

THE CANADIAN RED CROSS SPECIAL.

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VOL. 1.

BUXTON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1916.

NO. 13.

A REMARKABLE PROPHECY.

THE WAR OF 1914 PREDICTED IN 1854.

[This prophecy, made at Mayence, announces the Fall of Germany and of Austria-Hungary in 1914.]

There is in Germany a famous prophecy. It is called "The Prophecy of Mayence," and dates from 1854. It comprises eighteen verses of prediction, of which the first nine have been fulfilled in the most remarkable manner. Here are the verses:

1. When the little people of the Oder shall feel themselves strong enough to shake off the yoke of their protector and when the barley is sprouting from the ears then King William shall march against Austria.

2. They will have victory upon victory up to the gates of Vienna, but a word from the great Emperor of the West shall make the heroes tremble on the field of victory, and the barley shall not be gathered in until he has signed the peace, shaken off the yoke, and returned triumphantly to his country.

3. But at the gathering in of the fourth barley and that of the oats, a dreadful sound of war shall call the harvesters to arms. A formidable army, followed by an extraordinary number of engines of war that hell alone could have invented, shall start towards the West.

4. Woe to thee, great nation, woe to you who have abandoned the rights divine and human. The God of Battles has forsaken you; who will succour you?

5. Napoleon III., mocking his adversary at first, shall soon turn back towards the "Chene-Populeux" where he shall disappear, never to reappear.

6. In spite of the heroic resistance of France, a multitude of soldiers, blue, yellow, and black, shall scatter themselves over a great part of France.

7. Alsace and Lorraine shall be carried away from France for a period and half a period.

8. The French shall only take courage again as against each other.

9. Woe to thee, great city, woe to thee, city of vice! Fire and sword shall succeed fire and famine.

10. Courage, faithful souls, the reign of the dark shadow shall not have time to execute all its schemes.

11. But the time of mercy approaches. A prince of the nation is in your midst.

12. It is the man of salvation, the wise, the invincible, he shall count his enterprises by his victories.

13. He shall drive out the enemy of France, he shall march to victory on victory, until the day of divine justice.

14. That day he shall command seven kinds of soldiers against three to the quarter of Bouleaux between Ham, Woerl, and Bernborn.

15. Woe to thee, people of the North, thy seventh generation shall answer for all thy crimes. Woe to thee, people of the East, thou shalt spread afar the cries of affliction and innocent blood. Never shall such an army be seen.

16. Three days the sun shall rise upwards on the heads of the combatants without being seen through the clouds of smoke.

17. Then the commander shall get the victory; two of his enemies shall be annihilated, the remainder of the three shall fly towards the extreme East.

18. William, the second of the name, shall be the last King of Prussia. He shall have no other successors save a King of Poland, a King of Hanover, and a King of Saxony.

All the first part of this prophecy up to the ninth verse inclusive is verified by the war of 1866, then by that of 1870, and then by the Commune of 1871. Here are the last nine verses:

10. Courage, French patriots, Germany cannot carry out its schemes of supremacy.

11. The time of retaliation approaches. The tear shall come in the midst of you to seal the alliance.

12. That is the man of salvation.

13. He shall chase the enemy of France, he shall conquer Germany until it is completely destroyed.

14. The last battle on the field of Bouleaux, near to Paderborn, in Westphalia, shall reunite seven allied peoples [French, Belgians, English, Dutch, Russians, Japanese, and Serbians] against three [Germans, Austrians, and Hungarians].

15. Woe to thee, Prussia, thy seventh generation shall answer for the wars thou hast made upon all the people. [Seven generations make 30 years + 7 = 210 years. The realm of Prussia dates from 1713. The seventh generation is, then, living between 1893 and 1923.] Woe to thee, Austria! Never such a battle shall have taken place.

16. It shall last three days in the smoke of the conflagration.

17. Finally Prussia and Austria shall be annihilated. Hungary shall fly towards the extreme East [of Europe].

18. William II. shall be the last King of Prussia. Germany and Austria shall form three realms: Poland, Hanover, and Saxony.

The Little British Army is at present engaged in assisting the Prophecy of Mayence to a triumphant fulfilment.

FOOTBALL.

A match game of football has been arranged for this afternoon at 2-30 o'clock on the Silverlands ground between a team from the Canadian Red Cross Special Hospital and a team from Manchester. The Canadians have been spoiling for a game, and it is hoped that now that they have been taken on they will give a good account of themselves.

