## POOR DOCUMENT

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1919

### LACK OF SOAP WORRIES EUROPE

According to the Berne correspondent of the London New Statesman: "Lack of soap and of all aids to cleanliness is the main cause, after underfeeding, of the appalling death rate from disease incentral Europe generally," said a disinguished physician, who had just been raveling through these regions. Everywhere in Austria, Hungary, Poland, Bomemia, Russia, and even Germany, tyshoid, spotted typhus, dysentery, scurvy, and tuberculosis have increased; and nodern hygiene is now unable to localize these scourges because of lack of lack of lack. Disease-Ridden Regions.



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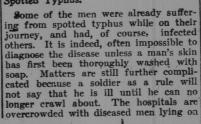
The most disease-infected regions on the continent now are Galicia, the Ukraine and Hungary. In these countries thousands of soldiers meet—Russians returning home from Germany; Austrians, Hungarians and Germans returning from Hungarians and Germans returning from Russia; Croatians and Serbs going southward, and Poles going northward. Dr. F. Blanchod, a French-Swiss, who recently visited Budapest on behalf of the Geneva Red Cross and spent some time in a military depot there, where an attempt, at any rate, is made to receive all these different soldiers as they pass through, sort them out into their different nationalities and at the same time rid them of vermin, describes them as being clad in rags and animals' skins, chiefly sheep-skins or goatskins, and wearing greasy skin caps on their heads, their feet and legs being bandaged up in rags and untaned leather. Not one of them has now any sort of uniform,

in rags and untailed leather. Not one of them has now any sort of uniform, and as many Russians, after years of captivity in Germany, have learned to speak German, and many Hungarians have learned Russian, they contrive to

Super-Vermin.



All these unfortuante and filthy men are, in plain English, covered with lice, which are the sole propagators of spotted typhus. Many of them do their best to avoid going near any military depot which has means of disinfection, because their wretched rags, once put into the disinfecting chamber, simply fall to pieces, and as there is no fresh clothing to give them in exchange, they feel themselves worse off than before. Many of these men leave the depot wearing nothing but their sheepskins or overcoats, any apology for underclothing which they may have had having been destroyed in the process of disinfection. So





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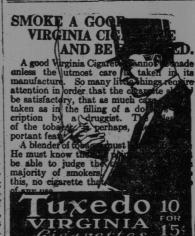


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gray paper sheets which, of course, cannot be either washed or boiled. There are not even bandages with which to dress the gangrenous sores which often accompany spotted typhus. They, too, are dressed after a fashion with paper. The patients have neither blankets nor fore, really to sort them, or to know where they belong.

Street Vermin



no cotton, wool or bandages.

Before the war the mortality from spotted typhus was 6 to 7 per cent—that is, in the countries suffering from it—Silesia, Poland, Russia and Galicia. Now it exceeds 20 per cent. The International Red Cross Medical Commission personally found more than 12,000 cases of this disease in the Ukraine. In some parts of the country, moreover, 30 per cent. of the people were infected with syphilis, brought, of course, by soldiers returning home or passing through, while Dr. Blanchod says that he himself saw on railway station platforms in



# CAN YOU ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS?

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Where Two Million Men and Women Find Answers to Their Questions

In this week's number of THE LITERARY DIGEST, dated September 6th, there are splendid articles that give satisfying answers to all the questions asked here, and many more. Besides, you will be interested in reading what is best in Current Poetry, in Finance and Commerce, in Personal Glimpses of Men and Events, etc. In addition to this feast of text-matter "The Digest" is graphically illustrated with half-tone pictures and reproductions of the most humorous cartoons from the American and European press. Get "The Digest" this week!

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