GERMAN PSYCHOLOGY

Why It Is That the Teutonic Soldiers Allow Themselves to Be Slaughtered.

We have now entered upon the fourth month of the battle of Verdun, with new frantic efforts on the part of the Germans to break our defence. But they have made no important progress since the end of February, when the suddenness and secretly accumulated power of the blow gained them a few miles. They have even here and there lost ground, and the initiative of the fight has repeatedly passed on our side. A neutral gentleman who has just come back from the invaded departments, where he had been engaged for a year on relief work, told me a month ago that he had seen the whole slow and enormous preparation of the attack. In January and February the German officers with whom his work brought him in daily contact were constantly speaking of the coming coup as if no doubt of success could be entertained, writes Andre Chevrilton, in Country Life. Nothing, said my friend, who had learned to know them well, was more significant than their reticence as to Verdun during the last weeks of his stay with them. The subject had become taboo.

And yet they still launch their massive attacks, in which their men come shoulder to shoulder, to fall in long, rapidly increasing heaps under the fire of our machine-guns. If one had not heard from the Russian side as well as from our front of German prisoners who were taken still smelling of ether, and who confessed to having been under a special diet before being thus hurled in serried ranks—twelve deep to the yard—to butchery, one would not know which to admire most; the blind, absolute devotedness of those men, or the indomitable temper of those French soldiers who were supposed to have more elan than staying power, and who manage to find shelter in the craters that have been dug by a terrific Trommel Feuer, and there, in little packs of survivors or isolated, with what is left of machine-guns, most of the protective wire being wiped out, succeed in stopping the thick waves of the advancing enemy.

Strength of the German.

All the essential difference between the two peoples is to be seen in the two sides of such a picture. The French are individualists; the value of the nation is that of the individuals. Hence their achievement in air craft and their rapid success in the noble art; hence also the general tendency of our school of tactics, which, leaning on national psychology, favours the ordre disperse and leaves as much as possible to the judgment and enterprise of each man. The strength of the German is in the organized herd. Their attacks remind one of the charge of the buffaloes which have closed together to stamp the tiger under foot. A friend who saw some of the battlefields of the Marne before the dead were buried told me that even in death this difference between the temper of the two races is to be seen. The French dead, he said, were scattered here and there like poppies in a cornfield (this was at the beginning of the war, when the French army still wore the traditional red trousers): the Germans lay in grey heaps like inanimate swarms. This gregarious feature of the enemy struck our men in the very first battles of the campaign. "We got sick with killing them," a wounded zouave who was just back from Charleroi told me. "But the more of them you killed the thicker they came. Ants . . . they were like ants, a continuous tide of ants. . . . ."

Hun Conception of Hierachy.

The other and no less important element in their psychology is, of course, their absolute and mechanical discipline—a discipline which puts the herd into the hands of the leader, like a several hundred, thousand or million horse-power, or rather "man-power" engine, to be hurled at his pleasure in this or that direction. This discipline is not, as with us, a mere necessity of war. It is founded firstly on the idea of caste (we are very much struck in France by the fact that, in spite of their enormous losses in officers, they still avoid making lieutenants of their sergeants and Feldwebels), an idea very different from the distinction between classes which prevails in other countries. In England, for instance, the old rural social principle that "one should know one's betters" is tempered by the religious principle that a man is personally responsible to God for all his acts, that his inner self cannot be surrendered. No liberty with it, no attempt to compel his conscience, no slight to his honor, whether from his equals or his betters, should be tolerated. Kipling's story, "His Private Honour," gives the precise shade of the feeling. You can also see it in "Richard Feverel," when the old English farmer resolutely demands as his right an apology from the squire's son. How far removed from this proud and individualistic idea is the Hun conception of heirarchy the incidents of Zabern have taught us. Was it not in connection with these incidents that a member of the British Cabinet said: "In this country the honour of the lord is exactly on the same footing as that of a costermonger"?

