

# BIBLE PROPHETS AND THE WAR

PROPHECIES BEING FULFILLED BEFORE OUR EYES.

Arresting Predictions About the Great Conflict Cullied From Holy Writ.

An awful, whirling Armageddon of the nations; the rising of anti-Christ; or, as is the correct and vastly more significant rendering, "A Man of Lawlessness" (Thess. II. Chap. 2); his aim at supreme personal power and world dominion; his claim to be God; his use in the world-combat of "power and signs and lying wonders" (deeds which create astonishment and fear); his overthrow; the coming of Christ, and then the end of the world!

Such seems to be the purport of Scriptural prophecies. But immense difficulties surround the subject, and the difficulties are not lessened by the fact that many prophecies which seem to point directly to the present time were fulfilled by the Fall of Jerusalem, says a writer in London Answers.

Taken From the Gospels.

There remain some, however, which, without a forced or fanciful interpretation, are surely being fulfilled before our eyes.

The Scriptural books in which these prophecies occur are Daniel, three of the Gospels, Thessalonians, and the Book of Revelation. Daniel may be excluded, because his prophecies are practically repeated in Revelation.

The Gospel prophecies by Christ are found in St. Luke, 21; St. Mark, 13; and St. Matthew, 24. They differ but in detail, and St. Luke may be quoted:

"Nation shall rise against nation; and great earthquakes shall be in divers places, and famines and pestilences, and fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven." (Verses 10, etc.)

"And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth; for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. And then shall they see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory." (Verses 25, etc.)

Armageddon Is With Us.

Even in this awesome discourse of Christ, of which the above are short extracts, the vision changes from that which is close at hand to that which lies in the far future, and disentanglement is difficult.

But Armageddon is with us; there is famine in Belgium; pestilence in Serbia; and, without doubt, men's hearts are failing them for fear. What the next year may hold, or even the next month, is best unthought of. We may pass from horror to horror.

But it is in the Epistle to the Thessalonians that prophecy seems to find its fulfillment to-day. The language is very difficult, and the English translation fails to get the full force of the original Greek; but there, as in Revelation, the "Man of Lawlessness," the one who is responsible for the fearful and horrible world-cataclysm, is plainly indicated.

Here is the passage (Thess. II. Chap. 2), with explanatory notes following:

Full of Significance.

"Let no man deceive you by any means; for that day (i.e., the last day) shall not come except there come a falling-away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letheth will let, until he be taken out of the way. And then shall that wicked one be revealed; even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan, with all power and signs and lying wonders."

A difficult passage, but full of significance, especially when studied with the prophecies in Revelation.

A dread personality is indicated. Back in history he was taken to be Nero, and then Napoleon. But when we learn that the "Wicked One," if the words were rendered literally, is really "The Man of Lawlessness," who, as indicated in Revelation, will convulse the earth and drench it in blood, and set himself up above all law, then we know to whom prophecy has pointed—the Kaiser.

In his bid for world-power, he has broken every law of God, men and nations. He is the anti-Christ; the Man of Sin; the Lawless one. And it is within the memory of us all how he has blasphemously claimed to be Divine.

"I am your God!" he told his Guards. The point need not be labored; we know it.

Again, the passage which shows him in action using "powers and signs and lying wonders" is fearfully significant. The Greek word which we translate "wonders" really denotes the effect of inhuman methods, and the astonishment or fear they create. "Power" is a reference to the agency behind the deeds—in this case, "Satanic." "Signs" denotes the significance of the deeds.

We have only to think of poisonous gas, liquid fire, and other inhuman barbarities to see that prophecy is being fulfilled in this war.

Further, when we are puzzled as to the long years when the Kaiser seemed to be the one who kept the peace of Europe, we can turn to the prophecy and see that such a period is indicated. "He who now letheth" means "he who now restrains," and the reference is clear enough. Bismarck held the Kaiser back, until "the pilot was dropped," and war preparations, hidden under a fearful cloak of hypocrisy, began.

