

What the World is Saying

The Brazilian Idea of It

Civilization will have to put Germany in a straight jacket.—Rio de Janeiro El Paiz.

A Fearful Conception

The Kaiser's idea of the Deity must be a fearful conception.—Dundee Courier.

What Surprises Can Be Left?

The amazing thing is that there should be any people to feel surprised when Germany perpetrates some new form of atrocity.—Brooklyn Eagle.

The Brutal von Hindenburg

To apply the term "cowards" to the German soldiers who charged upon the guns at Verdun seems an ungracious thing on the part of that courtly Prussian Field Marshal von Hindenburg.—Paris Le Matin.

The Belgian Genius

The Kaiser has "donated" his famous print-collection to his country, but it is not understood that it contains any of Louis Raemaker's drawings.—Brockville Times.

Proportional Representation

What is proportional representation? It is a system of election whereby, it is believed, better and fairer representation is given to minorities than under the existing system.—Hamilton Spectator.

Glasgow Did Her Bit Financially

Is Glasgow for peace without victory? Her subscription of \$500,000,000 to the new war loan speaks for her. The population of Glasgow in 1911 was 784,496.—Wall Street Journal.

What Germany Stands For

Germany alone among the nations definitely stands for militarism, for the right, that is, of one nation to enforce its will on other nations by force of arms.—Kilmarnock Herald.

"To the Bitter End."

"Germany will fight to the bitter end." Of course. The sweet end was the end at which the dash for Paris promised to end under the Arc de Triomphe.—Stratford Herald.

Something He Will Not Try

Hindenburg complains because his men are surrendering too easily. He might understand it better if arrangements could be made to give him a tour in his front line trenches.—Halifax Herald.

Quite So

The fact that the pair arrested here for plotting against Britain's Indian Empire could furnish \$25,000 bail each indicates that Berlin paid well for something it didn't get.—New York Sun.

A Good Idea

The practice of writing on the envelopes of letters sent overseas, "The supremacy of the British Navy enables you to receive this," is one that might well be made general. It will help to keep more alive in our minds the fact of our indebtedness to the men who keep the flag afloat and triumphant on the sea.—Vancouver World.

The Breakdown of German Planning

Germany's elaborate, world-wide and enormously costly system of international intrigue has broken down everywhere. Distrusted and detested everywhere, without faithful friends or helpful allies, Germany enters on the last phase of a war she expected to fight and win in as many months as it has now lasted years.—Glasgow Herald.

Carving Up the United States

While promising Texas, New Mexico and Arizona to Mexico, the Kaiser made no mention of California. Did he mean to give that state to Japan? Strange, too, that he failed to mention whether Frederick Willie, or one of his other sons, would be crowned King of the United States in the White House.—New York Tribune.

An Old German Proverb

There is an old German proverb that "truth may be smothered, but not extinguished." One of these days the German people will discern that the Government has succeeded in smothering quite a lot of it during the last couple of years.—Manchester Guardian.

Their Relationship

The view from the Frederik VIII. as she lay in Halifax harbor, with Bernstorff on board, was limited to a brewery and a jail. They are not picturesque, but a philosopher undergoing detention might indulge in deep reflections on these structures as embodying cause and effect.—Ottawa Citizen.

A Philadelphia Joke

We may expect to read before long that the bride carried a beautiful bouquet of spinach and wore around her neck a string of genuine potatoes, with a cauliflower pendant, the gift of the groom.—Philadelphia Ledger.

The Crown Prince Promoted Again

The Crown Prince has been promoted again. Which reminds one of the way the boss' son "starts at the bottom" in a factory, and by his own unaided efforts becomes a vice-president of the concern in six months.—Toronto Telegram.

The Pirates' Pet

The sentimentalism of the story published in the German newspapers about the crew of a submarine who made a pet of a little girl at Wilhelmshaven, the submarine base, is characteristically German. Did the sight of the child never remind the sentimental pirates of the little children murdered on the Lusitania?—Boston Transcript.

Germany as a Promiser

Texas is larger than Germany, but see with how free a hand Berlin offers it to Mexico! The Huns are vastly generous, always ready to promise anything to anybody. But, always they know that if the war ends leaving them strong enough to keep their promises, they will be strong enough to break them.—Brantford Expositor.

A Dog's Noble Work

The hero of the Dog Show at Madison Square Garden in New York is Filax, a German sheep dog, present at the show by permission of the French Minister of the Interior. He has saved the lives of more than a hundred wounded French soldiers, whom he sought out where they were lying helpless. The judges at the Dog Show said he was "coarse in show properties." That may be. But do you know of any finer sort of dog than that?—Duluth Herald.

In Regard to Leather

Leather has reached such a high price in Europe that it is being predicted that the ordinary people will have to go about barefooted before long. While this may be exaggeration, the situation threatens to become more than a joke. More than the peasants in out of the way districts may yet have to wear wooden shoes.—Monetary Times.

A Custom With Savages

German submarines left Kiel to an accompaniment of band music. The harbor entrance was decorated with evergreens. There was much enthusiasm. This sort of thing has always been customary with savages when something particularly atrocious has been in contemplation. Murder expeditions embarked upon by the aborigines of North America or Africa used to begin with the performance of similar rites.—Hamilton Herald.

