

GERMAN LOOTING OF BELGIUM TOLD

OFFICIAL STATEMENT SHOWS ACTION OF ENEMY.

Ministry of Economy Affairs Created to Co-Ordinate Efforts Towards Restoration.

The devastation and looting of Belgium under German occupation and the economic havoc which has been wrought throughout that country are described in detail in a statement given out at Washington recently with the consent of the Belgian Legation and officially vouched for by the Belgian Government. The document is prepared upon information gathered by M. P. Poulet, Minister of Economic Affairs of the Belgian Government. The statement comes from the Belgian official information service.

Every movable thing of value, whether in the fields and streets, has been carried away by the Germans, thus reducing the country to wreckage, which can be changed only after many years of effort and reconstruction.

"History offers few examples of a country so devastated as this," says quotations from M. Poulet. "All of its raw materials have been carried off. The equipment of its factories has been carried into Germany or carelessly destroyed."

Pillage of Forests.
The pillage of the forests, it is said, has resulted in millions of feet of lumber being shipped into Germany and returned later to the trenches on the western front. It is estimated that 400,000 tons of logs are now awaiting shipment for this purpose to sawmills in Germany.

"All of the trees cut down by the Belgian civilians under German duress—oaks, poplars and elms—representing a value of several million francs, are hauled to the Campine Canal and carried down the waterways to Mersin, whence in the form of logs, boards and billets they are carried by water again to the western front," says the statement.

Ways and means of restoring Belgium to a self-sustaining basis are discussed in the memorandum of M. Poulet.

"The creation of the Minister of Economic Affairs is quite recent," he says. "It dates from the 12th of October, 1917. He was charged with the duty of co-ordinating efforts according to a definite plan and at the last stage of the war to give them rigorous impulse. The duty of the Minister of Economic Affairs present four essential aspects: Industrial, commercial, financial and finally the repairing of the injuries caused by the war."

"There is a special office at the seat of the central administration corresponding to each of these. There is an organ charged with economic studies and documents in general at the very centre of the department. Its proper function is to provide a connecting link for the different offices."

Most Pressing Duty.
"The most pressing duty of the Bureau of Industrial Questions is to accomplish the re-equipment, commercial, financial and finally the repairing of the injuries caused by the war. To this end this bureau has studied in close accord with the business world the creation of a central organization for the purchase of supplies. These studies are resulting in an excellent formula, a co-operative society called 'comptoir national,' for the resumption of economic activity in Belgium is in the plans of its constitution."

"It will act as intermediary for purchases made for the purpose of the re-equipment or revictualling of commerce or industry either by the State or by interested persons. It will perform its operations under the control of the State."

"The bureau of commercial questions is principally taken up with commercial restoration which is to be parallel to the industrial restoration. The sympathy which Belgium has won throughout the world allows it to hope that commercial relations will develop with most of the countries and that it will be possible for Belgium thus to be assured of complete economic independence."

Financial Recovery.
"The bureau of financial questions is to solve all the financial questions which are raised by the economic restoration of Belgium, financial methods of repairing the ravages of war, advances to those who have suffered disaster, advance payments on indemnities, new credits to assure the re-equipment and revictualling of industry and commerce, restoration of Belgian exchange, re-establishment of the normal fiduciary situation and measures of domestic commerce."

"Several proposals of great interest have already been made to the Government concerning credits intended for re-equipment and revictualling. These proposals show the confidence which foreign capitalists have in the rapid restoration of Belgium."

"The bureau of war ravages is charged to compile statistics on the damage by war suffered by the country. A bureau of claims has been formed; circulars are to be put at the disposal of all the Belgians who are not subject to German rule, which will enable them to make their statements as to the extent of the damages they may have suffered in a similar form with all the advantages of detailed supervision."

For Work and Play



Ready for any emergency is this good-looking apron. McCall Pattern No. 7555, Ladies' and Misses' Two-Piece Work Apron. In 3 sizes, small, 32, 34; medium, 36, 38; and large, 40, 42 inches bust measure. Price, 15 cents.



Made on Empire lines is this attractive bathing suit. McCall Pattern No. 8370, Ladies' and Misses' Empire Bathing Suit. In 6 sizes; 16 to 20 years, 36 to 40 bust. Price, 20 cents.