The pregnant passage in Thessalonians (verse 8, chapter 2) indicates in mysterious language the destruction of the "Lawless One." His end may be awful!

"The Lord shall consume him with the spirit of his mouth, and destroy with the brightness of his coming."

A Man of Many Religions.

Let us remember that the Kaiser, if he poses to-day for a Christian, has posed as Mohammedan to the Turks, and it would surprise no one if he openly flung away Christianity, and proclaimed himself as the new God. It is but a step, and the prophecy will be complete.

The prophecies in Revelation as to the great world-combat are clothed in mystical language, and are full of puzzling allegory. But chapter 13 is significant. The reference there is to a "beast" which shall make war!

"And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given to him to continue forty and two months. And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, and His tabernacle."

Chapters 17 and 18 continue the allegorical prophecies, and in chapter 16 we come to the reference to Armageddon, when the kings of the earth do battle with those which have the "spirits of devils."

One feels that we are living in the times pointed out, and watching the awful drama being unfolded, even if the greatest of scholars cannot unravel the strange and tangled threads of the world-war prophecies in that wonderfully prophetic Book of Revelation.

## FISH AND COST OF LIVING.

As a Substitute for Meat Fish Should Be More Used.

"Eat fish" should prove a valuable slogan for combatting the high cost of living. Meat has risen in price steadily within recent years, and, strangely enough, the available supply is becoming less competent to meet the demand. It is not surprising, therefore, that fish should be looked to as a substitute. As a food it is excellent, comparing not unfavorably with meat, although the proportions of nutritive elements such as protein, albumen and fat differ considerably.

Heretofore, fish has not been a popular article of diet in Canada. The reasons for this are various and some of them must be removed before fish eating can become a national habit. In the first place, fresh sea fish in prime condition has been almost unobtainable even at points not far removed from the coasts. This has been due frequently to inefficient handling of the fish by the fishermen and by the distributing agencies. It has also been due to unsatisfactory transportation and retail market conditions. These difficulties are not insurmountable, and some of them are already being overcome. Education of fishermen and others who handle fish is a necessity that cannot be much longer overlooked. Traditional methods of handling must give way to more scientific and efficient practices. Such changes would mean increased profits for the fishermen, and, at the same time, by making available large quantities of food which have hitherto been wasted, would improve the quality and lower the price to the consumer. Transportation is already being improved and, in time, when the inland demands for fish warrant it, fast train services should, and probably will, be established from the fishing ports to the larger inland centres. The present offers splendid opportunities to the fishery industry. A demand for fish is already half created by the high price and comparative scarcity of meat. But if Canadians are to be taught to eat fish, there must be more enlightened methods of producing and handling it.