Little dabs of powder
Little spots of paint
Make a little lady
Seem like what she ain't.



THE HOMECOMING OF A HERO. SHOWING THAT THE LOT OF A V.C.—LIKE THAT OF A P.C.—IS NOT A HAPPY ONE.

YARNS FOR A LIVING.

JAPS' QUAIN AMUSEMENT.

If in this country some enterprising individual opened an entertainment hall and amused his audience solely by telling stories he would hardly meet with great success, and the music halls and cinemas would need to have no fear of any serious rival.

In Japan, however, the professional storyteller is held in scarcely less esteem than an actor, and his art affords one of the most popular forms of entertainment in the Land of the Rising Sun.

Our Japanese Allies are not without reason in preferring this unusual form of amusement. It is less expensive than the regular theatre and the music-hall, and older than either. To the simple and often illiterate folk of the nation it is what the novel, the magazine, and the newspaper are to us.

None can appreciate good stories better than an audience of Japanese, all classes being accustomed to them from childhood, and although among the educated the theatre and cinema have largely supplanted the "yoseba" or amusement hall, the latter form of passing an idle hour has by no means lost its popularity.

The largest of the "yoseba" (or halls of the story-tellers, would not accommodate more than 300 persons, while the usual hall holds about a hundred. They are advertised by huge lanterns and posters giving the names of the story-tellers and the themes to be treated. In Tokio alone there are no fewer than 150 "yoseba."

After paying the entrance fee, not more than 3d., you are conducted by an attendant to a cushion, on which you sit to listen to the stories. The latter are of great variety, which may be divided into funny stories and historic tales.

Of course, the manner of rendering depends upon the nature of the stories and the talent of the artiste. Some are declaimed with a solemn, persuasive oratory and fine realistic effect; while others give the piece like clowns or comedians, acting every detail with amusing and often grotesque exaggeration.

Many stories are sung. In this case the story-tellers must possess a good voice, and with the assistance of a chorus, generally rendered by the audience and a native Japanese instrument, he goes through his performance in grand operatic style.

It is a curious fact that in Tokio one of the most popular of the professional story-tellers is an Englishman. This is Ishii Black, whose father was the founder of the first newspaper in Japan. Mr. Black was born and brought up in Japan, and speaks the language like a native. He tells his stories with such humor and pathos that he has few equals among the "hanashika," as the story-tellers are called.

The art of story-telling is much more difficult than acting. The actor has the advantage of scenery and costume to arouse and maintain interest, but the story-teller has to create interest by his own merit and personality. And often he has to impersonate five or six characters in one story.

A PICTURE OF MISERY.

HOW FILM ACTORS HAVE TO SUFFER.

All records for casualties were broken in the making of the new Triangle-Keystone comedy, called "The Feathered Nest." Every principal in the cast was injured before the camera had finished its work.

In the first place, Louise Fazenda had to be stranded on a rock in the ocean, to be rescued by Harry Booker. They all got caught in a strong current, were banged about severely on the rocks, and would have been drowned if the Santa Monica lifeboat had not come to their assistance.

Later on, Miss Fazenda was doing a diving "stunt," when she was hit by the bow of a boat, and developed a bump as big as a young doornob.

The following day she was hurt again in a similar scene, and this time she was unconscious for three days. Naturally the taking of the picture was postponed.

Harry Booker, after being rescued from a watery grave, got along all right until a croquet scene, when another actor swatted a regulation ball, instead of the one put there for the occasion, and hit the popular "Keystone" on the nose with it, necessitating a two days' rest in hospital.

Wayland Trask, appearing in the same picture, was riding an old bicycle down a steep hill when he accidentally pulled the handlebars out of the socket, took a header into the road, and rested three days with a badly bruised shoulder.

Charlie Murray allowed himself to be run over by a hansom-cab, and had his right foot so badly hurt that he was laid up for a week. The last straw happened when two stage carpenters who were assisting in a boat scene got dashed on a rock, and were rescued unconscious.

Altogether the production of the film was delayed three weeks by these accidents to the performers.

Who will dare to say now that moving picture artistes do not go through considerable hardships for the amusement of picture-goers?

SHORT CUTS.

A pompous laird advertised for a man to do odd jobs, and an old-fashioned Scottish worthy applied. The laird interviewed him personally, was pleased with his acquirements, and promised him the situation.

"What's your name?" he asked.

"My name is Tammas Jeems Pittendrieh, sir."

"Oh, but that's too long a name. I'll just call you Old Tom."

