THE
Flesherton Advance
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England's Troubles

From the Youth's Companion

Each of the countries at war has its peculiar troubles, military or economic, to contend with; some of the troubles can be mitigated or even overcome by patient and patriotic effort; others grow worse as the contest proceeds.

Take the case of Great Britain. Its greatest difficulties are the result of the national character, which—however alert Britons may be in other matters—is perilously sluggish in respect of any war in which the nation may be engaged. Englishmen from time immemorial have felt that,since they live on an island,they were secure from invasion. As long as their navy was the most powerful afloat they had no fears. So the war found them with only a small standing army, and the ordinary Briton has only now begun to realize that, if his country is to be successful in this war, it must have just such an army as its Continental neighbors have. Hence the long and tedious wrangle over the tardy volunteer recruiting, the frantic opposition to compulsion and the vain disputes about the respective duties of single and married men. Meanwhile, the great army that Great Britain needs is not even yet created.

More than once also the business of munitioning the army that has been raised has been delayed and confused by the attitude of organized labor. In time of war the nation can exert itself effectively only when private or class interests yield to the demands of patriotism. But the labor unions have hesitated and sometimes refused to change or suspend their rules, fearful, no doubt, lest they should thus surrender rights or privileges that were not easily won and that might not be restored after the war without another struggle. The lives of the men at the front and the safety of England itself depend on driving the work in mine, factory and shipyard; but the unions have yielded to the necessity with grudging reluctance, and sometimes only under strong government pressure. It is all a part of the price that England pays for insisting on individual liberty rather than on national discipline. The crisis through which the United Kingdom is passing is to prove whether such a country can rise to the supreme test of a great war without sacrificing any essential part of its political creed.

Moreover, Great Britain has its internal enemies, and more than one group of half-hearted citizens who are more inclined to criticize and obstruct than to help. It has confined all the alien enemies whom it could identify; but it has not found them all, for Germany still has its sources of information in England. Ireland, we are told, is loyal as a whole, yet it contains a good number of men who are quite the reverse. The government did not venture to extend the mild measure of compulsion to that island. Even in Parliament there are members who nag, carp and complain, and who oppose everything that is proposed and every minister who proposes it.

Add the losses that the country suffers from the submarines and mines, the destruction and devastation wrought by the Zeppelin raids, the heavy taxes and the rising cost of the necessaries of life, and we can in a measure understand the troubles that the English are facing. Yet they are cheerful and confident. No more than the Germans have they any thought of giving up. Give them time enough and they will cure some of the evils from which they suffer. Like good sportsmen, they will endure the rest with a smiling face.

Women and Thrift

Upon the women of the land will rest the greatest burden of success in the campaign for thrift that has been inaugurated. As heads of the household they are the chancellors of domestic exchequers. It is for them to bear in mind that expenditure upon articles that are not actually needed is not alone lessening their own resources but also depriving the country of something that might be more profitably applied. The majority of men will agree that so far as the household is concerned their women are pretty thrifty. But stinginess, parsimonious, or miserliness is not thrift. The thrifty woman combines with a natural aptitude for economy the wisdom of selection and utilization. She knows when to save and when to spend. She knows what is necessary and what can be done without and she makes the best use of everything. Neither does she do all things herself. When help is at hand she utilizes it with discretion.

The great aid to thrift is thoughtfulness. In fact without that element thrift is utterly out of the question The thrifty woman, too, not only exercises thrift herselfbut sees that her children do the same thing not by indulging them but by delegating to them sundry offices of which they are capable, by making them self-reliant. But the woman cannot do all these things by herself. She must enjoy the support, countenance and influence of her mankind. The greatest enemy to thrift is the promiscuous doling out of the money. It is not to boys and girls a sign of good nature; it is death to the recipient. It poisons their disposition and sows seeds of weeds that can never be eradicated. For that sort of thing women are but little responsible, but where their efforts shine is in allowing nothing to go to waste, in making use of everything, and in exercising ingenuity in food, dress, household labour and the bringing up of children. An incentive to the accomplishment of these things is a reflection upon the times, upon the needs and experience of their male relatives at the front, and upon the fact that every ounce saved is a contribution to the welfare of the country and perhaps to winning the war.

Taken into Custody

Charles Gustave Kropp, who had been working for Delmo Brown in Arthur tp since the fall of 1914, was placed under military guard Tuesday of last week and on Saturday was taken to Toronto and handed over to the military authorities there. It is not known if Kropp was concerned in any active endeavor to promote the cause of Canada's enemies but the general assumption is that he was taken into custody as a matter of principle. He was a good farm hand and if the authorities see fit to release him he could be a very useful man this spring

A couple of weeks before his arrest Kropp made application for membership in the 153rd Battalion at Mt. Forest. His attestation papers named his birth place as Hamburg, Germany, and stated he had served 18 months with the 11th Hussars in that country. His application was turned down by headquarters and, apparently, an investigation was started which culminated in his trip to Toronto. In the meantime Kropp tried to obtain naturalization papers, but met with no success.

In conversation Kropp stated he came out to Canada on the Empress of Britain landing at Quebec just after war was declared. He had left Germany three years previously and represented a German firm in England. Before leaving his country he had qualified as a cavalry lieutenant but was given a "blue paper" for some breach of military etiquette As he was not able to find employment at his accustomed work he applied to the government labor bureau at Toronto and was sent up her as a farm hand.

One thing that is likely to get Kropp in wrong with the Canadian military authorities is the fact that he registered as a German reservist with his consul in New York shortly after landing. Kropp admits having done this and claims extenuating circumstances in the fact that he did not expect to be called to service as no one thought of the war lasting long A'so, if he had not registered he would have been barred from returning to Germany after the war. On being questioned about his desire to fight against his countrymen Kropp asserted that he was no Prussian and had no sympathy with Prussian methods.—Mt. Forest Representative.

The Wiarton Echo says : It is asserted that a number of young men in the country have not enlisted because they expect the wages to be high on account of the scarcity of labor. They must be a bunch of patriots. It is a pity that the government cannot control the price of labor under these conditions.

Odds and Ends

ARTICLES FOR SALE

The latest grafonola records for sale. Needles 25c per 300. The Advance.

MISCELLANEOUS

Painting and paper-hanging done Agent for Empire wall papers.—Harry Carrington, Flesherton. 1 May

For Sale—Three sow pigs, due 1st July, good stock—Geo. H. Cairns, R. R. No. 5, Markdale.

Quiet Mare, 9 years old, for sale.—Jos. Buchanan, Flesherton P O.

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Notice—Dr. H B. Kidd, Chiropractor, Chronic, Spinal and Nervous Diseases a Specialty, will be at the Park House on Friday, May 12 from 4 to 6 p.m.

Clear, white New Brunswick shingles to arrive in a few days. Leave your orders with W. A. Armstrong.

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For Sale—A few tons of good hay and a small quantity of good seed barley, No. 21—Guy Orr, Proton Station, P. O.

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For rent—Good pasture, well watered Apply JAMES NASH, R. R. 5, Markdale. Phone 929 r2.

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