What Germans Call Heroism

"Body and soul" they belong to their Kaiser. He knows what he can exact from them. At Dinant and Aerschot it was to open fire with machine-guns in the market place, before the shrieking women, on a crowd of men, after wiring them in. At Verdun it is to march in continuous rows, line behind line, over the dead heaps of those that went before them against the fire that mows them down. On the part of the soldiers this may be called heroism. Our own men go more quietly to what they know is certain death; they are not carried on by the impetus of a solid human mass in which those who are behind push those who are in front without feeling the immediate risk. I will give two recent instances of the curious passivity, of the sheer spirit of obedience that often goes with German heroism, and by which men are changed into tools—wonderful tools to be used for good or bad—and to be thrown wholesale into the furnace, if waste, as sometimes happens, pays—however so little.

In Champagne some of our aviators noticed behind the German line and at a safe distance from our guns strange activities of the enemy. They seemed to be fighting between themselves over a network of lines which in no way connected with the rest of the defence. Photographs were taken and revealed two distinct and elaborate systems of trenches. The puzzle was solved when an officer suddenly perceived one of the two systems to be an exact copy of a particularly strong French labyrinth, the other reproducing the German defence in front of it. In a war which puts a terrific strain on human energy, at a time when men are generally sent to the back only for a spell of rest, German soldiers had been set by their leaders to the stupendous extra task of digging two complete networks of trenches for the object of methodically rehearsing a possible attack. To those who know what such work means and the awful drudgery of it, the fact is amazing.

The Curtain Fire.

The second instance is, perhaps, more significant. An officer who had come on leave from his post in the neighborhood of La Ferme Navarin was telling us the peculiar method which the Hun used to retake, two months ago, a certain length of that position. On both sides the usual rule for an attack is to cover for some hours with "Trommel Feuer" the line which you want to conquer, and when the moment for the rush comes to increase the range, in order to avoid killing your own people as they approach the enemy, thus creating at the same time a curtain fire which cuts off the position from possible reinforcements. As long as the "Trommel Feuer" is over them the assailed party remain buried in their holes, but as soon as the range is changed and they hear the shells bursting in their rear they know that the onslaught is coming, and, leaping out of their dug-outs, begin to take aim with rifles and machine-guns. Well, what the Germans did in this particular attack was simply not to increase their range. They kept their troops—a very dense formation—under their own fire, so that our men did not know the rush was coming till the enemy was dropping hand grenades into their trench. For this success about a thousand Germans were killed by German guns.

France Will Not Fail

Such methods may give an insight into the reasons of the continued tremendous attacks at Verdun. Probably the leaders have their doubt as to their ever entering that city, and surely they know that, should they take it, they would have gained no decisive advantage, that the French would fall back on prepared stronger lines. But they know that their men are mere matter in their hands; they do not shrink from hurling them into the fire for the sake of keeping up the furnace, a furnace where both armies are melting—though not at the same rate. They know that time is against Germany, that she cannot afford to wait and simply defend the territories which she won at the first blow by the methods we know. Their last aim must be slaughter for the sake of slaughter—continuous and wholesale slaughter in which it does not matter to them if their men fall by hundreds of thousands, as long as the French fall by fifties of thousands. They reckon that they will feed and increase the furnace till the neutrals raise a cry of horror and try to intervene, or till French sensibility and humanity at the back cannot stand any more the sight of French manhood gradually withering in that fire.

But France knows that if her will failed her she would be doomed. She knows from her previous experiences of her enemy that peace would be for him but breathing time till he felt strong enough for a new and probably stronger aggression—that if she stopped before the monster's teeth are broken, sooner or later it would mean death for her. She also knows that the odds are now against him, that at the game he is playing he cannot outlast the Allies. That knowledge steels the mother heart to the horror.

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A CAUSE OF INDIGESTION

People Who Complain of This Trouble Usually Are Thin Blooded.

