THE JOURNAL OF COMMERCE

A Desirable Postal Reform

VERY convenient arrangement of our A Post Office Department is that which enables a person to secure extra prompt delivery of an important letter in any of the cities by the payment, in the form of a Canadian stamp, of a "special delivery" charge of ten cents. The general delivery of the Department is reasonably quick, but there are occasions when the gain of an hour or two is important enough to call for the use of the special delivery system. Unfortunably, however, this convenience applies only to letters posted in Canada for delivery in Canada. The special delivery stamp attached to a letter posted in the United States, addressed to a person in Canada, secures no advantage when the letter reaches the place of its destination. The letter is treated precisely as a letter not so specially prepaid. The same condition is found in the reverse operation. The Canadian correspondent who puts a special delivery stamp on a letter addressed to an American city wastes his money. There is no special delivery under such eircumstances. It should be possible to make an arrangement with the United States Post Office Department for an exchange of special delivery facilities. There is, of course, a special expense connected with such delivery. The ten cents paid on the letter posted in the United States goes into the American treasury. Canada receives no part of it, yet Canada has to pay the cost of delivery to the Canadian citizen. This might be an argument against our suggestion if it could he assumed that correspondence of this kind would be one-sided. But surely such an assumption would be unwarranted. In the case of the ordinary delivery, letters posted in the United States, addressed to Canada, pay a tribute of two cents to the American treasury, while the Canadian Post Office has to pay the expense of delivery in Canada. This, however, is not deemed a burden, because the United States postal authorities reciprocate by delivering letters from Canada on which they have received no postage. Why will not the same reason apply to the case of special delivery letters? The subject is worthy of the attention of the Post Office Departments of both countries. A reciprocal handling of special delivery letters is much to be desired and there does not seem to be any good reason against it.

The Submarine Activity

activity. In a number of the ships torpedoed more notes are now passing between the United.

electorate. The whole course of conduct pursued by President Wilson and his cabinet has been lamentably weak. A nation that is "too proud to fight" and makes its first line of defense a typewriter and a series of notes, is not the kind that wins the respect of its neighbours

It is just possible that something may happen after November 4th. No matter who is elected, the party in power will feel that they have a sufficiently long lease of life to warrant them in taking a determined stand on the submarine question and on the many other controversial points that have arisen since the outbreak of hostilities. However, until the votes are counted there is not the slightest fear of the neighbouring Republic doing anything which will offend the susceptibilities of the hyphenated American voter. Until then Germany can pursue her submarine policy unmolested at least in so far as the United States is concerned.

Paying the Penalty

SSUMING, as we must, that ultimately $\boldsymbol{\Lambda}$ Germany and her allies will be soundly beaten, one of the countries which stand to suffer most for the crime of this war is Austria-Hungary, particularly Hungary. Although they are united under the aged Francis Joseph, who is "Emperor" in Austria and "King" in Hungary, there has been little love between the two countries. In foreign affairs, imperial finance, army and navy the two are united, these affairs being controlled by the "Delegations," a body in which each has an equal number of deputies. But in most things Austria and Hungary are separate nations, each having its own parliament and its own tariff. The Hungarians had to fight for their independence, and although they accepted the compromise of the "dual monarchy," they have frequently manifested their discontent with the situation. Many observers have formed the opinion that a common respect for the aged Emperor, Francis Joseph, is the strongest bond of union between the two nations, and that when he passes away he will leave no successor strong enough to maintain the present status. The Hungarians have shared with the Austrians the burdens of the war. At times it has been suggested that Hungary was being required to do more than her fair share. Austria-Hungary, it will be remembered, was, nominally at least, the first of the nations to declare war. The murder of an Aus-URING the past few days there has been trian archduke was made the excuse by the a renewal of the German submarine Austrians for demands upon Serbia so unreasonable that no self-respecting nation could without warning, the lives of the American be expected to submit to them. It was apparcitizens have been in danger. It is said that ent from the first that Austria wished to crush Serbia, and it was not long before the fact became clear that Austria was being Huns. used by Germany to bring on a European conflagration which the Mad Kaiser thought could be turned to German account. Hungary, as has been said, has already done her full part in the war. Now she finds herself in a situation that threatens her with the most severe punishment. The eastern part of Hungary is Transylvania, formerly a principality, but now and for many years a recognized portion of Hungary. Roumania lies immediately south of this Hungarian territory. Now that Men anxious to secure a new lease of power Roumania has joined the Entente Allies she finds the Transylvania frontier the most convenient ground for an attack. So the Roumanian army has crossed the border, has seized some important Hungarian towns and is pressing its attack further. A large portion of Transylvania is occupied by people who are Roumanian in their customs and sympathies.