The Riders of the Plains

The fact that Royal Northwest Mounted Police posts are still to be maintained at certain commanding positions in Alberta and Saskatchewan should please the dwellers in the isolated places who feared that the protective service would not be sufficient under the new order. It is a fine compliment to the riders of the plains and the watchers in the solitudes that the settlers all regret their withdrawal from their old duties.—Victoria (B.C.) Colonist.

The Difference

The Kaiser has tried to discover a resemblance between the manner in which he treated Belgium and the manner in which Great Britain dealt with the Boers. It suits his convenience to ignore the fact that while one Boer general chased his troops out of West Africa, another has done the same thing in East Africa, and that the latter is now in London, taking part in the Imperial Conference.—Peterboro Examiner.

A Proposal to Tax Finery

Wholesale proposals come from a relative of Lord Rosebery. Mrs. Hope, of Luffness, whose suggestion for limiting extravagance takes the form of a Dress Tax, which would operate somewhat on the lines of the Amusement Tax, which has resulted in the addition of so much wealth to the Treasury. Mrs. Hope's proposal is that on every hat, costume, and other item of feminine apparel of an expensive order a really swinging tax should be levied; for instance, a woman who paid twenty pounds for a gown would have to pay an extra five pounds, which would go to the government; while on ordinary clothes of an inexpensive order women would be required to pay a tax of from one shilling to two shillings in the pound. It is by no means improbable that a Dress Tax somewhat on these lines may form a feature of the forthcoming Budget.—British Weekly.

Our Empire of Freemen

The load left on the shoulders of the "weary Titan" will be heavier than ever; but young nations sprung from his loins, and gifted with resources as yet incalculable, have proved their readiness to come forward, in peace as in war, to share, along with the burden, the responsibilities and the glories of an Empire of freemen.—Edinburgh Scotsman.

When Burns Was Astray as a Prophet

Note should be made of the following communication, addressed by a Scot to a Scottish newspaper: "The bard wrote:

"The cock may crawl, the day may daw,
But aye we'll taste the barley bree."

The sentiment and aspiration are sound, but I think that in this couplet Burns proves himself a false prophet, because after February 1, 1917 (when the 50 per cent dilution comes into force), we won't be able to taste it at all.—Westminster Gazette.

Herr Schiedemann Is Right

"Our enemies are waging a war of conquest. We are waging a war of defence." So declared Philip Schiedemann, Socialist leader, in the Reichstag. The words are interesting for the purpose of making a contrast. In the autumn of 1914 the German legions were battering at the defences of France after having marched roughshod over unoffending Belgium. They were out to conquer. To-day they are on the defensive in the same field of war and the tables have been turned for good. Herr Schiedemann correctly states the situation.—Montreal Gazette.

Willie Wagging His Weak Chin

The Crown Prince of Germany praises the soldierly qualities of the French, not to please the people of France, but to cast slurs at the English. Perhaps the royal young gentleman is peeved at the recent British advances, which are compelling the Germans to retire and readjust their lines in certain sections. Before long he is likely to have further cause for appreciating the strength and valor of both the French and British in the western field, even if their progress is calculated to discourage expressions of admiration on his part.—Charlottetown (P.E.I.) Guardian.

"Verboten"

One of the characters in Wells's "Mr. Britling Sees It Through" suggests that the persons directly and fundamentally responsible for stirring up wars — the particular kings, chancellors, politicians — be dealt with personally. It is an attractive idea. The guilt is always traceable, too. In the case of the present war it rests upon the Kaiser and his advisers, a thing which the German people will come to see themselves in the end. But will the German people rise and get rid of the Kaiser? We doubt it. We are afraid that if a revolution were to start in Germany it could be stopped at once merely by a proclamation reading: "Revolutions are forbidden in Germany. This is official."—New York Herald.

The Country "Put On Its Honor"

The country is put "on its honor" to reduce its consumption of food to a standard, not of privation or want, but of a reasonable economy that is quite compatible with health and vigor. We hope a strong public opinion will at once be formed for the carrying out of these instructions, and for the avoidance of the compulsion which must follow if the appeal to honor and goodwill should fail. We do not want, if we can possibly avoid it, to be driven along the road of food-tickets and rations, with the inequalities and confusions that are inseparable from that system and are so richly illustrated in the experience of our enemy. But if we are to avoid it, we must make it a point to live within the limits that the Food Department prescribes for us.—London Daily Mail.

Bread "Bought With Blood"

There is a story in the Old Testament, that when David was once at war with the Philistines and their army occupied his native village of Bethlehem, he expressed a longing for a drink of water from the Bethlehem well. Three of his warriors overheard him, and at the risk of their lives they broke through the Philistine army, drew water from the well, and brought it back to their king. David would not touch it. "Is not this," he said, "the blood of the men that went in jeopardy of their lives?" We ought to have something of that feeling about the bread and the meat that the heroes of our merchant marine fetch for us from overseas. Their bravery is unfailing; since the German submarine atrocities started, no British sailor has shirked going aboard his ship for fear of what might befall him; and the terrible list of men killed by shells or explosions, men drowned, and men frozen to death, has never deterred their fellows from doing their duty. But the food which they bring us is in very truth "the blood of the men that went in jeopardy of their lives." We must use it, but we shall never misuse or waste it if we remember how it has been brought. There is, indeed, if one reflects, something profoundly shocking in self-indulgence under such conditions.—London Daily Chronicle.