

ARMY OF 20

Gen. Danki's Forces
Wards Hunt

NOTES AND COMMENTS

Russia has had a series of prosperous years which writers on world politics are celebrating as if the sole object of production were war. There has been a remarkable growth in the ordinary revenues of the country, but revenue, of course, implies taxation, and a large part of what is taken out of production by taxation is going to the military account. From 1907 to 1913 the military and naval expenditures increased by nearly \$170,000,000. Moreover, it is said that the annual expenditures henceforward should exceed one hundred million pounds, which is but little less than \$50,000,000.

Another authority on world politics questions the gain to be derived from seizing occupied lands and the people who own them. He does not see how long the citizens of the conquering nation are benefited by the extension of their country's boundaries. They do not take the lands and the conquered people do not become their slaves. But it seems that there is a diplomacy which stands behind the exporter of capital and the struggle for a balance of power has its motive and its impetus largely in this singular modern relationship between the state and finance."

War, then, is an agency for the promotion of the export of capital. The industrial classes pay taxes in hundreds of millions in order that financial speculations may be made by the promoters and gambling syndicates, with the backing of the armies and navies. This may not be far from the truth, but there is no apparent reason why it should arouse the taxpayers to a frenzy of enthusiasm.

The hard-working people of one industrial nation have more in common with their brethren of another industrial nation than they have with the promoters and the syndicates and the diplomats. They could not dispense with their brethren if they would by a shifting of the boundaries. And their incidental gains by capitalistic ventures among inferior races in thinly populated countries are negligible, by comparison with their war burdens.

Where do the masses come in on this war game? How is it to their interest that the nations should always be arrayed against one another as if they were angry dogs spoiling for a fight?

THE FIGHTING INSTINCT.

The Last of Battle Lies at the Roots of Our Nature.

Of all the instincts with which human nature is endowed the fighting instinct is the keenest and the oldest, and all the habits taught or enforced by education, by law or by custom are but curbs upon it. If, for the sake of argument, we put the age of man upon the earth at a million years, then for at least 999,000 years the two great instincts—the fighting and the social—were rigorously selected. It was the fighters, in bands, clans, tribes or nations, who lived to tell the tale, the best and the bravest of the warrior races who survived to carry on the race. Compared with these aces of evolution during which the fighting instinct was selected the most ancient of civilized periods was but the day before yesterday. Need we then wonder that even after some 2,000 years of civilian education the fighting man lies latent beneath the thickest strata of continuously and laboriously acquired habits?

The civilian responds so readily to battle conditions because he sheds habits and reverts to his ancestral type. It has taken him years to acquire the rudiments of his craft, trade or profession, and the social etiquette of his class. It may take him months to learn to drill or to shoot straight. But the lust of battle lies at the roots of his nature, and fires his blood in a moment of time. It would be difficult to recognize in a fierce and rugged warrior-charging the guns the suave young solicitor of a week or so ago, who thought in six-and-eighteens and was anxious about the set of his tie; yet, after all, this is the real man, and the other was but the mask he wore, a mask of education, of habits, of timidity.

ABSINTHE DEFINED.

In the End the User Becomes Like a Pig Said Moor.

An old Moor said of absinthe: "It is an invention of the evil one. On its roots he pours the blood of a peacock; then, when the leaves begin to grow, he sprinkles them with the blood of a monkey; then he dips the stalks in the blood of a bear; lastly, he mixes with the juice of the plant the blood of a pig."

So that when the faithful drinks absinthe, at the first glass his appetite awakes, and he arises proud as a peacock; at the second glass he becomes excited, and gesticulates like a monkey; at the third he becomes a bear; at the fourth he becomes besotted and falls to the earth like a hog in the mire."

No.

He—What would you say if I asked you to be my wife?
She—As little as possible.

An American girl was taking a Liverpool girl home to the States with her, and towards the end of the journey remarked: "It is delightful to know that one is so near home. We ought to sight Sandy Hook this afternoon. Shall we?" exclaimed her friend. "That will be nice. Don't tell me which it is. I can always pick a Scotsman out of a mob."

Never judge the age of women or men by outward appearances.

HEALTH

Infantile Convulsions.

Convulsions are spasmodic muscular contractions of the body, quite beyond the control of the person who suffers from them. When they occur in adults, especially if they occur habitually, they are generally caused by epilepsy, although many diseases may have convulsions among their symptoms. The very commonest form of convulsion, however, occurs in babies and very young children. These convulsions generally appear during the first two years of life, and disappear after the child is five or six years old—unless they are owing to epilepsy. In that case, they will probably continue as long as life lasts, and grow worse year by year.

