

Public Opinion

EUREKA.

(New York Herald.)

Steffansson says one of the islands he found in the north is the size of Ireland. That answers the question: What shall we do with the Sinn Feiners?

SHOT AT—AND MISSED.

(Ottawa Citizen.)

One of the great arguments for universal military training is that another Russian has fired two shots at Trotsky—and missed him.

NOTHIN' DOIN'.

(Toronto Globe.)

Canada has been at war with Germany for 1,515 days, but Sir George Foster still refrains from responding to the call for leadership in campaigning for after-war trade.

COCOANUTS.

(The Wall Street Journal.)

What was formerly used chiefly by the "gorilla artillery" of the tropical wilds as a means of offense against introducing prospectors now turns out to be an essential in our high developed warfare of to-day. We are not, as might be supposed, asked to conserve the meat of the coconut, but eat it plentifully, so that the government may have the shells, the substance of which is used in gas masks. Candy makers are allowed to urge coconut candy upon us.

And the gorillas truthfully say: "General Pershing has nothing on us."

AN EASY WAY TO HELP.

(Chicago Tribune.)

While we find ourselves devoted to so many forms of war relief, it seems not out of place to recall now and again the needs of the prime sufferer of the war—Belgium. There have been many kinds of relief carried out for Belgium, but the present one—a general request for clothing—seems worthy indeed because it requires so little effort on the part of the giver. Clothing of all sorts will be taken, all kinds, that is, with the exception of flimsy fabrics of the ballroom character, and high heeled, dainty slippers. Cloth of all sorts will be welcome, but, broadly speaking, there is a demand for apparel suitable for all conditions of men, women and children.

WASTED WORDS.

(Boston News Bureau.)

One after another, Teuton spokesmen try in vain to apply soft words to hard actualities. The chancellor now again takes his turn. He fails to satisfy the Reichstag committee; he condemned himself in advance to a failure to satisfy the world. Repeating outworn platitudes and stale falsehoods, whatever the drapery of phrase, cannot get these dodgers of facts and truth anywhere, at home or abroad.

Send this chancellor "back to his books," and getting another, will do no good. The whole crowd must learn a totally new phrase—"Unconditional surrender."

DEAR LITTLE LAD.

(Lydia M. Hutchinson, in Christian Herald.)

O little lad, with your sunburned face
And your eyes of dancing blue,
Just yesterday I held you tight
And heard your prayer at candlelight,
Dear little laughing heart of you.

Dear little lad, with your book and slate,
On your way to village school,
Just yesterday I saw you go
Across the field where daisies grow,
Dear little happy heart of you.

Brave little lad, in your uniform
With your kit-bag on your back,
Just yesterday you smiled good-bye,
And marched away without a sigh,
Dear little loyal heart of you.

Dear little lad you will not return,
So your captain writes to me;
Just yesterday he said you fell
Asleep at twilight's vesper bell,
Dear little peaceful heart of you.

NOT COLD FEET.

(Buffalo Commercial.)

An American captain ascended 28,000 feet by airplane. His fingers were so cold he froze them, but it cannot be said that he had "cold feet."

A POLYGLOT BOARDING HOUSE.

(Toronto Globe.)

Colonel Roosevelt warned the United States against becoming a "polyglot boarding-house." The admonition is needed in Canada, too.

FEELS AT HOME.

(Ottawa Citizen.)

When the British lion feels hot sand between his toes he usually puts more pep into his work, as all our eastern colonial history shows.

INFLUENCE OF TANKS.

(Writer in New York Tribune.)

The word runs that neither gas, airplanes, nor massed artillery will be counted the epochal innovation of this war, but that the honor will be reserved for tanks. Even the haughty airmen are beginning to think that the tortoiselike machine that keeps close to mother earth is the coming conquering instrument of warfare.

WAR SUBSTITUTES.

(The Wall Street Journal.)

Scarcity of metal for tin containers will increase business of manufacturers of paper and fibre cartons. Some of the trade thus deflected should be permanent. For example, consumers of tea and coffee may expect to buy these commodities only in non-metal coverings as soon as present supplies of containers are used, if recommendations to Food Administration for the conserving tin and iron sheeting are followed. Advantages and cheapness of fibre and paper for certain products are well known, and continued use is apt to follow introduction. Fibre cartons for shipping also conserve lumber and nails, an important saving especially since lumber is expensive and difficult to obtain on account of transportation conditions.