These patterns may be obtained from your local McCall dealer, or from the McCall Co., 70 Bond St., Toronto, Dept. W.

Fired 8,300 Shells a Minute.
The veriest layman will perhaps be able to form some idea of modern artillery fire from the statement attributed by the German General Staff that, during the three hours' bombardment just before the attack on March 21, the Germans used 1½ million shells. This is over 8,300 a minute, or, taking the front at 50 miles, over 160 for each mile. The total number of shells used by Germany in the form of 1870-71 is usually given as 650,000.



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MERCHANTS BANK

Adds Nearly Twenty Millions to its Assets. Continuation of Remarkable Growth of Deposit Accounts During Past Year Enables it to Render Immense Assistance to Canadian Trade and Industry.

The 55th Annual Statement of the Merchants Bank of Canada, presented at the annual meeting on June the fifth, shows a continuation of the remarkable progress which has attended the career of this Bank for many years past, and particularly since the beginning of the war. Thus the total assets of the Bank are now \$140,937,544 as compared with \$121,130,559 in 1917, and \$96,361,363 in 1916, and this growth is entirely due to the confidence of the thrifty Canadian public, as exhibited in a constantly expanding volume of deposits. The interest-bearing deposits of the Merchants Bank are now \$75,946,985, an increase of eleven million dollars, the non-interest-bearing deposits are \$34,886,747, an increase of seven and three-quarter millions, and the note circulation is \$12,327,168, an increase of three millions.

Of chief interest among the assets is the item of Current Loans and Discounts in Canada, representing the assistance given by this Bank to the activities of trade and industry. This amounts to \$75,104,016, an increase for the year of nearly thirteen and a half million dollars, showing that the Merchants Bank is making a full use of the facilities afforded by its expanding deposit accounts, to meet the requirements of commercial clients, which have been greatly increased by the rise in market price of all classes of commodities.

Notwithstanding this generous support of Canadian business, the Bank still maintains a strong reserve of liquid assets. These now total \$57,667,481, against public liabilities of \$126,322,671, or a ratio of 45.6 per cent. and they include about thirty-four millions in the form of cash, bank balances and call loans, immediately available if required, and \$5,435,464 of Dominion and Provincial Government securities, \$14,589,065 of Canadian municipal and non-Canadian public securities (this item being composed largely of British Government borrowings) and \$4,060,204 of other securities.

Profits for the year, at \$1,236,680, showed an advance, attributable doubtless to the greater volume of commercial business. But they were subject to a deduction of \$400,000 for contingencies, while war taxes and pension fund took another \$120,000, so that the net result after payment of the 10 per cent. dividend was the addition of \$16,680 to the balance carried forward, a very moderate rate of earnings considering that every share of capital carries with it another hundred dollars of Reserve Fund.

At the annual meeting the Vice-President, Mr. K. W. Blackwell, pointed out that the money in charge of the banks was not that of "capitalists" in the sense in which that word was employed by socialist agitators but that the average holding of Merchants Bank depositors was only \$500.00. The interest of this class must be defended against unwise and wanton action, or the whole financial fabric would be broken down. Mr. D. C. Macarow, the General Manager, stated that the assets of the Bank had been most carefully scrutinized and ample provision made for doubtful contingencies, so that the balance sheet represented dollar for dollar of actual value.

Rock Plants.

For rockeries, start with aubrietias, dwarf phlox, dwarf campanulas, sedums, saxifrage. The sedums are good for carpet bedding, for covering graves, etc. Saxifrage will thrive in any soil, in any location and are good also for the front of the shrubbery border; they are the first of the perennials to flower in spring.

Lithospermum prostratum is an elegant creeping plant for rockeries, bearing masses of light blue flowers from April to September.

Helenium pumilum magnificum grows about 18 inches high, covered with golden yellow blossoms all summer.

Helianthemum are pretty, low growing evergreen plants, forming broad clumps, quite covered with bloom from July to September. They are not only good plants for rockeries, but also for dry, sunny banks and for the front of the border.

Dianthus deltoideus, a creeping variety, with small pink flowers, flowering in June and July.

