized. A poem written by Johannes Hadlaub expresses disgust with the style and the hope that the hats might be consigned to the Danube "so that the pretty faces of our women might once more become visible."

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AN EVEN TRADE.

It Wasn't Made Simply Because the Law Wouldn't Allow It.

A traveling salesman for a Gansevoort street wholesale grocery firm, recently back from a trip through rough lands of a neighboring state, tells this possibly true tale:

"One day on my last trip I had a six mile ride to make to the county seat, and the small village in which I was had only one horse that I could hire and no other form of conveyance. I may say that a friend had landed me in the town that morning from his car, and I had sold goods enough to pay the expenses of the trip.

"Well, I got away on the sorriest specimen of a horse I ever straddled, and I was to send him back by the mail carrier, though not as a parcel post package. It took me two hours to cover the distance—I was sorry enough I hadn't walked—and as I passed the county jail on my old bag of bones a face grinned at me from between the bars of a small square window. I was too sore to smile, but I nodded to the grin, and the prisoner called to me:

"Say, mister," he said, "how'd you like to trade that critter for thirty days in jail?"

"Just then I would have been glad enough to have traded, but the law wouldn't let me, and I rode on."—New York Sun.

Making a Changeless Ink.

In shops where it is damp or chemical fumes are present it is usually difficult to cause labels to stick to bottles or cans. An ink for use on such containers is made as follows: Shellac, 20 grams; dissolve it in a hot solution of borax containing 30 grams of borax to 400 cubic centimeters of water; filter while hot and add a solution made of aniline black, 8 grams; tannin, 0.3 gram; picric acid, 0.1 gram, and ammonia, 15 grams, in water, 10 grams. It will be found that this ink works nicely and resists the usual chemical and corrosive fumes.—Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

Golf Ball's Strange Flight.

That a golf ball does not travel in a parabolic curve was asserted by Professor C. Vernon Boys during the trial of a patent suit in the British chancery court. Professor Boys, who had been called as an expert on ballistics, described experiments he had made with mechanically propelled golf balls and said that these when driven hard more than counteracted the attraction of gravity. "A good flight," he said, "is very nearly straight for a long time, then gradually rising and then falling."

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Cured Them.

"Do your city relatives spend much time with you in the summer?"

"Not so much as they used to."

"Have found other attractions, I suppose."

"I suppose so. When they got to overworking a good thing I got home late about three nights in the week and left them with the chores to do, and they soon found they had a call to the city."

Their Utility.

"He is so pleased with his own good looks."

"Indeed!"

"Dead stuck on them."

"What good does he think they will do him?"

"Well, they may cause his wife to get a divorce."

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