Epileptic convulsions, however, usually appear later in life; and almost all the attacks that occur in childhood are the result of rickets, which is, in turn, caused by improper feeding or by some local irritation.

Convulsions always indicate an unstable condition of the nervous system. We do not look for stability of the nervous system in babies, and we most certainly cannot expect to find it in babies who have got rickets. Such children, besides suffering from convulsions, show by their restlessness, their fits of screaming, their poor sleep, their swollen abdomens, their general muscular debility, that they are insufficiently nourished. If they are the children of the poor, their food is probably deficient in fat and protein; the child of well-to-do parents may suffer in the same way from oversterilization of its food, or from being kept on the wrong kind of food.

No baby to-day ought to have rickets. The condition is well understood, and its treatment is so simple that no parents ought to be unable to avail themselves of it.

At one time, teething was blamed for most infantile convulsions, but now most physicians doubt that teething alone can bring on these attacks without some other predisposing cause. In a few unfortunate cases, a child who has the convulsive tendency may have fastened upon him for life by bad domestic training—either by the overseverity of the parents. If convulsions persist, the physician must find out the cause and advise the treatment. It is always a good plan to place the child in a warm bath when the spasms appear.—Youth's Companion.

Health Notes.

Rheumatic patients derive much benefit if they are rubbed with turpentine in a warm room.

Do not visit the sick when you are fatigued, or when in a state of perspiration, or with the stomach empty, for in such conditions you are very liable to take the infection.

If you are a victim of any stomach trouble where there is lack of gastric juice, eat huckleberries in every form you can devise from soup to wines and jellies, putting them through a sieve to eliminate the seeds if necessary.

When the disease is very infectious take the side of the patient which is very near to the window. Do not enter the room the first thing in the morning before it has been aired, and when you come away take some food, change your clothes, and expose them to the air for some days.

When Taking Medicine.—Take a fluid from a medicine glass or from a silver spoon. Chemical action of some liquids upon brass creates a liquid that would be fatal if taken into the stomach. A good rule is never to take medicine from any thing made of the copper metals. Puffiness under the eyes is mostly caused by worry and ill health, so a good tonic should be taken, and an outward application bathe the eyes with hot water for ten minutes twice a day, and directly after bathe them in cold water to which has been added a few drops of eau-de-Cologne, and allow to dry on. In a few weeks you will find a great improvement.

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Ruins Caused by German Artillery at Boore, France.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

INTERNATIONAL LESSON.

NOVEMBER 22.

Lesson VIII.—Jesus and Pilate.

Matt. 27. 11-31. Golden Text, Matt. 27. 22.

Verse 11. Art thou the King of the Jews?—Jesus had called himself the "Christ," not the "King" of the Jews. The Jews accuse him to Pilate as wanting to be the King of the Jews so as to make a political affront and the more readily catch Pilate's ear. Jesus is ready, however, to admit that King and Christ are essentially the same. He was a "King," but not of this world. See John 18. 33-37.

12. He answered nothing.—To please Jesus spoke at length (see again John 18. 33-37); but to the chief priests and elders, he was silent.

It was really beneath his dignity to speak to them. However, his silence was due to the absolute uselessness of his speaking.

13. Hearest thou not how many things they witness against thee?—The leaders and the multitude were unbridled in their speech. They were making whatsoever accusations against Jesus happened to come into their minds.

14. Insomuch that the governor marveled greatly.—The accusations against Jesus evidently were so irrelevant and immaterial that Pilate supposed a word or two from Jesus would clear him. He did not know the perverseness of the leaders, as Jesus did, and hence could not appreciate the wisdom of Jesus' silence.

15. Now at the feast the governor was wont to release unto the multitude one prisoner, whom they would.—The governors of Rome had sufficient knowledge of the Jewish tenacity to know that it was best not to cross them if there was no absolute necessity for doing so.

Hence they had accustomed themselves to make certain concessions, such as the releasing of a prisoner at the time of passover.

16. A notable prisoner called Barabbas.—The original has Barabban. If the spelling were Barabban the phrase would mean "son of a rabbi." Bar abban is the accusative of Bar abbas and means "son of a father." Some of the church fathers held to the former interpretation. Jerome called Barabbas filius magistris, "son of a master," or teacher. This man Barabbas was notable at least on account of his father.

17. When will ye that I release unto you? Barabbas, or Jesus?—Pilate undoubtedly thought Jesus was a popular favorite and that when the crowd was given a choice, they would choose Jesus. Jesus, which is called Christ?—Pilate understood the word King as Jesus used it, hence the term "Christ." In spite of his shortsightedness otherwise, he could see through the Jews (S), and refused to let the issue against Jesus be confused.

