

The Empire in Arms —(Continued from Page 42)

and purpose. Let us hasten to support the men at the front, who are laying down their lives for us. One hundred years ago our forefathers in a long and bloody war against an aspirant for world-power, purchased for themselves and for those who succeeded them one hundred years of peace. We are the inheritors of that bounty. Now, after the lapse of the century, the burden has been cast upon us under almost similar circumstances of purchasing another hundred years of peace for ourselves and our successors. This is a great task, much greater than has fallen to the nation before, but if we are true to duty we shall do it, and if we are not true then we will deserve the fate that unmistakably will await us in this life and in the pages of history. If we succeed, then I think we may forecast that our descendants will not have to refight the battle a century hence, for by that time these islands and our Dominions—Canada, Newfoundland, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa (to say nothing of India and our other great Dependencies)—will number at least 300,000,000 of free men and British born, whose voice and power will be effective to proclaim and maintain "peace among themselves and with all nations." Let us then do our duty in our day, avoiding vain and boastful speech, thrice armed, by the justice of our cause, putting our trust in God. And here I recall the noble words of Lincoln when his country was involved in war, but how applicable in our situation:

"Fondly do we hope, fervently do we pray that this mighty scourge of war may speedily pass away. Yet, if God will that it continue until all the wealth piled up by the bondsmen's two hundred and fifty years of unrequited toil shall be sunk, and until every drop of blood drawn with the lash shall be paid by another drawn by the sword, as was said 3,000 years ago, so still it must be said: 'The judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether,' with malice towards none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let

us strive to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan, to do all things which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations."

Envy, jealousy and grasping greed are at the bottom of German aspirations in so far as the British Empire is concerned. The despoiler of Belgium occupies a poor pedestal from which to reproach British statesmen or the British race. It is true that part of our acquisitions are avails of war, but we can say with truth that we have governed the conquered honestly and in their own interest; and when they were fully qualified for it, the most absolute rights of self-government were ungrudgingly conceded. Take for example Canada, New Zealand, South Africa, Australia and Newfoundland. To the minds of many foreigners, indeed, these great self-governing states are mere dependencies, or tributaries of the United Kingdom; nothing is farther from the truth—they are absolutely self-governed, and practically independent nations. Their constitutions are very charters of liberty, and in these it is expressly provided that the King reigns as absolutely at the capitals of the respective self-governing Dominions as fully as he does at Westminster.

King George V. is a many-headed sovereign. If he is not personally present, he is as actually present for the purpose of ruling and reigning at Ottawa, Melbourne, Wellington, St. Johns, Cape Town (or Pretoria) as he is at Westminster.

It does not lie in any German's mouth to reproach the British "rag" with rapacity or public robbery. We have not forgotten the partition of Poland. This great Empire which is ours to enjoy and maintain was created, it is true, in times and circumstances of trial and battle, by a race that had the "wit, plan and the strength to execute," and were equal to facing every danger on sea and on land. As Watson has truly said:

"Time and the ocean and some fostering star
In high Cabul have made us what we are."

And for what we are and for what we have been as a people, and as an Empire, none of its sons need blush for shame, while each may rejoice in the possession of justice and liberty, an inheritance that will not be sacrificed to the greed of any despoiler. We may not have succeeded in every venture, but on the whole, our showings are the best and the greatest of any of the nations. We have taken hard knocks and have given hard knocks, and in the end survived and prospered.

Shelley truly says:

"Beaten back in many a fray,
Newer strength we'll borrow;
And where the vanguard stands to-day,
The rear will come to-morrow."

Let "UPWARD AND ONWARD" be the watchword of our struggle in the cause of humanity and civilization.

Let the Hun say what he will, the history and tradition of our people are worthy of our affection and deepest reverence, and that they will receive. I am hoping, I am sure, that this disastrous war will teach the Germans at least one ineffaceable lesson as regards the people of the United and Sister Kingdoms of the British Empire, a lesson that is crystallized by a Canadian poet, Bliss Carman, in beautiful and undying words:

"There are people who are loyal to the glory of
the past,
Who hold to hearts' traditions and will hold them
to the last;
Who would not sell in shame the honor of their
name,
Though the world was in the balance and a sword
thereon was cast."

Donald Maclean

What the World is Saying

The Prairie Food Supply.

During one week in October, 518 homesteads were taken up in Western Canada. This is a victory at home to sustain victories abroad.—Toronto Mail and Empire

Culture.

The noble spirit which German writers claim is inspired by war includes espionage, sailing under false flags, and butchering helpless wounded.—New York Life.

The Alternative.

