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## SOME FINANCIAL FIGURES RELATIVE TO THE COST OF WORLD'S WAR AMONGST WARRING NATIONS

In considering the cost of the war to Great Britain and her Allies the London Economist does not speak lightly. It realizes the tremendous burden which the Allies are shouldering, but it points out that the German load is greater still; and it is of opinion that Germany and her vassals cannot carry it much longer. It is true that Britain and her Allies have been spending, since the war began, much more money than have the Central Empires. In fact, they have been spending half as much again; their national debt is two-thirds greater and their increased interest charge 50 per cent. more. Yet, it is significant to note that British exchange is as near par as the British Government desires it to be, as explained by Mr. Asquith in the House of Commons, while the German mark has declined about 25 per cent. The Economist gives the following amounts, here expressed in millions of dollars:

Tremendous Cost of War.	
Cost of Added Increased	War Debt Int.
Great Britain	\$10,125 \$6,900 \$345
France	8,775 9,500 465
Russia	8,775 7,500 375
Italy	1,125 2,000 100
Belgium and Serbia	225 1,200 60
Total Allies	\$27,250 \$27,100 \$1,345
Germany	\$11,350 \$10,500 \$525
Austria	5,500 5,750 330
Turkey and Bulgaria	150 900 55
Total Teutons	\$17,000 \$17,150 \$910

Thus, while the war cost, figured out to March 31 of this year, according to the Economist, is about \$17,000,000,000 for the Teutons, the Allies will be indebted ten billions more, or \$27,250,000,000, while they will be paying \$435,000,000 more in annual interest. It will be noticed, however, that the figures for Germany alone are much larger than for Great Britain alone and the interest on her debt even more disproportionate.

Relative Cost of War. These figures would look favorable to the Teutons standing alone and viewed superficially. Their expenses compared with those of the Allies are like the expenditure of a well-to-do banker compared with what some man of many millions is spending. But it is the relative, not the actual, amount that counts. Comparing the figures given with the national wealth, the national income and the nation's annual normal savings, the table presents a different aspect. Proportion of cost to:

## Investigating the Origin of the Big Ottawa Fire

Fire Was Not a Natural One—Mr. McDonald of Pictou is Confident Crime Surrounded Its Inception—Sir Thomas White on the Witness Stand—Col. Sherwood of Dominion Police Disbelieves Inflammatory Theory.

OTTAWA, Mar. 5.—The fire was a very fierce blaze, rather reddish in color, like the flame from a pipe stump," said Sir Thomas White at the Parliament fire inquiry this morning in describing his experiences on the night of the disaster. Sir Thomas, who said he had heard no explosions, had gone into the reading room at 8:45 o'clock to look over the Toronto papers. He had seen W. B. Northrup, M.P., in the room, but neither of them was smoking.

A few minutes later he went to Hon. Dr. Reid's office and on coming out in about ten minutes he heard bells ringing and saw the fire. Mr. White escaped in the Senate after a vain attempt to get into the Commons chamber, to warn the members. He likened the corridor at the main entrance of the Commons to a "horizontal chimney."

Heid Lighted Cigars. W. G. Wetche, M. P. for North Waterloo, testified that on the Tuesday preceding the destruction of the Parliament Building he had had as his guest at luncheon in the Parliament restaurant, Lieut.-Col. Lochhead, of the 118th Battalion, or Beilin. Buying two cigars they went to room 116, lit them there and went to the reading room to see the Berlin papers. They still held their cigars in their hands as they stood at the newspaper rack. Mr. Wetche

Wealth Income Savings		
	Per Cent.	Per Cent.
Great Britain	8.8	71
France	14.7	128
Russia	14.1	113
Italy	5.9	48
Belgium, Serbia	9.6	76
Total for Allies	11.3	93
Germany	15.9	121
Austria	15.9	120
Turkey and Bulgaria	12.0	105
Total Teutons	15.7	120

Spending No Capital. All the nations are spending more than they usually save, the expenses of France being seven times as much and those of Great Britain more than four times; but for every member of the Teutonic alliance they are more than seven times. All the Teutons are spending more than the national yearly income; Germany 21 per cent. more, while among the Allies only France and Russia are spending more than their entire income. As a whole the Allies have been spending only 93 per cent. of normal income, while the Teutons are spending 120 per cent. It is interesting to view these figures in the light of the total wealth of the belligerents. Great Britain is spending a little more than 8 per cent. of the Allies as a whole 11 per cent., while the German alliance is spending nearly 16 per cent. This is the explanation of the depreciation of the German mark, and the satisfactory condition of British exchange.

