

What the World is Saying

Revenue from the British Income Tax.

Government receipts from the British income tax this year are estimated to be over \$600,000,000. Small incomes are exempt. There is no grumbling about "Pay, pay, pay," with the well-to-do British citizen.—Duluth Herald.

The Pathos of von Bethmann-Hollweg.

The German Chancellor begins to grow plaintive as he tells how the wicked, wicked other nations loved war rather than peace and made it impossible for the peace-loving Prussians to spend their days in honest and homely labors.—Paris Matin.

Women for Norway's Council of State.

The Norwegian parliament has agreed by 91 votes to 14 to amend paragraph 1250 of the fundamental laws, thereby enabling women to be appointed members of the council of state. The land of the midnight sun is also a land of enlightened women.—Ottawa Citizen.

Ships Command High Prices Nowadays.

A schooner which was offered for sale a year ago for \$4,000 was sold the other day for \$50,000 at Mobile, Ala. Another, bought for \$125,000 in 1914, went for \$475,000 some weeks ago. A steel vessel of 3600 tons, built in 1888, was bought for \$41,450 in August, 1914; it was lately sold to Norwegian interests for \$195,000. Any vessel which can carry a cargo to sea is surely worth money in these war times.—Monetary Times.

John Bull's Staunchness.

John Bull has a long purse and endless pluck. When Mr. Lloyd George spoke of the importance of "silver bullets" in this war—silver bullets and sea power—he knew what he was talking about. There is many a lesson we in this country can learn from John Bull. His readiness to "pay, pay, pay," is quite as remarkable as his ability to do so.—Melbourne (Australia) Argus.

British Sea Power and the United States.

It may safely be said that only the dominant power of the great battle fleet of England has kept the war thus far from our very doors. Canada would have been a rich prize, and it is not at all certain that the neutrality of the United States would have counted more than that of Belgium—in fact, there are evidences that it has been as lightly regarded.—Brooklyn Eagle.

The Blockade of Germany.

England's blockade has not involved the destruction of a single non-combatant. No Lusitania or Arabic "mistakes" have been committed under her flag. If she neglected to exercise her maritime dominion as she is exercising it, she would immeasurably prolong the war and present to Germany the freedom of the seas for which the great German fleet, hiding behind fine fields and shore batteries is unwilling to risk a fight in the open.—New York Times.

Only a Small Percentage of British Shipping Destroyed.

Four per cent of the total tonnage of the British merchant marine has been sunk by the German navy including submarines since the beginning of the war nearly two years ago. At this rate it will require something like half a century to starve out Britain, provided she builds no more ships in the meantime.—New York Tribune.

As to Neutrality.

Neutrality is in essence a failure of duty towards humanity. Either a war is a struggle between right and wrong, between progress and reaction, liberty and tyranny, in which case neutrality is, in Mazzini's phrase, the word of Cain. Or it is a quarrel in which no great principle is at stake, in which case all nations ought to combine to insist on its being settled by judicial means. In principle, there ought either to be no neutrals or no war.—Sydney (New South Wales) Daily Telegraph.

Crocodile Concern for Sweden.

Berlin is showing great concern, professedly, on Sweden's behalf, over the Russian fortification of the Finnish group of Aland Islands. Probably the Swedish people will accept the protestations for what they are worth, realizing that if Germany is worrying at all in the matter it is solely on her own account.—Glasgow Herald.

German Logic.

Professor Oncken, a Teutonic savant, reasons in this fashion: "German people are naturally peaceful, the German army is composed of the German people; therefore the German army is peaceful in nature." It will not be denied that a million or more of the army with which Germany began the war are now peaceful, and very quiet underground.—Allahabad (India) Pioneer.

Nelson's Long Wait.

Sea power is not a stage prosperity to be squandered to provide exciting stories for daily newspapers. When Nelson was awaiting the final triumphant meeting with the Napoleonic fleets he knew better than to fritter away his force in a series of futile attacks upon their bases, even though in his day the mine and the submarine were non-existent. He kept his battle fleets in their proper place—on the high seas—and the war was nearly two and a half years old before he met his enemy.—Wellington (New Zealand) Times.

That Planning for the Invasion of Canada.

If it is true that the hyphens in the United States subscribed millions of dollars for an invasion of Canada from the American side the great regret will be that somebody did not get at them first with the time honored gold brick. In case of such an attempt the first clash would be with the United States, not with the Canadian militia. The German element do not yet seem to appreciate the fact that they are American citizens, nominally at least, and amenable to the laws of their adopted country.—Brantford Examiner.

The Annual Fire Loss.

The annual average fire loss in Canada for the past three years has been \$35,000,000. Add the cost of insurance protection in excess of the losses paid, and the cost of maintaining waterworks and private fire protection, aggregating a total annual cost of over \$61,000,000. Those are colossal figures, and when you add to them the cost of fire waste in the United States, it makes a grand aggregate of \$230,000,000 a year in the United States and Canada.—Montreal Gazette.

The Kaiser's Character.

Essentially shallow-minded, judging every question from its surface aspects, picking for his counsellors men of like temperament and with the same lack of depth, William has deliberately produced the conditions leading up to a struggle in which the real question is whether the spirit evinced by the allies shall continue to have its place among men, or whether the world shall be dragged into accepting the standard of meretricious material values which the kaiser has imposed upon the German people.—Contemporary Review.

Characteristic of the German Mind.