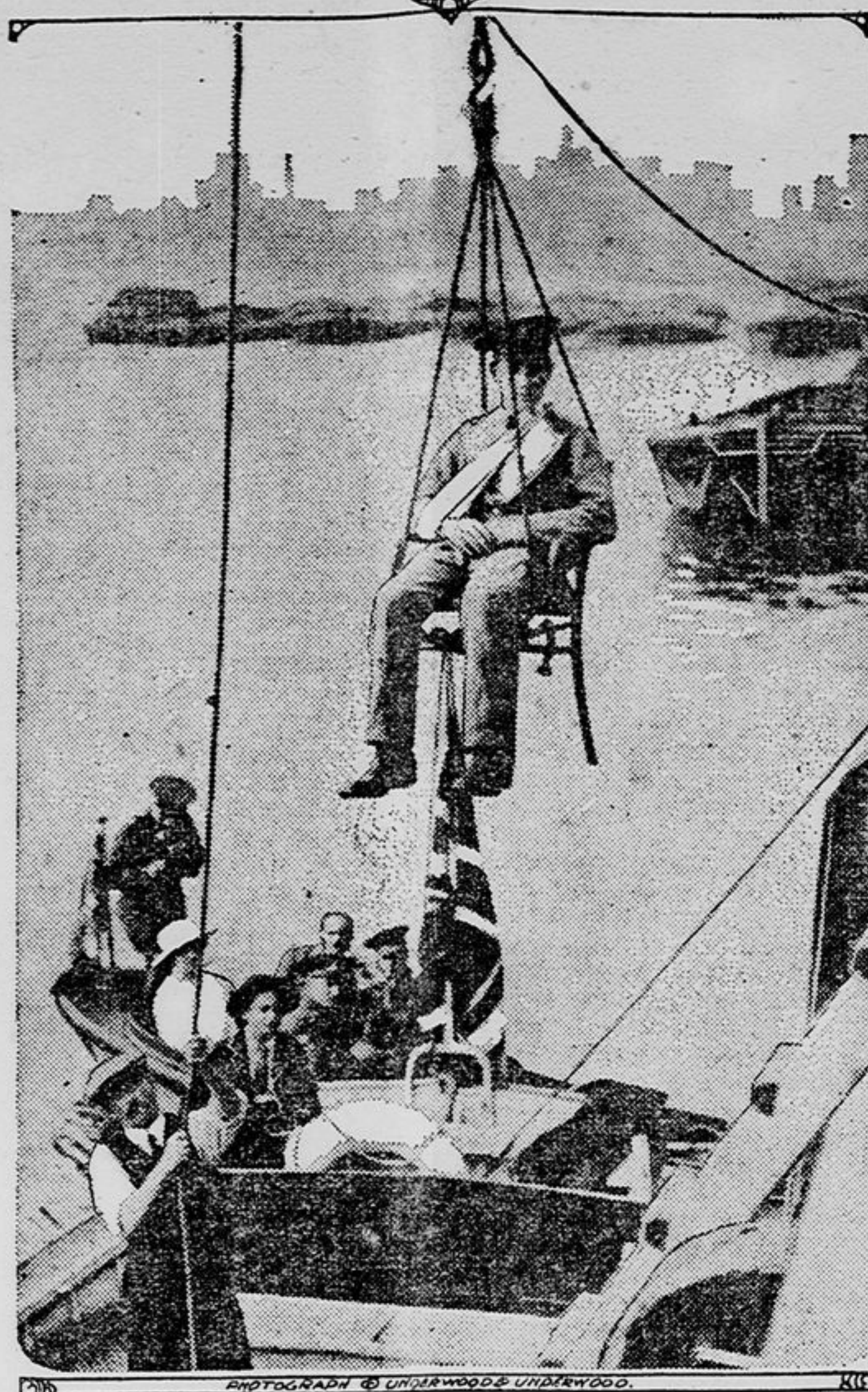
## WAR AND THE PHONOGRAPH.

The Military Aeroplane Frequently Carries One.

When the military aeroplane is scouting it usually carries two men. One is the pilot, who runs and steers the craft; the other is the observer, who marks the placing of the hostile troops, the position of their guns, the movement of trains, etc. The observer also makes many sketches of the ground over which he is flying—work that often interferes with his writing notes and memoranda. In certain conditions of flight, too, it is often hard for him to use a pencil and paper.

To obviate that difficulty the military aeroplane now frequently carries a phonograph, with a speaking tube running to the mouth of the observer, so that by talking into the machine at any time during the flight he can record his observations and still have his hands free for his field glass or his sketching pencil.

## THOUSANDS OF WOUNDED HAVE BEEN MOVED IN THIS MANNER



In the picture we see one of the British soldiers who is convalescing from wounds in the arms, unable to help himself, go down the ladder to the hospital launch. For such as he a chair has been rigged up, and he is seated in it while the crane from which the chair is suspended is being swung out to the launch. Thousands of wounded British soldiers return from the Dardanelles and other zones of war, are removed from the hospital ships on their arrival in ports in such manner as this before being transferred to the hospitals ashore.