Geum make good plants for rockeries; the colors of the flowers are scarlet and orange, flowering from May to July.

Oenothera, or evening primrose, is a good subject for rockeries or for sunny exposures in the border, blooming all summer.

Silene schafta or autumn catch fly is another good rock plant, growing from 4 to 6 inches high, covered with masses of bright pink flowers from July to October.

All these plants can be purchased from pot grown stock so they can be safely planted at any time during the summer.

Teacher's Fault.

"Mamma," said little Ethel, with a most discouraged appearance. "I'm never, never going to study any more."

"Why, dearie, what's the matter?" inquired mother.

"Cause it's no use," was the impulsive answer, "it's no use at all. I can't never learn spelling. Teacher keeps changing the words all the time."

Blood Drops of Heroes.

When the woods at Kilmore are scarlet and gold, And the vines are like blood on the wall,

I dream of the faces all pallid and cold, Of our brave ones who answered the call;

Like the bright autumn leaves, Or the rich, garnered sheaves, Our trust, our greatest, our all;

For my heart beats in Belgium, or far France's wild, When the woods at Kilmore are scarlet and gold.

When the woods at Kilmore are scarlet and gold, I see but the beauty of God, Not the small ways of men, and the mean faiths they hold,

Like the blind worm under the clod; But the brave and the true, Who knew but to do,

Like those glorious banners of God, Arrayed on His hills, or at rest on His mold,

When the woods at Kilmore are scarlet and gold, When the woods at Kilmore are scarlet and gold.

When the woods at Kilmore are scarlet and gold, There's another dread harvest afar; Where our greatest, our truest ones, struggle to hold

Back the modern world's Jugger-naut car; And my heart only sees In the pageant of trees

That horrible pageant of war, Where God's men, for righteousness, strive, as of old

When the woods at Kilmore are scarlet and gold, When the woods at Kilmore are scarlet and gold.

When the woods at Kilmore are scarlet and gold, And the vines are like blood on the wall;

I hear on the winds o'er the wood and the wild, A bitter, insistent call.

'Tis the cry of our slain, Appealing in vain, For help where the brave hearts fall;

And its tragic demand doth the whole world hold, When the woods at Kilmore are scarlet and gold.

—Wilfred Campbell (Born June 1, 1861).

BIG U-BOAT ALMOST FAILURE.

Two Such Submarines Did Little Damage in 1917 Cruise.

The new type of German submarine cruisers accomplishes little, according to an official note commenting on German undersea boats, says a Paris despatch. Exact information relative to the operations of two of these boats which left Germany at the end of 1917, cruised as far as the equator and were absent for four months, shows that they accounted for only 20,000 tons of shipping.

This was equal to only one day's total loss from submarines in April of the same year. At this rate Germany would require sixty submarine cruisers at sea simultaneously to inflict the same loss as that visited upon shipping by submarines in European waters in a month.

"But Germany cannot maintain more than twenty of these boats," says the official note, "since the Allies destroy submarines faster than they are built. However, if they sink a few ships, the submarines operating in European and American waters are useful because their cargo space enables them to bring back to Germany valuable materials which are totally lacking there."

What It Came To.

The class was being conducted in the mysteries of mental arithmetic. "Now, Robert," said the teacher, "supposing your father owed the butcher \$29.30, the baker, \$30.40, the greengrocer \$6.70, the milkman \$2.10, and the coal man \$16.90, what would that come to?" Robert was not a bright pupil, and the teacher was prepared to repeat the sum once or twice, but to her surprise Robert was ready with his answer. "It would come to a fitting, 'mum,'" he said.

WITH THE FINGERS!

SAYS CORNS LIFT OUT WITHOUT ANY PAIN

Sore corns, hard corns, soft corns or any kind of a corn can shortly be lifted right out with the fingers if you will apply on the corn a few drops of freezone, says a Cincinnati authority.

At little cost one can get a small bottle of freezone at any drug store, which will positively rid one's feet of every corn or callus without pain or soreness or the danger of infection.