Thin blooded people usually have stomach trouble. They seldom recognize the fact that thin blood is the cause of the trouble, but it is. In fact thin, impure blood is the most common cause of stomach trouble: it affects the digestion very quickly. The glands that furnish the digestive fluid are diminished in their activity; the stomach muscles are weakened, and there is a loss of nerve force. In this state of health nothing will more quickly restore the appetite, the digestion and normal nutrition than good rich, red blood. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills act directly on the blood, making it rich and red, and this enriched blood strengthens weak nerves, stimulates tired muscles and awakens the normal activity of the glands that supply the digestive fluids. The first sign of improving health is an improved appetite, and soon the effect of these blood making pills is evident throughout the system. You find that what you eat does not distress you, and that you are strong and vigorous instead of irritable and listless. This is proved by the case of Mrs. J. Harris, Gerrard St., Toronto, who says: "About three years ago I was seized with a severe attack of indigestion and vomiting. My food seemed to turn sour as soon as I ate it, and I would turn so deadly sick that sometimes I would fall on the floor after vomiting. I tried a lot of home remedies, but they did not help me. Then I went to a doctor who gave me some powders, but they seemed actually to make me worse instead of better. This went on for nearly two months, and by that time my stomach was in such a weak state that I could not keep down a drink of water, and I was wasted to a skeleton and felt that life was not worth living. I was not married at this time, and one Sunday evening on the way to church with my intended husband I was taken with a bad spell on the street. He took me to a drug store where the clerk fixed up something to take, and my intended got me a box of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. By the end of the first week I could feel some improvement from the use of the Pills, and I gladly continued taking them until every symptom of the trouble was gone, and I was again enjoying the best of health. These Pills are now my standby and I tell all my friends what they did for me."

You can get Dr. Williams' Pink Pills from any dealer in medicine or by mail at 50 cents a box or six boxes for $2.50 from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

GEN. SMUTS' CONQUEST.

Usambara Described as the Gem of German East Africa.

Wilhemstal, the capital of the Usambara Highlands, was occupied a short time ago by General Smuts, and as the enemy have abandoned its seaport, Tanga, it would appear that the whole of this region, the most settled and most prosperous part of German East Africa, will shortly be in undisputed possession of the British.

Its healthy climate, picturesque valleys and mountains, and luxuriant vegetation attracted attention to Usambara from the first establishment of German rule, and its nearness to the coast rendered it easily accessible. To-day it possesses scores of thriving plantations, pleasant and well-built towns, and excellent roads. Its European population is about 3,000

Bordered east and west by arid schub?covered steppes, north by open country, and south by dense jungle, the highlands form an oasis in the wilderness. Extending southeast and northwest for 75 miles, they vary in breadth from 1 to 45 miles. The hills rise tbruptly 1,500 feet to 1,700 feet from the surrounding plain, and the most lofty peaks are over 7,500 feet above the sea. The valleys, deep and narrow, through which rush picturesque torrents, and the hillsides, are under cultivation; the native population is dense, and long before the coming of the white man they had flourishing and extensive shambas. Soon after the proclamation of the German protectorate a site in one of the south-western valleys was chosen as a Government post. Named Wilhemstal, in honor of the Kaiser, it has grown into a considerable town, with fine public and private buildings.

ARMY GROWS POTATOES.

British Soldiers Planting Between Camp Huts.

The army has started to grow its own potatoes. Instructions have been sent, or are being sent, from the War Office to every command, indicating the lines which should be followed, says a story from British army headquarters.

Military requirements are very large and little more than half the usual supplies of potatoes are coming into the markets, with the result that prewar prices to the public are nearly doubled.

At one camp in Surrey digging operations began last week, and the seed potatoes are to be planted in a few days in rows between the huts. A number of men are being told off each day for digging, and others are being asked to help in spare time. At a camp in Yorkshire potato growing began some weeks ago. It is understood that instructions will soon be issued for the growing of vegetables.

Ask for Minard's and take no other

GREAT BRITAIN'S PRIME CONDITION

JOHN BULL'S REMARKABLE FINANCIAL POSITION.

Lending to Russia, France, Italy and Serbia, and Supporting Belgium.

John Hart, political economist and director of "London Opinion" Corporation, who has just arrived in the United States, gives a lucid explanation of the financial conditions of Great Britain. He says:

"Notwithstanding the heavy expenditure of Great Britain since the outbreak of the war, and the heavy drafts upon the public, the debt of Great Britain to-day is only about one-half of what it was per capita at the end of the Napoleonic War. In 1816, just after the Battle of Waterloo, the public debt per capita was £43. That amount in proportion to the income of the country at that time, compared with the income of the present day, represented a debt of £120 per head. In August, 1914, the public debt was £14 per capita, and every one thousand millions of pound sterling issued since represents £20 per capita; so that the present day debt of Britain is not much more than 50% of the equivalent debt at the end of the Napoleonic War.

