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By DIXIE PATTON

A HOLIDAY GAME

Ball Chase will be found to be a good game to while away a tedious afternoon during the holiday season—if there is such a thing.

A row of caps is set along a wall or fence or a series of holes dug in the ground. At a distance of ten or twenty feet from these the players stand, and one selected as thrower throws a ball into one of the caps or holes. If he succeeds in his attempt the person whose cap is selected runs away as fast as he can and all the others after him. If they tag him he has to come back and take the place of the thrower, but if he gets back to his cap before they touch him he is free and the original thrower has to go on and throw the ball into another cap.

It is a good thing to play this game where there is room for considerable dodging around and behind obstacles of different kinds.

DIXIE PATTON.

WHAT I THINK OF WAR

I think war is a very bad thing, because the men go to fight and are shot in many places. They don't know when or where they are going to be shot. Some of them come back not able to do anything and some don't come back at all.

The women and children are treated very badly, too, and have no place to go for protection. In this great European war they have been treated worse than before.

I think it is almost as bad for the horses as it is for the men. They do not know what they are going for. The men can read the papers and imagine what it is like. Then if they want to, they can go and enlist.

In the wars all the big buildings are destroyed. Not only the big ones but all the little and common houses as well. Some of the big ships are sunk and some are burned. The men and women cannot get enough food. Some people starve. The soldiers are taken to prison and do not get nice food.

The war lasts a long time and many places are destroyed.

OLIVE SPEER,
Springfield, Man.

WAR HAPPENINGS

When war is declared many people enlist. They then go away and train for a while. They are divided into battalions. When they become soldiers they go to the country where the fighting is going to be. Trenches have to be dug so the soldiers can hide in them, if it is a very wild battle. Sometimes the soldiers are in the trenches for a week at a time, having only a very little to eat each day. Sometimes they are very thirsty and cannot get a drink. If they are wounded they have to wait a long time in the battlefield before they are taken to the hospitals. Then if there are very many wounded coming in at once some of them have to suffer a long time because the nurses are so busy they haven't time to attend to all at once.

Then the sailors have to fight on the sea. Here they are in very great danger. Some of them have to go under the water in submarines to sink the enemy's ships. The others have to stay on board to destroy the enemy. They never know what minute their ship will sink and they themselves drown.

The people at home suffer a great deal. If the enemy burnt their property they are left without anything. Most of them die of starvation. If many people are shot at war a man comes and forces people to go. Some of them don't want to go, because they have to leave their friends. It isn't very nice to have people killing everything, but sometimes it can't be helped. People are always glad when war is over.

META L. DICKINSON,
Age 12 years, Antler, Sask.

WHAT I THINK OF WAR

War is fighting and bloodshed, and so should be avoided. It divides family ties and causes broken hearts. When a husband or father or brother joins the colors he is doing a good thing for coun-

try, but his family has to feel sorry all the while he is gone. When he comes back he is probably crippled and so is helpless.

In countries like Canada and Great Britain they have a very good system. They give help to the family left behind.

War causes men of one nation to hate the men of another, but it serves to bind in closer union the men of the same nation.

War means a killing or murdering of helpless women and children, a destruction of homes and property, and so I think it would be much better if we had peace on earth and goodwill toward all men.

VERA C. WENDT,
Age 13 years, Edbery, Alta.

WAR IS A SET-BACK

I think war is like some large bird of prey, living at the cost of something else. I will give the following reasons for thinking so. War seems to ruin everything to a certain extent. When war is going on in a country, trenches and dug-outs are made all over the land. The ground is also torn up by large shells. Now this brings the subsoil to the top, and thus renders the land absolutely useless for agricultural purposes. It will take many years to restore to this land the proper elements, so that grain and fruits may be grown on it.

In wartime a great number of the population are killed, and either very old men or very young boys are left. Thus many factories are shut down for want of men to run them.

Trade and commerce are also checked, as ships carrying goods are likely to be torpedoed by the enemy. Also in naval battles many ships are destroyed, thus weakening the navies.

When war is going on the people haven't much time to be given up to educational and religious matters, and many of the poorer people grow up uneducated.

Much money is needed to carry on a war, and to get this money heavy taxes have to be levied. Now, people who cannot pay these taxes are forced to become beggars, and some even become robbers. After a war there is mostly always a great debt to be paid, and until this is paid the country is unable to make further progress.

After a war there is a season of immigration, the immigrants are of all classes, and they mingle with the inhabitants of the country. War often makes us feel a growing hatred between us and the people whom we are fighting against.

For the reasons I have given I think war is a great disadvantage to a country. I think it is a set-back in every respect.

M. E. JOY YOUNG,
Age 14 years, Carlyle, Sask.

MY OPINION OF WAR

I do not think that war is at all necessary unless for a good cause. Of course some countries make a great deal of money out of it, but it cannot be called good, as it causes so much loss of life and destruction. Men go to fight for their country and think it a splendid thing to give up their life for it, but it is not a proper thing to do unless they are fighting for a good cause.

Most of the wars that have been were thru envy or hate, and therefore should not have been, but in this war I think England is fighting for a good cause—Belgium's neutrality.

KATHLEEN SUTER,
Age 12, Box 12, Juniata, Sask.

ABOUT WAR

I am a new member of this club, and I am going to write what I think about war. I think war is bad and there should not be any, because there are so many lives lost and crippled, and in some families there is starvation. This is what I think about war.

AROLD ELMER,
Age 12, Castor, Alta.