This new drug is an ether compound, and dries the moment it is applied and does not inflame or even irritate the surrounding tissue. Just think! You can lift off your corns and calluses now without a bit of pain or soreness. If your druggist hasn't freezone he can easily get a small bottle for you from his wholesale drug house.

One of the most essential things in the poultry yard is an abundant supply of clean water for the chicks.

Greenland has no cats. How thankful the Greenlanders should be—imagine cats in a country where the nights are six months long.

ISSUE No. 25--18

TITOWAD

SHOES LIKE A BULLDOG
The Original Rubber Putty—It repairs Hot Water Bottles, Punctures: Bicycle, Auto Tires; Rubber Boots. Guaranteed to satisfy. 15 and 30 Cents Postpaid. Mail your order to-day. S. Schofield, 620 Dominion Bank Bldg., Toronto.

Faith.

Willie, on a visit to his uncle's in the country, admired a fine colt. "Uncle, give me that colt, will you?" he asked.

"Why, no, Willie," said his uncle. "That's a very valuable colt, and I couldn't afford to give him to you. Do you want a colt so very badly?"

"I'd rather have a colt than anything else in the world," said Willie.

"Then," said his uncle, "I'll tell you a colt that you ought to pray for one. Whenever I want a thing I always pray for it, and then it is sure to come to me."

"Is that so, uncle?" said Willie, eagerly. "Won't you please give me this colt, then, and pray for one for yourself?"

LEMONS MAKE SKIN WHITE, SOFT, CLEAR.

Make this beauty lotion for a few cents and see for yourself.

What girl or woman hasn't heard of lemon juice to remove complexion blemishes; to whiten the skin and to bring out the roses, the freshness and the hidden beauty? But lemon juice alone is acid, therefore irritating, and should be mixed with orchard white this way. Strain through a fine cloth the juice of two fresh lemons into a bottle containing about three ounces of orchard white, then shake well and you will have a whole quart of skin and complexion lotion at about the cost one usually pays for a small jar of ordinary cold cream. Be sure to strain the lemon juice so no pulp gets into the bottle, then this lotion will remain pure and fresh for months.

When applied daily to the face, neck, arms and hands it should help to bleach, clear, smoothen and beautify the skin.

Any druggist will supply three ounces of orchard white at very little cost, and the grocer has the lemons.

Britain's 4 Per Cent.

The inadequate provision of the forests of the United Kingdom for national needs is shown by the fact that only Portugal of all European countries ranks lower than Britain in percentage of total area under forest. Great Britain has just 4 per cent. in woods, Sweden 47 per cent., Russia in Europe 37, Germany 25, Norway 21, France 18.

Western Crops Promise Well.

With the advent of weather favorable to the crops the tone of reports of the condition of growing grain in Western Canada is generally optimistic.

In the weekly report of the agents along western lines of the Canadian Northern Railway to the executive officers of the company, 109 of the 250 agents reporting declare the wheat is advancing splendidly and that where the favorable conditions have not already overcome the setback due to adverse weather conditions in early weeks, the recovery will not be long delayed. Only 29 of all the agents reporting to the Canadian Northern from the Western Canada grain belt, indicate delay now from unfavorable weather conditions.

Instead of snapping out, "What makes you always so late?"

When you come to the house and find dinner not quite ready, why not ask, "Marry, isn't there something I can do to help?" That would make the good wife's heart glad and the dinner taste better.

To economize on tea you should use only the genuine Salada. A pound of Salada yields so many more cups than does ordinary tea that it is a real saving compared to the ordinary tea.

Burglars Dread a Noise.

"Noise is the greatest enemy of the burglar and is what he most fears. Bear that in mind if you believe a thief has entered your home," says an experienced detective.

"The best of alarms in a household," he continued, "is a glass or chinaware pitcher or similar vessel. Slam it through the window and its crash above will be followed by another as the missile falls to the street or the areaway below."

"Never grapple with a midnight prowler, for he is prepared for such eventualities and has it on you. Generally no quail of conscience would come between him and murder if there was danger of his being caught."

Ask for Minard's and take no other.

As for years, \$60 worth of clothing is furnished in the navy gratis at the start, enough to last two years. Thereafter must replenish and supply themselves.

TOMMY ATKINS GETS A RAISE.