Alliance in Man Power. The advantage of the Allies is as overwhelming in man power as in money power, as the following table will show:

	Percentage Population Killed.
British Empire	402,701,000 00028
France and colonies	89,222,000 00303
Russia	175,000,000 00251
Belgium	7,000,000 00355
Italy	36,000,000 00200
Serbia	4,600,000 00687
Montenegro	435,000 01034
Total for Allies	715,558,000 00135
Germany	66,825,000 00725
Austria	51,505,000 00619
Turkey	20,600,000 00213
Bulgaria	4,767,000 00758
Total for Teutons	143,707,000 00616

These figures are based upon the official populations for 1913, and on the assumption that up to the beginning of last December the Allies had lost in killed 967,500, and the Germans 855,510. While these figures may be only approximate, they are accurate for one side as the other, and the result is relative truth.

doorkeeper, but Mr. Macdonald said the man he saw was attired in a long black overcoat and wore a heavy moustache.

Origin Not Natural. Witness declared the fire had spread with marvellous rapidity, and that in his opinion, and that of others who had seen it, the origin could not have been a natural one.

Consulting Architect Ewart was examined as to what precautions were being taken to prevent loss of life in other buildings where there were a great number of employees. He said eighty patent fire escapes were now being put in the east block, but admitted that nothing was being done in the Woods building, which houses the Militia Department.

Commissioner Pringle observed that it was time such precautions were considered.

Mr. Ewart said examination of the ruins showed no trace of an explosion.

Col. Sherwood Unconvinced. Commissioner Sherwood of the Dominion Police, described the extra guards put on the Senate and Commons. They were more numerous than asked for by the officials of the two Houses. He said there was no possibility of explosives getting in through air ducts, as those not in use had been bricked up and the others doubly protected with gratings. He had recommended use of only one entrance to each building, but had no control over the entrance to the Speaker's Chambers which Mr. Pringle had been informed had been left open.

Col. Sherwood did not believe the fire had been set. He denied receiving any warning from the Providence Journal, but admitted that he had received confidential information from another source last July which led to extra precautions.

## Discontent Among the Saxon Troops

The Confederate German States Are Showing Signs of Restlessness—The Kaiser is Endeavoring to End War Quickly—To Save Himself he Continues to Lead His People to Butchery

PARIS, March 6.—(Toronto Globe)—(By Gabriel Hanoteux, former French foreign minister)—With their Verdun offensive the Germans are taking up their campaign against France, just where they left off at the battle of the Marne.

Verdun is the apex of those eastern citadels, which always shackled the German offensive through Belgium, and until that apex is smashed, any attack towards the interior of France, is exposed to being bitten off by our eastern jaws. Any attack on Paris is taken in the rear by our armies about those fortresses.

Germany has arrived at that point where she is bound to make up her mind to use her remaining resources. I learn from the most reliable sources, that during the last visit of the King of Saxony to his troops, the officers surrounded him, and told him the war must be quickly finished, and that the soldiers would be unable to undertake a new campaign.

The King of Saxony reported to the Kaiser the pressure which his own troops were bringing to bear upon him. The confederate states were beginning to get restless. Therefore, the Kaiser ordered an offensive on the French front.

It is noteworthy that the troops who made the greatest sacrifices at Verdun, were Prussians, Pomeranians, Silesian, and Rhensish soldiers who fell by thousands.

The Prussians are naturally the supreme champion of Prussian militarism. Verdun has capital importance when regarded from the view point of the whole situation.

Every hour, every minute, decides the result of this last, desperate gambler's throw. The Kaiser stands involved, not only before history but before his own people. He continues to lead his people to butchery. To save himself, he orders a supreme massacre. But the hour has struck. Verdun brings no luck to the Prussian dynasty.

To Von Deimling's alleged assertion that this is the last offensive, I will add the statement recently made to me by one of our greatest leaders. It is better so. Let them attack. We are ready for them.

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