## THE BRIDE OF THE PRINCE OF WALES

NO FEAR OF A GERMAN "FRAU" FOR H.R.H. NOW.

Marriage of the Heir Apparent to an English Lady Would Be Popular.

As a result of the war a serious problem has arisen in regard to the marriage of the Heir Apparent of the British Throne.

It is quite certain that there can be no alliance between the English Royal House and that of any branch of the German Royal Family for many a long year to come, if ever, indeed, such an alliance becomes again possible. But the hard fact remains that, outside German Royalities, there are serious difficulties in the way of finding a suitable bride for the soldier son of our Sovereign who is one day destined, if he lives, to reign over the British Empire, says London Answers.

It would be out of place to discuss just now the special character of these difficulties; but it may at least be stated that it is the earnest desire—indeed, one might say that it was the settled intention—of the King and Queen that the Prince of Wales shall not marry anyone who has not been brought up in the Protestant faith.

Someone of Royal Blood.

A way out of the difficulties that have arisen in connection with the marriage of the Prince of Wales has been recently suggested in quarters closely in touch with the Royal entourage: that the Royal Marriage Act should be repealed, or, at all events, suspended. Under this Act the sons of the Sovereign must wed someone of Royal blood, otherwise the marriage is a morganatic union.

If the Act were repealed or suspended, the heir to the Throne could marry the daughter of an English peer, or even a commoner, and the marriage would be valid.

Were the Prince of Wales to marry the daughter of a great English aristocratic house, there is not the least doubt that such a marriage would be vastly more popular in the country than would any foreign alliance, and it is at least possible that, after the war, this may happen.

The daughters of the English sovereigns have ere this married the sons of peers; and nothing really stands in the way of the future Princess of Wales being a lady of pure English descent, except an Act of Parliament that can very easily be altered. Alliances by marriage between Royal Houses of different countries in days gone by were often made with the idea of preserving peace between them. But in later days it has become quite obvious that peace cannot be preserved by Royal alliances.

Of Long Descent.

At one time there was talk of a marriage between the Prince of Wales and the daughter of the Kaiser, and if such an alliance had been arranged—no doubt it was never seriously con-

templated—no one for an instant thinks it would have had the least effect upon Germany's long-conceived ambition of smashing us at the first good opportunity.

There are several families among the English aristocracy whose descent is as ancient and honorable as that of our Royal House. What more natural and fitting than that the future Queen of England should be chosen from among these ancient families of the purest English descent?

The suspension or repeal of the Royal Marriage Act would, of course, be bound to influence profoundly the future destinies of the English Royal House.

There are some who fear that it would weaken the Monarchy, or possibly give rise later to conflicting claims to the Throne, such as in ancient days led to civil war; but there is no real justification for such fears. The war has tended to deepen the affection of all classes for the Monarchy, and it is more firmly established than ever in the affections of the English people.

An alliance between the Heir Apparent with the daughter of a great English aristocratic house would tend to strengthen this affection further, and would be vastly more popular than a foreign alliance.

Pleased in One Thing.

A story has been told of the Prince of Wales that on the night when the news reached Buckingham Palace that war was certain, the Prince rushed off to his sister's boudoir, where he found her Royal Highness writing some letters before retiring.

"Mary," exclaimed the Prince, "we are going to war with Germany, and now I shall not have to marry a German princess, thank goodness!"

## GOD'S LAND.

The Story of Why Canada Was Called a Dominion.

Canadians are accustomed to take the expression of the "Dominion" of Canada for granted; but the origin of that somewhat unusual term is known to very few.

When the great scheme of the Fathers of Confederation was finally realized, and the nine provinces grouped themselves together into one great confederation, a serious difficulty was presented by the choice of a suitable name. For a time almost a deadlock ensued.

At length one old member of Parliament rose from his seat and told his colleagues that he had read in his Bible that very morning the words: "His dominion shall be from the one sea to the other." Accordingly, he suggested that Canada should be known as the Dominion, or God's Land. The suggestion seized upon the hearts and imaginations of those present, and it was promptly acted upon.

