

HUN OFFICERS, PROUD ONCE, NOW IN LOWLY STATE.

Some in Menial Occupations
to Get Living—Suicide of
Prominent One Who Could
Not Support Family.

Berlin, April 18—(Associated Press By Mail).—Fighting for a post-war existence in civilian life has proved more harrassing than the fortunes of the battlefield to many of the thousands of German officers who survived the war. They numbered some 800,000 at the time of the armistice. While the majority held only war-time commissions, there were a large number of veterans for whom the lifting smoke of the conflict revealed that they had suddenly been uprooted from their chosen careers and were forced to begin afresh in new fields. It was especially difficult for the aged officers, who were no longer vigorous and adaptable enough to battle effectively in an economic madhouse already burdened with keen competition.

The German army and navy in peace times included an active officers' corps of 55,760, of whom 50,000 were in the military forces. When the war broke out, this list was augmented by 270,000 of those who were retired or on reserve. In addition there was the commissioned staff of the medical branches numbering 83,406. The total loss in the corps amounted to about 55,000 killed and 96,218 wounded.

Since the Treaty of Versailles permitted the retention of but 4,000 officers in the Reichswehr, a vast majority of the war survivors became factors for absorption in civilian pursuits. Today they are to be found in nearly every walk of life, some having even resorted to the positions of waiter and porter in order to gain a livelihood. Some were connected with trade, labor, or industry through family ties and thus found situations comparatively easy. Others resorted to official positions, and a part enlisted in the newly-organized security police.

A considerable section of the ex-officers returned to university calling; particularly could they be seen at judicial and medical lectures and in polytechnic schools. In the first period of transition, some worked in subordinate executive positions as assistants and some at manual labor.

There are none of the larger banking and industrial concerns today in which former officers are not active. In some banks one runs across an occasional general. Former staff officers were in position to receive tempting industrial offers because of their unusual preparation and their knowledge of languages. Already before the war officers were in demand by the insurance field as inspectors and agents, and this number has been noticeably increased. The automobile industry, too, has attracted many. Detective agencies and warehouses have employed them in diverse capacities.

At short, the huge network of Germany's trade, commerce, and industry is fairly dotted with these former heads of companies, battalions, and other units in the old war-time armies. They are in the mines, metal works, machine factories, electric plants, technical offices, quarries, and export houses; some have drifted to the film industry.

The former surgeons-major in the army have condescended to be mere medical men or have become specialists in their profession. Many went into the chemical industry or took places in hospitals. Officers blinded in the war were mostly instructed at the School for Blind at Marburg, where they studied political economy and simultaneously learned typewriting and stenography.

Certain of the officers who, after the close of the war, resolved to begin life anew as settlers in some foreign land, are reported to have had really unhappy experiences. Some died miserably after some privation; while some few others succeeded in getting back to the Fatherland. Only a small minority made real progress abroad. Very few left the country, however, it is said, and the charge that German ex-officers since the war have joined foreign armies and navies is regarded here as unfounded.

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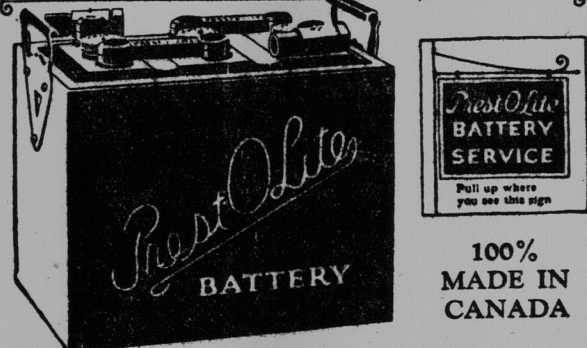
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The establishment of the Christian civilization of the Middle Ages and the formation of the monastic libraries were strictly interdependent. The new learning of the Renaissance, the stirring of that opinion of inquiry which has built up the fabric of modern science required for its service more and more libraries. The diffusion of knowledge through libraries is most important. What books should be read is of still more importance. Canada is richly endowed with authors who have given the world many valuable books. Yet still this is an apathy on the part of the public to support these writers which is quite unintelligible. A co-ordination has been very capably begun by Murray Gibson and his associates, and it will be their fault if the public does not become considerably more enlightened. Much progress has been made by Canadian authors and much more can be made by the development of individual and national power to place Canadian literature on the high plane to which its merit entitles it. A doctrine was in existence to put a bar upon fiction by some of the library authorities, but such a course can gain no support from any who believe in the value of literature. A Puritan who would exclude novels

has no right to admit anything to his local library shelves but dictionaries and technical treatises. A great novel is as much a means to the training of the mind and character as the work of the philosopher or the historian.