Ration Allowance on Leave Increased To 50 Cents Daily.

Tommy Atkins will receive a further concession at once, says a London despatch. The War Office has decided to increase his ration allowance while on leave by 8 cents a day. In the past this ration allowance has been fixed at 42 cents a day.

The amount may not seem reasonable, but arrangements are in force by which soldiers may obtain at hostels or canteens throughout the country three excellent meals for 42 cents. If the soldier takes advantage of these hostels for meals it will leave him the whole of his pay of 86 cents, or more, according to the branch of the service he is in, as pocket money.

The new concession is said to be part of a plan to improve gradually but consistently the financial position of the soldier and his dependents.

STRIKING EXHIBIT.

Diverse Resources of Canada Shown at Windsor Station.

Visualizing in a striking manner a large number of the diverse natural resources of Canada, the Canadian Pacific Railway has just opened to the public an exhibit at the Windsor street station. This exhibit, which is situated in a room immediately adjoining the main entrance to the station on Osborne street, has been prepared by the collaboration of the Quebec Government and the C.P.R.

One half comprises the Quebec exhibit, consisting of samples of the resources of the province—lumber, asbestos, and other minerals, grain, maple sugar, fur-bearing animals, such as the ermine, marten, mink, fox, and beaver, and fish and game birds.

The C.P.R. exhibit has been gathered from the entire Dominion. A splendid display of grains produced in the fertile fields of Western Canada is a special feature. Supplementing this is a big collection of fruits, forestry products and minerals. A number of colored transparencies show the methods used in developing the forest resources of Canada, from the primary state to the finished product, such as wooden ships. Other transparencies illustrate some of the summer resorts along the company's lines. Complete and recent statistics of all the country's resources add conviction to the display. The exhibit is installed in handsome showcases, brilliantly lit; and it is interesting to know that all the material used in the construction room is Canadian material exclusively.

Getting Her Strength Back.

A weather-beaten woman, somewhat over six feet in height, with shoulders proportionately broad, appeared at a house in the city and asked for light housework, explaining that she was convalescing from typhoid fever. "Where did you come from, and where have you been?" she was asked. "I've been diggin' out on a farm," she explained, "making post holes whilst I was gittin' my strength back."

I was cured of Bronchitis and Asthma by MINARD'S LINIMENT.

MRS. A. LIVINGSTONE.

Lot 5, P.E.I.

I was cured of a severe attack of Rheumatism by MINARD'S LINIMENT.

Mahone Bay. JOHN MADER.

I was cured of a severely sprained leg by MINARD'S LINIMENT.

JOSHUA A. WYNACHT.

Bridgewater.

In small gardens keep the plants up off the ground. Tomatoes, pole beans, cucumbers, squashes and melons can be grown successfully trained upon stakes. The sun reaches the fruit and hastens ripening. Begin about four inches from the ground and tie the plants loosely to the stakes, tying every twelve inches. This system makes cultivation and spraying easier.

Minard's Liniment Lumberman's Friend.

Clover cut at the right stage and run through the cut-box makes most excellent ensilage. It is in the best shape to put into the silo when the blossoms are just beginning to die.

KEEP YOUR SHOES NEAT

2 IN 1 SHOE POLISHES

FOR BLACK, WHITE, TAN, DARK BROWN OR OX-BLOOD SHOES

PRESERVE THE LEATHER

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CUTICURA

Quickly Heals Eczemas, Rashes, Itchings and Irritations

In the treatment of all skin troubles bathe freely with Cuticura Soap and hot water, dry gently, and apply Cuticura Ointment to the affected parts. These fragrant super-creamy emollients tend to prevent little skin troubles becoming serious if used for every-day toilet purposes.

For sample of each free by mail, address post-card: Cuticura, Dept. W, Boston, U.S.A. Sold by druggists throughout the world.

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HIRST'S PAIN EXTERMINATOR

Promptly relieves rheumatism, lumbago, neuralgia, sprains, lame back, toothache and all similar troubles. Hirst's stops the pain. Sold for 40 years. Should be in every household. All dealers, or write us.

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HIRST'S Pectoral Syrup at 15c.

Moreland and Circumstances, 15c.

35c BOTTLE

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