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who will be inclined to welcome the invaders rather than to resist them. Roumania has long desired possession of this territory, but has hither found no opportunity to gratify her wish. Now that Roumania has, at a critical moment in the conflict, declared war on Austria-Hungary and sent an invading army into Transylvania, it is a safe guess that she has come to an understanding with the Entente Allies that when the day of peace comes Transylvania will be taken from Hungary and become a part of Roumania, which by this enlargement of her territory will become a more powerful factor than she has hitherto been in the affairs of the Near East. Hungary, of course, will now have more reason than before to fight on, for she will be fighting distinctly for her own territory. But the forces against her are too strong to be successfully resisted; she will emerge from the war crippled, crushed and deprived of a large portion of her most valued territory. Hungary will pay heavily for the wrong that was done at Vienna and Berlin when Europe was plunged into this dreadful conflict.

Germany's Latest **Atrocity**

↑HE last revelation regarding German Kultur is enough to make the blood of any civilized being boil. According to the evidence which has been submitted, and which seems most pitiable, the Germans are spreading phthisis germs among the allied prisoners. Already it is stated there has been fifty thousands Frenchmen who have fallen victims to tuberculosis, while thousands of British have also fallen victims to this latter atrocity.

A nation capable of inventing and using liquid fire, gas, torpedoing helpless passenger boats, and murdering women and children through the dropping of bombs from zeppelins is probably capable of spreading white plague among their prisoners. This last atrocity is so loathsome in its conception that the world stands aghast at the depth of degredation to which the Huns have dropped. The fact that Germany will stop at nothing to achieve her end, should make every able bodied man in Canada burn with a desire to go overseas and put a stop once and for all to Hun Kultur, which seeks to dominate the world. A nation that will act as Germany has acted is insane and should be treated as such.

For years the best efforts of scientists, of medical men and philanthropists have been turned to the stamping out of this white plague which has so oppressed humanity. That a nation would deliberately spread the germs among helpless prisoners is too vicious for comment. The only answer is a complete crushing of this

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States Secretary of State and the German Government

After all that has happened in the way of torpedocing ships with Americans on board, such as in the case of the Lusitania and Arabic, it is too much to expect that anything serious will develop from the latest protests from the United States, especially in view of the fact that an election is now pending and Wilson is doubly anxious to get every possible vote, including the hyphenated kind.

Herein lies one of the dangers of democracy. are not going to say or do anything that will antagonize possible voters. A candidate has his ear to the ground and fails to hear the real voice of the people. This sometimes results in a country submitting to many indignities because its politicians do not take a determined stand for fear of offending a section of the

barbarous race who so well deserve the epithet

The exhibition of goods of German and Austrian manufacture now being shown in Montreal, and later to be shown in Toronto, should give our manufacturers an opportunity to inspect at first hand the methods followed by these countries in catering to foreign trade. Several factors are clearly portrayed. In all cases the goods were made to suit the customers and wants of the people, whether in Africa, or Asia or elsewhere. Truly, much of the stuff is "junk", but the evidences are just as apparent in the high class goods. The textile exhibits should be most valuable. Here price terms and credits have played an important role and the Germans appear to have excelled in these particulars. Many valuable suggestions are contained in the exhibits.