The movement is opportune to help our Canadian authors and their works. By so doing will a rich return be garnered in the increased efficiency and happiness of the community. Many methods have been proposed for estimating the degree of utilization which has been attained by different countries and different ages; but nothing in the history of the world has contributed more to its progress than books. Canada can support a native Canadian literature if she will.

HOME AND CHILD LIFE MATTERS

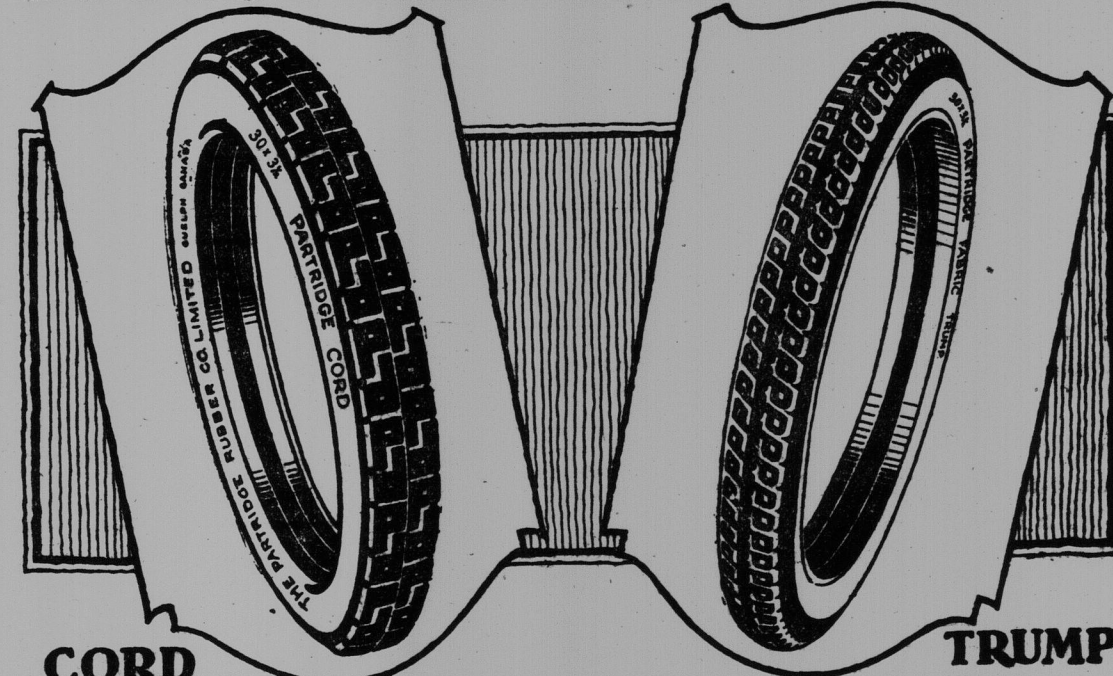
Convention of Women's Institutes of Nova Scotia is Brought to Close.

Truro, N. S., June 9.—That home economics were the central interest of the institutes because the home was the fundamental institution of society, was emphasized yesterday by speakers at the convention of women's institutes of Nova Scotia, which closed its two days' sessions here last night.

Mrs. H. A. Dickson, M. D., of Onslow, speaking on public health, said that the foundations for public health in the future were in the child life of the present.

Sussex Record: Mr. and Mrs. Dawson A. Richardson announce the engagement of their daughter, Arella Allen, to George Cogson, marriage to take place this month.

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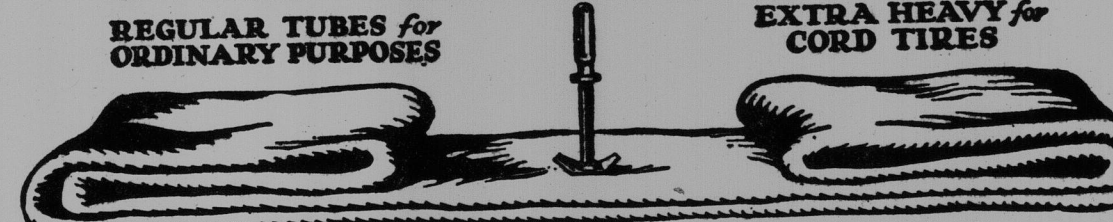
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PARTRIDGE TUBES



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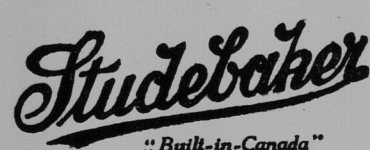
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