18. His bed sent unto him.—The incident of Pilate's wife is historically doubtful. Why, the wife of the wife of Roman provincial governors were privileged to accompany their husbands to the provinces (Tacitus, Annals III., 33-34); so her presence is probable.

19. But the soul that trusts in Jesus is saved from every sin.—And the heart that fully trusts him Shall a crown of glory win:

They come to the dear Redeemer. He'll cleanse you from every stain: By the grace which he freely giveth. You shall higher soar again.

—M. Butterworth. Last verse by P.B.

POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

In a manner of speaking, the dentist is a dealer in extracts. The only use some men seem to have for heads is to bury in.

Gems of thought never wear well as a drug on the market.

Never despise little things. The biggest man that ever lived was once an infant.

Once in about 7,000 years a man manages to hit the mark when he shoots off his mouth.

Real faith is needed before a man can buy a bottle of hair restorer of a bald-headed druggist.

The man who makes good doesn't wait for opportunity to knock. He has the door wide open.

A porter in London was engaged in cleaning a luggage van when the door swung back, striking him violently on the head. "Oh, Pat!" he exclaimed to an Irishman standing on the platform. "I believe I've opened my head!" "Well now's the time to put something into it," was Pat's witty reply.

Young Folks

Betty's Color Party.

"Why, Lily Williams, there's a big spot of green on your dress!" "Where is it?" Lily asked, as she stopped her game of drop the handkerchief.

"Turn round," Betty answered, "and I'll show you."

But Betty could not find the spot.

"I know I saw it," she said.

Aunt Fanny laughed. "You must have been looking at Lily's sash."

"But what has my red sash to do with a green spot?" Lily asked.

"Well, let's stop playing, and I'll tell you something about colors," Aunt Fanny said. And the ten boys and girls gathered round Aunt Fanny.

"Stand out in the sun, Lily," Aunt Fanny directed.

"Each of you must look steadily at Lily's sash until I tell you to stop," said Aunt Fanny, "and then look quickly at the white of her dress, and tell me what you see."

Nine pairs of eyes looked at the red sash.

At the end of a minute Aunt Fanny said, "Now look at the white dress."

Bobby Jackson was the first to speak.

"Why, Miss Fanny, it looked green just for a moment, but now it's all white again."

"The sun likes to play such tricks," Aunt Fanny explained.

"Wouldn't the green show if the sun didn't shine?" Bobby questioned.

"No," Aunt Fanny answered.

"The light of the sun is necessary. I'll tell you how you can have some of it at home. Find a red, a blue, and a yellow book, and place them one at a time, in the sun on a piece of white paper. Then ask your father what color you are going to show him, and see if he can tell you."

Just then Betty's mother came out into the garden, carrying a dish of ice cream.

"Well!" cried Bobby Jackson,

"the one who made that ice cream knew how good red and green look with white!" Youth's Companion.

HOW TO AVOID CONSUMPTION.

Precautions Issued By Ontario Provincial Board of Health.

1. The special measures required for producing conditions destructive to the virulence of tubercle bacilli which may have found lodgment in a house are, fortunately, those best calculated to preserve and improve the health of the inmates.

2. On a room occupied by a consumptive should not be swept or dusted. Such few floor rugs as are used should be frequently taken up and exposed to the sunlight, and also disinfected at intervals. They should on no account be shaken, beaten or swept. In cleaning such rooms wet cloths must be used to wipe the floor, woodwork, windows, furniture, etc., and these cloths should be frequently boiled. These rooms should be thoroughly cleaned at least once a month, in addition to being disinfected by others.

3. Ventilation by means of fresh air is most important for the preservation of the health of children, as well as adults, fresh air preventing the development and spread of consumption.

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5. Overcrowding is both dangerous and injurious to health, and should be avoided.

6. Windows should be made to open to the external air, they should be kept open day and night sufficiently to provide for a continuous supply of fresh air, but injurious draughts should be avoided.

7. Open spaces around buildings are necessary for the access of fresh air.

8. Rooms, staircases, and passages should be frequently flushed with air by opening windows and doors. This rule applies equally to churches, school rooms, factories, hotels, public halls, as well as to the homes of consumptives.

9. All rooms should be kept clean, otherwise the air can never be pure. Cleanliness and good sanitary surroundings are essential for the prevention as well as the cure of the disease.

10. To protect against the germs of tuberculosis, as found in both meat and milk, these articles of diet should either be destroyed or disinfected by superheated steam before being used by another.

11. All bed linens and body linens should be disinfected before being sent to the wash.

12. The clothing, wearing apparel and other effects of a consumptive should either be destroyed or disinfected by superheated steam before being used by another.

13. Never eat coals, articles of the toilet or other small objects in your mouth. Do not use a pipe, wind