If Germany were to win, the whole civilized world would be obliged to bear continuously, and to an ever increasing amount, the burdens of great armaments, and would live in constant fear of sudden invasion, now here, now there—a terrible fear, against which neither treaties nor professions of peaceable intentions would offer the least security.—Edinburgh Scotsman.

Japs Want to Cement Friendship with Russia.

The people of Japan are reported to be desirous of converting the Russo-Japanese entente into a formal alliance. The two countries only a few years ago were engaged in a terrible war, the worst in modern times up to the present outbreak. To-day they are virtually allies and the old bitterness seems to have vanished. When antagonists that were stand together to fight a common enemy the past is forgotten.—Montreal Herald and Telegraph.

Will Need Recreation.

Germany intends to make a showing at the Panama Exhibition next spring. Dr. Schultz, a member of the German commission to the big show, says he hopes the war will be ended with the winter, and that the army of German visitors who had arranged to come will be free to do so. It is difficult to foretell what will be the opportunities for leaving Germany within the next year or so. Germans are likely to have much need of recreation at that time, however.—Ottawa Free Press.

Russia's Evil Genius.

German influence, long very potent at Petrograd, has always been exerted on the side of the reactionaries. "Germany," says Mr. Schauman, was "Russia's evil genius." Having now shaken herself free from the influence of Prussianism, Russia seems to be breathing a new and more invigorating atmosphere. All over the vast domains of the Czar, liberal ideas are in the air.—London Chronicle.

Exploded Hopes.

The Kaiser is now assuring his soldiers that "the enemy will be beaten." He is not now so sure of dining in Paris as he was early in August, and there are no invitations put yet for that function.—Vancouver Province

Modern Application of an Old Practice.

Struggles of gladiators were among the ancient devices for allaying discontent among the sustainers. War seems the device of the Prussian landed aristocracy to accomplish a similar result.—Kansas City Star

Dr. Krupp.

A dispatch says that the university of Bonn has conferred the degree of doctor on Herr von Krupp, the gun manufacturer. One is left to wonder whether it was doctor of science, philosophy or laws.—Chicago Tribune

A Mountain of Human Tragedy.

There is hardly an excuse for a special correspondent who writes about his own little adventures and risks and discomforts. They are trivial against all that mountain of human tragedy which reeks up to God.—London Spectator.

The United States View.

While the American public is indifferent about many things, it is not indifferent about the rights of smaller states, the sacredness of treaties or the question whether might makes right.—New York Evening Post

Bismarck's Manuscript Memoirs in London.

Bismarck was so secretive about his third and last volume of memoirs that he confided the MSS. to the Bank of England for safety. The volume is now in custody there. Possibly that is the reason for the Kaiser's desire for a raid on London.—Chicago Herald.

The Road of Oligarchical Privilege

The German political system has travelled the road of oligarchical privilege with a naive confidence in its divine origin that would do credit to the piety of a churchman of the days before Wycliffe. It takes more than brains to shape the course wisely with such a start. It takes idealisms and human realizations that are lacking, not so much in the German character as in the German education and machinery of life.—New York Tribune.

Armies Now Protect Forts.

"The French army still bars the road to Verdun," says a Paris despatch. And a critic remarks upon the fact that forts used to protect armies, while armies now protect forts.—Toronto Star.

Will Be a Gain to the World.

The destruction of Essen, Wilhelmshaven, and Heligoland ought to be a condition of peace with Germany. Certainly the disappearance of these phenomena would be a gain to the world.—Halifax Herald.

Regardless of the Cost.

As an American observer once said after viewing the massed rush at the annual German manoeuvres one fall, which are being repeated now in the war "Dead men do not seem to enter into His Majesty's calculations at all."—New York Press.

Where German "Efficiency" Has Failed.

The comparative failure of German efficiency exhibits itself in the fact that in the two highest of human activities, statesmanship and literature, the Germans are easily outranked by the English and the French. German statesmanship, not municipal government, bear in mind, is medieval.—New York Nation.

Cataracts of Projectiles.

It has been asserted more than once that war relic dealers have been known to bury bullets and other missiles in the field of Waterloo, later on to resurrect and sell them to curiosity hunters. There will surely be no need of such petty fraud in the case of the battlefields of to-day. Enough shells and bullets are being fired now to make souvenirs for a thousand years.—Montreal Gazette.

Home Life.

There is an independence about home life that makes it worth far more than it costs. Most city women nowadays will buy bread from a baker, but will not buy cakes. She must have cakes and pies made at home because none other are quite like them. And tea or coffee—one does not get either anywhere but at home so made that it is fit to drink. It costs a lot to have a home of one's own, to have your own food specially prepared, to have your own piano and your own books and pictures, and your own cat and dog, but there are none others like them, and they are worth far more than the cost, even although nobody else would take some of them from you as a gift.—Toronto Globe.