"I once knew a fellow who gave a girl an engagement ring of opals." "Gracious! Wasn't it unlucky?" "You bet it was! She married him."

Bix—"Getting in debt is as easy as falling out of an airship." Dix—"Yes; and getting out of debt is about as easy as falling up to it again."

## National Duty in War

From The Round Table.

London, Sept. 22.—The events of the past three months make it unnecessary to demonstrate further how great is the effort which lies before us, if liberty is to be saved in Europe. Now that Russia has been forced to evacuate not only Galicia, but Poland, every citizen of the Empire must be able to see for himself that the war is likely to be a very long business indeed, and that the cause of Liberty will triumph only if we put forth our whole strength. Germany has produced no Napoleon. But in the forty years that her General Staff has spent in working out the theory of the conquest of Europe she has created a military system and a national organization unequalled by those of any of the Allies. By comparison we are all somewhat amateur. We will, therefore, be by our endurance, our courage and our numbers rather than by any superiority in generalship that we must reckon to win the war.

Till recently nobody fully realized these facts. In consequence as a nation and as an Empire we have so far failed to approach the problem of organization for war in the spirit of absolute subordination of the conditions and controversies of peace to the supreme necessities of war. It is this failure which is the root cause of the dissatisfaction and unrest which have manifested themselves in the body politic in the last few months. In one sense we have nothing to be ashamed of. The spirit and bravery of the individual have been beyond all praise. The figures for voluntary enlistment, the endurance and courage of officers and men by land and sea, the long hours spent by workers, male and female, in factory and workshop producing munitions of war, are an answer, final and conclusive, to the charge of degeneration in the national stock. Nor have our actual performances in the field fallen short of what either we ourselves or our Allies had good reason to expect. It would probably have been impossible by any other method to have produced a larger army, better trained and better equipped, and of better material, in so short a time. The task of the fleet has been discharged with such efficient efficiency that people are inclined to forget that it may yet be the most decisive achievement of the whole war. Yet there has been some national failure of method or purpose in the war, though it is difficult to see exactly where it lies. It cannot be ascribed to delay in achieving military success, or to a shortage of munitions. Both of these might have induced disappointment, but not the anxiety conscience which afflicts us to-day.

The general nature of the trouble is well indicated in a letter written from the trenches in Gallipoli and received a few weeks ago:

"I write to voice that which I think many of us are feeling now, and more will be before we get much nearer the end of these times, and that is the wonder whether there are to be found anywhere the men who will at last rise to the required greatness and take hold of our poor blind-eyed country and lead it, when its eyes are opened at last. I think many regard, as I do, this change of government as a pity, while fully recognizing that it was necessitated by our system. What we want is not a change of government, but a change of system, and this last move smacks very strongly of an attempt to pour the new wine, which is already running (for those who have the eyes to see it) from this great treasuring of the wine press, into the old skins, and they patched at that. Out here our view, both physically and mentally, is apt to be bounded by the sea and the summit of Achi Baba, but we do not altogether forget there is something beyond. If there is any possible influence which could be exerted to show the nation at last what it is really fighting for, there might be more hope of a near

end, and at least something would be done. If the nation could only realize that it is not fighting so much against militarism, or for Belgium, or for anything else, but just against itself, against all that which has kept us where we are, instead of the living Empire we ought to be, there would be more hope. Unless we first cast the beam out of our own eye it is no use shrieking at the size of the mote in the eye of another nation, and until we do it our struggles and the heavy price of manhood we are paying will really be as vain as they sometimes appear. Our light at present is a peculiarly thick darkness, and great because so few seem to know that it is darkness and has been darkness even when we thought it light."