The chancellor can always blame the allies for continuing the war as he does for beginning it. If they would only sue for peace now, while Germany still has the profits of her superpreparedness in her grasp, all would be well. It is their wicked obstinacy in refusing to consent to be beaten, their perversity in developing their resources just as Germany's are beginning to fall, that is going to spoil the whole war. Endless is their guilt! Blind is their folly in refusing to Germany the reward of her years of patient waiting. How characteristic it is! The German mind.—Boston Transcript.

A "Passport to the Heavenly Gates."

"I helped boys and girls" is believed by Dr. James W. Robertson to be the wording of the passport to the pearly gates. At least that was the purport of an address delivered before the Ontario Educational Association. If an epigram is a familiar truth in unfamiliar or surprising dress, than Dr. Robertson has made one. Christianity is the Philosophy of Helping the Weak, and who are weaker than the children? One can see instantly the height of the pedestal to which all teachers are raised by this judgment. Indeed there is practical evidence to support the theory that teachers are the most important men and women in the community.—Toronto News.

A Counsel for Preparedness.

Optimism is our shibboleth, our religion, and our vice; not the optimism of courage and determination, but the optimism which resents discomfort and pain, the optimism of the fool's paradise. The European war, though it shakes the world, has hardly shaken this American optimism. We think we are immune to the misfortunes and perils which every other tribe and people have suffered since the world began. It is unpleasant to think of war. Let us not think of it. Many of us even cling to the belief that, if we do not think of misfortune it will not come, as a superstitious man refuses to make a will for fear it will bring his death.—Louisville (Kentucky) Courier Journal.

A Real Concert of Europe.

Speaking of the meeting of representatives of the allies in Paris, the Manchester Guardian says that the future historian will trace the germ of an international council of Europe to the deliberations forced on the statesmen of Europe by the immediate necessities of war. Having learned to act together in war, the allies may continue to act together in peace, and to establish and maintain a real Concert of Europe.—Kilmarnock Herald.

He Will Never Get It Now.

The Crown Prince evidently intends to get a military reputation if it costs the last drop of German blood other than his own.—Birmingham Gazette.

The Enormous Preponderance of British Ocean Tonnage.

Britain has lost more ocean tonnage than all the other nations, but she still has more than all the other nations.—Capetown (South African) Cape Argus.

An Ottawa Banker's Loss.

Local domestic stole a banker's nightshirt. This is getting as close to the heart of a banker as anyone can reasonably expect to get these days.—Ottawa Free Press.

The Exposure of Kultur.

Now that German Kultur has been found out everyone is surprised that it dominated thought on matters educational so long.—Inverness (Scotland) Highland Leader.

The Food Shortage in Germany.

But only recently Bethmann-Hollweg, the German Chancellor, was loudly proclaiming that Germany has all the food she needed. He and Dr. von Jagow do not appear to agree.—New York Herald.

A Piece of German Self-revelation.

Berlin sheds a great light on the mysterious obliquity of the German mind when it treats willingness to keep Germany's pledged word as a "concession."—Halifax Herald.

Hardly a Cause for Turkish Rejoicing.

Considering what the Crown Prince has done to the Germans at Verdun the Turks should receive with apprehension the news that one of the Kaiser's sons will join their forces shortly.—Victoria Colonist.

German Finance.

An advertisement issued by the German Government with reference to the fourth war loan is headed: "Everybody Can and All Should and Must Pay." This doesn't leave a very fat exempt list, as far as a mere outsider may judge.—London Truth.

As the Prussian Mind Sees It.

A German editor refers to President Wilson's "fiery temperament." It sounds funny to us. But to the Prussian mind, we suppose, anything short of abject surrender to the Kaiser seems fiery and dangerous.—Dundee Courier.

The German Idea.

"Our training in Germany," said a witness in a New York court, "is such that if I asked a superior officer what he was doing I'd expect his fist in my face." That seems to be what happens diplomatically when another nation makes bold in the same manner.—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

A Rather Important Distinction.

It is possible that Mr. Wilson, like a few millions of his countrymen, perceives this distinction between the British blockade and the German submarine warfare: The blockade has not caused the death of any citizen of any neutral nation.—Chicago Tribune.

The Dominating Factor in the War.

With Australians and New Zealanders and Russians helping to hold the lines on the western front, the Germans have cause to realize what the command of the sea means.—Manchester Guardian.

Imitating Napoleon.

The Kaiser has proclaimed his son Oscar as king of Lithuania. Napoleon also made his relatives kings of various countries, but they didn't stay long on their thrones.—New York Sun.

Something That British Sea Power Makes Impossible.

The downtown section of New York was nearly panic-stricken by the discharge of two three-inch guns. Where would Gotham's people be if the shell from a fifteen-inch German siege howitzer exploded on Manhattan?—Minneapolis Journal.

A Chicago Judge on Shakespeare.

That Chicago judge who gave it as a judicial decision that Bacon wrote Shakespeare's plays might now come nearer home and tell an equally anxious world whether Mrs. O'Leary's cow really kicked over that historic lamp that started the great Chicago fire. Chicago must think that Shakespeare's plays are interlarded with the ideas of Bacon—that they fairly bristle with them, in fact.—Toronto Evening Telegram.

Roosevelt and Woman Citizenship.

Theodore Roosevelt has declared in favor of women citizenship. It is a characteristic of the ex-President that he will not hold an opinion on a public question for which he is unable to give a reason.—Toronto Globe.

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