

Public Opinion

THEIR GIFT TO US.

In the judgment of The Buffalo Express, nothing finer has come out of the war than this line from an epitaph in a British graveyard in France: "For your to-morrow they gave their to-day."

THE KAISER'S GREATEST FOE.

(Toronto Globe.)

The truth is that the people of the United States, now that they are aroused, are the most implacable of all the foes of Hohenzollernism, and will never rest until they have destroyed the autocracy which has the Crown Prince as its most brilliant ornament. The passion of America is not an evanescent thing. It burns deep in the national consciousness. Kaiserism may well fear the aroused democracy of this continent. It is deadly.

HIGH GRADE SOLDIERS.

(Mail and Empire.)

More than 3,800 Canadians have left the Canadian service to take commissions in the British army, which goes to show that there are many more Canadian privates with the ability and desire to be officers than there are opportunities for commissions in the Canadian corps. One reason why the Canadian corps has performed so magnificently is that its average grade of private is high, and ambition for promotion keen.

MODERN CRUSADERS.

The Daily Chronicle of London had the following note in its "office window" at the time of Foch's big offensive: "The Americans have gone singing into battle like our own splendid fellows. The thought brings back to memory an English scene described by an eye-witness when the great rush of Yanks across the Channel began. Hour after hour, thousands upon thousands, far into the night, the Americans marched to embark in the darkness. They went like Crusaders. And what do you think their bands played, so near the battlefield? They played 'Onward Christian Soldiers' and 'O Come All Ye Faithful.' The men who sang those hymns are in the present fighting."

THE OLD CONTEMPTIBLES.

(Christian Science Monitor.)

It is just about four years since the Kaiser gave the British army the name it at once adopted for its own of the "Contemptibles." On this Sedan Day the Kaiser must have been engaged in some mental reconstruction, and the Potsdam vehmgericht must be wondering if, after all, the decision was a sound one to simply "risk it," whether the British Empire joined France or not. The "Old Contemptibles," the little army which made the retreat from Mons to the Marne, played its part long ago, but the "New Contemptibles," the Kitchener mob, have come, and come, and come to take their place. "A stubborn people, the English," was the Kaiser's reflection, when the British declaration of war reached him; "their entrance will cause the war to be prolonged." The reflection has proved true. It is over four years since the German troops crossed the border with the promise that they would be home again for Christmas, with the loot of Paris in their knapsacks. The fifth Christmas in the field is approaching, and it is perfectly safe to say that though they are not home, they are on the way home.

THE UGLY DUCKLING OF INDUSTRY.

(Kansas City Times.)

After all it's the homeliest, the most poorly organized and the least showy of all the American industries that makes good with the most amazing and dependable frequency. Compare the effect of the weather on the ice business and on the farming business. Farming is made largely by weather. Hot, dry weather, droughts in other words, ought to kill farming and ought to be a bonanza to the ice business, but it doesn't work that way at all. Instead, the ice business breaks down under the unusual demand made by hot weather, and the farming business merely pockets its losses, moves its cattle and starts into its job in another way. Somehow it always manages to deliver the goods, despite droughts, floods and other conditions that put ice plants, railroads and steel mills out of commission.

A CONTRAST.

(Toronto Globe.)

"Theodore wounded; Archibald wounded; Quentin killed; Kermit decorated for bravery in battle — the Roosevelt family is doing its part," remarks The Syracuse Post-Standard. And the patriotic, red-blooded American has reason to thrill with pride when he contrasts the young Roosevelts with the young Hohenzollerns.

ENGLISH ONLY IN GRADE SCHOOLS.

(Duluth Herald.)

The Wisconsin Loyalty Legion has adopted a resolution declaring that school children should be taught only the English language until they leave the eighth grade. That should be the irreducible minimum, in Wisconsin and in every state. Pupils below the high school do not require foreign languages. The principal European tongues—Spanish, French, Italian or even German—should be elective courses in high schools, but that is enough. Where foreign languages are taught to children in the grade schools, the only purpose is to promote alien propaganda; and that America will not submit to any longer.

NATURALIZED ALIENS.

(London Daily Mail.)

How little some of the naturalized aliens can be trusted the case of Sir Joseph Jonas, which was concluded yesterday, shows. This man came to England 51 years ago. He was naturalized 42 years ago. He was knighted 13 years ago. In the year before the war he was sending to Germany information as to how many rifles a day Vickers was making—information which was of commercial and military importance. He was giving this to a German who competed with Vickers—on the most favorable interpretation of his conduct—for the benefit of German trade, and this at a time, when Germany, as we know, war arming to attack us. In our opinion he ought to be denaturalized and deprived of his knighthood at once.

GERMANY'S DEAD.

(George Harvey's War Weekly.)