We propose to consider this diagnosis in two parts. First, as it concerns our conduct of the war, and second as it concerns our national mode of life. In substance the criticism of our conduct of the war amounts to this, that as a nation we have not yet risen to the full level of our duty in this supreme crisis of the world, that we have spent much time in abusing the sins of Germany, while we have dealt lightly with our own, that we have criticized our own Government unmercifully, and have changed it, but that we have not yet begun to make the sacrifices and incur the discipline that are necessary if we are to support our own brothers and our Allies at the front to the utmost of our power. That individuals, and an immense multitude of them, have sacrificed their all, but that as a community we have not pulled ourselves together, nor abandoned absolutely the shibboleths of peace, nor accomplished fully the three things which really matter in war: the organization and disciplining of the whole population for the purpose of the war, the absolute suspension of every hindrance, however dear to capital or labor, which impedes the work of national supply, the husbanding of the resources of the nation by a rigid enforcement of public and private economy. That people are still left to serve only if they choose and when they choose, that industrial service is rendered by many employers only if that they are handsomely paid for it, that trade union regulations restrictive of output are still enforced, that strikes occur, and that, throughout, money is squandered lavishly as if nobody could be expected to do his duty without being paid for it, and paid extravagantly at that. In consequence that, while one section of the nation is enduring hardships and making sacrifices greater than any in English history for the sake of their fellows, the rest are still living at their ease, seeking pleasure and enjoyment as usual, and wasting resources which are vital if we are to make certain of victory for our cause.

It is easy to lose sight of the immense amount of hard and efficient labor which is being put forth amid the confusion and turmoil incidental to the sudden transformation of the industrial, social and political life of a democratic and unwarlike State. When all has been said and done our effort has been prodigious considering our unpreparedness for war. But still in this charge there is fundamental truth. We are now fighting the war with only half our national strength. The other half of the nation and that the smaller half, are submitting themselves to discipline and to separation from relatives and friends, are suffering untold hardship, pain, and, in great numbers, are giving up their lives for their friends, while the other half are making no equivalent contribution to the common cause. That is broadly true, and, inasmuch as it is true, it must be changed. We owe it to ourselves, to our brothers at the front, and to our Allies to put our whole national strength into this war.

(To be continued.)

## CARS FOR FIRE FIGHTING.

Railways Are Being Equipped for Forest Protection Work.

The management of the Government railways has made material progress in fire protection in Quebec since taking over the line of the National Transcontinental for operation. A tank car, for fire-fighting purposes, has been equipped and will be stationed at some convenient point between Edmundston and Quebec. This car has a capacity of ten thousand gallons and is equipped with hose to reach a fire five hundred feet from the track. The question of placing two similar cars at convenient points between the City of Quebec and the Ontario boundary is under consideration. Special fire patrols will also be necessary, and the details are being considered. Hon. Frank Cochrane, Minister of Railways and Canals, has announced that the same measures for fire protection will be taken on Government railways as are required by the Railway Commission of lines under private ownership. The measures referred to above constitute an excellent beginning. The Government railways are not under the jurisdiction of the Railway Commission.

Special tank cars for fire-fighting purposes constitute efficient means of conserving forest resources along railway lines. The Canadian Pacific railway has two such cars stationed at Brownville Junction, Maine, where serious fires had previously occurred. The Grand Trunk Railway also has equipped a tank car during the present season, placing it at Algonquin Park station, to be used in extinguishing fires along the railway line between Ottawa and Depot Harbor, special attention being given to that portion of the line within Algonquin Park. Excellent results have been secured by both the Canadian Pacific and Grand Trunk railways from the use of these cars for fire-fighting work.—C. L. in Conservation.

## Played the Same Game.

George—"You seem devoted to that old lady you were with. Is she a near relative?" Gus—"Hist! I'll tell you how it is. She is the mother of Miss Beattie, and I've always heard that the nearest way to a girl's heart is through her mother's. That's why I'm so sweet on the old lady. See?" "Humph! Yes, I see. I played that game, too, when I was young." "Yes, and you married the girl, didn't you?" "True. But the old lady took such a fancy to me that she has been living with me ever since."

There is an average of about 350 births and seventy deaths a day in London.