VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

THE EFFICACY OF PRAYER.

To the Editor of The Advertiser:
Sunday next, January 6th, having been appointed by King George as a day of prayer, it is appropriate to notice the scriptural conditions regarding real prayer. History, both sacred and profane, shows that whenever men or nations have turned to God with true confession of sin, and self-weakness or abasement, then prayer has been immediately answered. There can be no doubt but that God is willing and longing to put an end to this war; and the fact that this frightful European monstrosity has prevailed so long against the other nations, in spite of our strenuous efforts to overcome it, should surely lead to self-examination and abasement before God. When we as individuals comprising the nation do that, God can and undoubtedly will "confound our enemies" and grant the longed-for peace with victory. When Israel's armies of old were defeated in battle, the cause was found to be sin individuals, and when sin was confessed and put away, the enemy had no courage to stand against their armies. (See Book of Joshua, chapters VII and VIII.)

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Therefore, if our day of prayer is to be effectual (and the fervent effectual prayer of a righteous man availeth much) the apostie in epistle to Hebrews, chapter X, verse 22, says. "Let us draw near (that is to God) with a true heart, in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water." (meaning, we believe, the Word of God.)

First, then, "a true heart." "The heart is deceitful above all things," says the prophet, "and desperately wicked; who can know it?" But "whoso confesseth and forsaketh his sin shall find mercy."

Second, "full assurance of faith." "He that cometh to God must believe that God is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him." We must believe that God is willing and able to answer prayer.

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Third, "hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience." There is but one sprinkling for this: "The blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son, cleanseth us from all sin," and "if we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us."

So long as we struggle on without

we deceive ourselves, and the state of the us."

So long as we struggle on without God, we are like a man sawing wood with a dull biade. We will get there some day (God grant it may be soon), but why use a blunt saw? Let us draw near in the right way and "find grace to help in time of need."

London, January 4th, 1918.

R. M. WINSLOW.

GREEK OFFICERS DISMISSED.

ATHENS, Jan. 4.—More than 400 officers of the Greek army who had rejected the overtures made to them by the present regime and continued to proclaim their conviction in the ultimate victory of Germany and the reinstatement of Constantine as king have been dismissed from the service and removed from Athens.

The minister of war states that they are enjoying full liberty in the islands to which they have been sent.

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value For\$1.49
Misses' Good Weight Gunmetal Calf Shoes, with
heavy solid leather soles
and heels, \$3.75 value For
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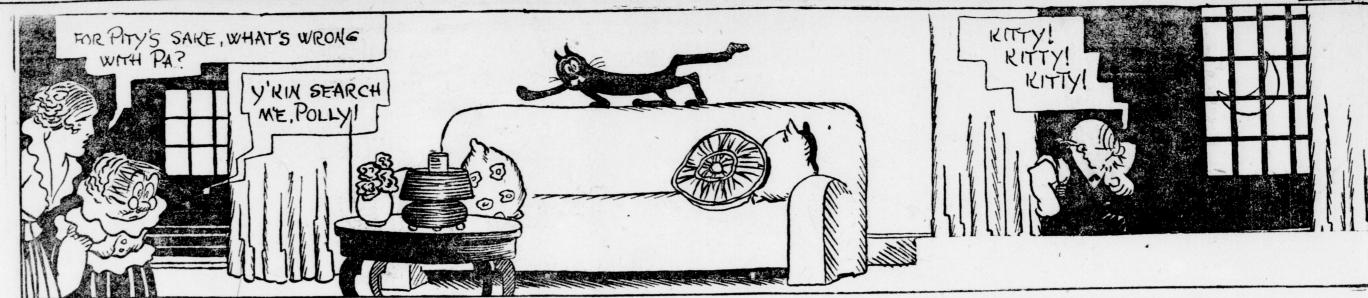
Misses' Patent Cushion Welt Shoes, with high lace black cloth tops and patent collar, a \$4.00 shoe. For \$2.98

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