We have no desire to be inhuman or to gloat over the destruction of our fellow men. We sincerely wish that it were never necessary for anyone to die save according to the benignant order of Nature, at a patriarchal age. But, circumstances being as they are, we must confess a cheerful degree of philosophic fortitude and resignation at the estimate made by M. Marcel Hutin, the eminent French military expert that 1,520,000 Germans have been killed in this war. It is not that we want Germans to die, but that we want Democracy and freedom and humanity to live. And the tragic truth is that if these are to live, many Germans must be slain. The war must be won, and it is to be won only by killing Huns. It is a terrible thought that more than a million and a half men, on that side, have already been killed, and that probably as many more will be killed before the war ends.

FEDERAL EDUCATION PLAN.

(Vancouver Sun.)

The Canadian Club yesterday had the pleasure of hearing a more than usually thought-provoking address from Major Grant, the principal of Upper Canada College.

According to his view, the solution of industrial problems must be sought along two lines. In the first place, there must be a vastly larger expenditure for purposes of education. The funds, as he intimated, will have to come to a great extent from federal sources.

The major is probably right in his idea that education is destined to become more of a Dominion, as distinguished from a provincial, charge. The provinces now have use for all the money they are able to raise. The best way to handle the matter would seem to be an extension of the system of Dominion grants, to be expended under provincial direction.

The major suggests also that labor and capital be both encouraged to organize, and that commercial enterprises be fostered by lending them the credit of the state. This last notion was made in Germany, but it may have good features for all of that.

It would necessitate our Governments being conducted more as business concerns and with less regard to what is called politics. Everybody will agree that this would be an improvement, if it can be done.

A UNIVERSITY AT JERUSALEM.

(Manchester Guardian.)

One may hope that the laying of the foundation-stone of the Hebrew University at Jerusalem, which we are enabled to announce to-day, will not pass unheeded even amid this most tremendous clash of arms, for the Hebrew University is destined to play a memorable part in the annals of the Jewish people and of civilization. Universities have been the nurses of national culture with many peoples, but the place of the Hebrew University will be a very special one.

PEACE TERMS RESTATED.

(North American Review.)

There is nothing new in Senator Lodge's statement of what he felicitously calls the "irreducible minimum" of peace terms. Neither is there anything new in the ten commandments, or in the Declaration of Independence. It is often profitable, however, to have old facts restated; especially when this is done by indubitable authority, and most especially when there is danger that those facts will be forgotten, ignored, or concealed by some insidious and unscrupulous propaganda of treason.

AN ENGLISH-SPEAKING NATION.

(Daily Oklahoman.)

German Lutherans of Lockhart, Tex., objected to orders of the Council of Defense that they cease to hold services in the German language, and offered as an argument in support of their position that a large percentage of the membership wouldn't understand the gospel if preached in English, nor pleas for war work which were made before them. The Council of Defense was properly unconvinced. If those in America don't understand English, now is a fine time for them to learn, particularly if it is their habit to speak in the Teutonic tongue. The council stood by its orders.

ANOTHER GERMAN GONE.

(Boston News Bureau.)

The number of "German" things in use is still decreasing rapidly. German-fried potatoes are "American" now, and German measles is "Liberty measles," which was doubtless what Madame Roland had in mind when she said, "O liberty! liberty! how many crimes are committed in thy name!" The latest enemy adjective to sustain a well-directed attack is "German silver," which, we are told by The Engineering and Mining Journal, is already called "nickel silver" by the American Brass Company, one of its largest producers. But while we are changing the name, why not drop the "silver," since this alloy is only a variety of bronze, containing no silver at all?

GERMAN WINNERS

(Ottawa Citizen.)

Captain von Salzmann, the noted German critic, says that the western front has been made impregnable by German machine guns, which have been produced in such numbers as to offset the decline in man power. This makes the list of Teuton life savers somewhat more lengthy. First Zeppelins were to win the war, then came submarines, and now we have machine guns. In between were sprinkled poison gas, flame projectors and seventy mile guns. But nothing seems destined to avert the impending doom, although the oft repeated promises of ultimate victory have a temporary effect on the Teuton people. It will be interesting to speculate on the next "winner" to be selected by German propagandists.

DO YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING EARLIER.

(Chicago Tribune.)

The Tribune has emphasized for many years the necessity for early Christmas shopping. This emphasis was based on the need for ordinary business efficiency and expediency. It has always seemed important to distribute over a convenient period the transactions regularly expected and habitually increased far beyond the normal movement of traffic. The Christmas traffic affects all lines of endeavor, pushing them to the limit of their capacity. The government has asked co-operation. With its usual alacrity the public will comply. And as all governmental regulations in wartime have had the effect of inducing educational reforms, so now appears an opportunity to enjoy the real advantages of doing the Christmas shopping early in this and each succeeding year.