"Verra weel, sir; but what micht they ca' you, noo?"

"Oh, my name is Nicolas Duff Gordon McKenzie."

"Losh me! Ye couldna expect me tae min' sic an awfu' lang name as that. I'll just ca' ye Auld Nick!"

PROFESSIONALS ASSIST IN CONCERT PARTY.

Recreation Hall Filled to Overflowing on Friday Night.

By permission of Major Frederick Guest, O.C., on Friday evening last, a programme styled "Canadian Special Concert Party," was rendered before an audience that completely filled the spacious hall and overflowed into the passage way. Each patient had been granted the privilege of inviting a friend, which was, of course, a lady, and so the fair sex was well represented. Four professionals from the Hippodrome had kindly consented to assist, and the result was an entertainment that would be difficult to excel.

The orchestra, which had been augmented by the addition of a cornet and two mandolins, gave a fine rendition of the selection "Virginia Lee," receiving liberal applause, which was followed by Pte. Williams, who sang in excellent voice, the "Bedouin Love Song." Then came what was really the show number of the evening, "The Black-Faced Scotsman," Andy Lee, Andy may be Scottish by birth, but he made a very good negro, and his mannerisms as he reeled off joke after joke kept the house in an uproar, and finished up an excellent turn with some grotesque dancing, which was greatly enjoyed. A flute solo of Irish airs was given by Pte. Leach in a finished manner and was well received, after which the Sisters Fraser delighted the audience in song and dance. Pte. Hackett gave "Some Rags" on the piano. He is a pastmaster in this style of music, and of which little is apparently heard or known on this side of the herring pond. A character sketch by Mr. J. Fortescue, which was very good, was followed by Miss Peggy O'Hara, at the piano, who closed an excellent programme in a decidedly artistic and pleasing manner.

Another concert was held on Friday evening of this week, too late for an account in this week's issue. Several artists of international repute had been secured from the Hippodrome, and the success of the affair was therefore assured.

THIS IS TINO'S WIFE.

THE REAL STORY OF QUEEN SOPHIE'S INFLUENCE.

King Constantine of Greece, better known as Tino the Timorous, will best be known in the history of the great war as the husband of the Kaiser's sister. Since time began the world has never seen a more pitiful example of a monarch who was tied to the apron strings of his wife.

Queen Sophie of Greece is the third sister of Wilhelm II., and was married to Constantine as long ago as 1889. She is a curious personality, a woman as imperious as her brother, and as faithful to the German cause as any ignorant Berlin hausfrau.

She was in Berlin when hostilities began, and Tino was free from her immediate influence. The Kaiser therefore thought that some influence should be brought to bear upon the King of Greece in the absence of his dominant partner, and sent an imperious message, tantamount to a command, upon Greek adherence to the Teuton cause. To that Tino sent a spirited rebuke, which proves that, when free from the Hohenzollern influence, he was quite prepared to interpret the Greek sentiment in favour of the Entente.

Thereupon Queen Sophie returned to Athens post haste, with a threatening message from her Imperial brother; and with her she brought a carefully laid scheme for establishing German influence in the Greek capital. Queen Sophie has the reputation of being something of a prude. Her prejudices have always been shown whenever great ability and distinction have been counterbalanced in any individual known by laxity of morals.

Yet this great polygamist of a Von Schenck, the German Minister in Athens, whose name was blackened by conduct that would sicken a scavenger, was installed as prime favourite at the Greek Court. His appearance in public was in those days the signal for loud lisses, yet in Court circles he could do nothing wrong. He had at his command unlimited money, and a whole legion of secret service men, chosen from the most disreputable of the Hunnish gang. In a year he made Athens a nest of intrigue and corruption.

Upon the King, Queen Sophie worked by skilfully fanning his jealousy of Venizelos; and Constantine, who is a fervent believer in the divine right of Kings, could not tolerate the popularity and influence of this genuine interpreter of Greek aspirations.

A CHALLENGE.

The following paragraph appeared in the "Buxton Herald," of this week:

"Quilp" writes thus:—It is understood that a Canadian football team are throwing out challenges in a publication of their own. The 239th (A.T.) Coy., R.E. are quite willing to accept any challenge like this on condition that if the Canadians win the gate money goes to the Canadian Red Cross Funds, but if the result should happen to be the same as the result of the cricket match, the money goes to the R.E. Comforts Fund."

If the secretary of the R.E. Team will communicate with Sergt. J. Henderson, no doubt satisfactory arrangements can be made for a game next week on the terms stated.