THE PRICE OF SHOES.

(Argonaut.)

It is reasonable enough that there should be an increase in the price of shoes, but why so large an increase? If the present tendencies continue we shall have to paint our feet to resemble shoes as the impecunious art students of Paris were said to paint their legs to resemble socks. There seems to be no scarcity of leather if one may judge from the vast display of that useful article on the legs of chauffeurs and in the form of belts around the waists of young women who amuse themselves by pretending to be soldiers and who run around the street with a look of pre-occupation on their faces as though they were considering the best way to take the Hindenburg Line. The price of shoes has now gone up about 100 per cent and one is inclined to wonder who gets the money.

TANK DEVELOPMENT.

(Manchester Guardian.)

The success of the five-ton Renault, or "whippet," tank and the future possibilities of this arm have given rise to the study of new technical problems. One of these is how to overcome the "blindness" of the tank. A tank in action can only see its immediate surroundings, and the courage has been recorded of officers who led tanks into action by walking ahead and directing their fire. Then there is the need for "liaison" between tanks. It is extremely difficult to convey orders, especially as the noise of the motor makes verbal communication impossible. Again, there is the difficulty of correct firing. When a tank is floundering about in shell-holes direct hits are almost impossible; yet for a tank to remain stationary is to give excellent opportunities to the enemy artillery. These and many other difficulties are now being studied, and their conquest is fraught with great possibilities.

HIS HANDS FULL.

(Philadelphia Ledger.)

General von Boehm, retreat specialist, is finding plenty of patients.

MAKE 'EM SHORT.

(Ottawa Citizen.)

We respectfully call the attention of prospective correspondents to the regrettable fact that newsprint is now 69 doubloons the ton. Write them short.

WHERE LABOR STANDS.

(Buffalo Commercial.)

British and American labor has made itself so clear on matters pertaining to the war that even the Germans ought to understand by now what they must do to have peace.

A BIRD AND A BOTTLE.

(Buffalo Commercial.)

The Allies already have captured about 40,000 Turks for the Thanksgiving Day feast. Now the French and Americans have launched an attack in the Champagne district. After the cold bottle to go with the bird, eh!

LIKE GRANDFATHER LIKE GRANDSON.

(Buffalo Commercial.)

Although Samuel Gompers no longer looks like a young man, few persons knew he was old enough to have a grandson who is an aviator in the United States navy. The young flyer met his grandpop in Paris recently.

A PRESSING NEED.

(Ottawa Citizen.)

The big list of students at the evening technical classes in Ottawa this year is evidence of an awakening to the need of further technical education. Better education is one of the first obvious steps to help towards better conditions in Canada: industrial training and technical education should have been undertaken as a national responsibility long before the war. It will be more than ever needed after the war. When the government is able to bring the ministry of labor up to date perhaps it may get round to the plans for technical education projected during Mr. Mackenzie King's time.

NAZARETH.

(New York World.)

The capture of Nazareth by Gen. Allenby has the double sentimental interest and military advantage which has all along attended the triumphant progress of the British forces through Palestine. More holy ground of Christianity is redeemed from the Turk and another effective blow is struck against Prussianism in the East. The reconquest of the Holy Land, indeed, has become something more than a brilliant feat of arms in a minor field of the war. Its effect on the morale of Germany's half-hearted Moslem ally is bound to be profound. Nazareth won, after Jerusalem is a success for the Allies on their eastern front worthy of their victories on the western front and calculated to inspire them with a new vigor.

DOMINION SHOULD SHARE IN BENEFITS.

(Birmingham Gazette.)

It is evident that much of the money now being made in Canada out of the war is invested in farm land. That is plain from the annual report of the Hudson's Bay Company. . . Here is a table of the average prices per acre paid for farm land in Canada during the past thirty-five years:

	Per acre.
	£ s. d.
1882	1 8 10
1903	1 3 3
1911	2 17 7
1915	3 5 11
1916	3 8 3
1917	3 13 6

This indicates the increasing price of land in Canada, and not a little of the improvement is due to the development of railways in the Dominion.