A Creditor Nation.

"It should be borne in mind that England is financing France, Italy, Russia and Serbia in the present war, and is carrying the entire charge of Belgium. The money so employed is loaned to these nations so that England is still largely a creditor nation. The financial condition of Great Britain at this advanced period of the war is most remarkable. The markets are all buoyant, the minimum restriction on sales of stocks is being removed, and as they reach a proper level as regards the value of money to-day (due to war conditions), there is a tremendous amount of money for investment. A large part of the money whereby England is financing herself and other nations is the proceeds of the sale of American securities, made by private holders to the British Government, which is being used as it is collected. Another large part is derived from the enormous amount of profit being made by manufacturers of war supplies. Then again, the restriction imposed by the Government on the investment of British capital outside of the country is responsible for a tremendous amount of money being kept at home which would otherwise find investment abroad.

Benefits of Advertising

"Strange as it may sound, an enormous portion of the money raised by the British Government has been due to advertising. For the first time in history the British Government has made use of the gratuitous service of some of the leading advertising men, which service has been immensely profitable to the Government. The British Treasury has used the same methods adopted by high-class mercantile houses to sell their goods and they have succeeded beyond expectation. A very large amount of the five-year Treasury bonds has been sold to the working classes. The lowest denomination of these bonds is £1, which is sold as advertised for 15s. 6d. for which amount the investor obtains the face value of the bond at maturity; or, in other words, he makes a profit of 4s. 6d., or a little over 29% in the five years, which represents nearly 6% annually.

"It is calculated that 70% of the war revenue is contributed by payers of income tax and other direct taxation, that is by persons whose income is above $800 per annum, and only 30% by those with smaller incomes. The entire taxation, direct and indirect, last year amounted to about £350,000,000.

"Of the £5,000,000 daily war expenditures of England about 40% is coming back to the country in wages and expenditures for war supplies; about 40% is money loaned to the Allies, the colonies, India, and other dependencies, so that of the total amount only about 20% is an actual charge against the Government."

Vigilant Fido.

The man getting his hair cut noticed that the barber's dog, which was lying on the floor beside the chair, had his eyes fixed on his master at work.

"Nice dog, that," said the customer.

"He is, sir."

"He seems very fond of watching you cut hair."

"It ain't that, sir," explained the barber. "You see, sometimes I make a mistake and snip off a little bit of a customer's ear."

Keep Minard's Liniment in the house

Different.

Redd—An automobile is so different from a horse.

Greene—Why, of course.

"You see, a horse goes faster when he's going home than when going away from home."

"Well, doesn't an automobile?"

"Oh, no; you see, an automobile often has to be towed home."

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FOR ALL KIDNEY DISEASES

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Lashing a Lazy Liver with pills may give temporary relief—but the pill habit is not a health habit. It will put the liver out of business in time—and then everything else goes out of business. Get the health habit by eating **Shredded Wheat Biscuit,** the ideal hot-weather food, which contains more digestible, brain-making, muscle-building material than beefsteak or eggs. The tasty, delicious crispness of the baked wheat gives palate joy and stomach comfort. It supplies the maximum of nutriment in smallest bulk, and its daily use keeps the bowels healthy and active. For breakfast with milk or cream, or for any meal with fresh fruits.

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ACROSS THE BORDER

WHAT IS GOING ON OVER IN THE STATES

Latest Happenings in Big Republic Condensed for Busy Readers.

All the shops at the State penitentiary, at Frankfort, Ky., were destroyed by fire.

Fifteen hunhdred Sioux Indians in South Dakota have offered to enlist for service in Mexico.

Thirty Chinese citizens of Tuscon, Ariz., have formed a company of home guards as a protection against Mexican raiders.

This year the United States will yield 125,000 divorces, the Rev. F. M. Moody, of Chicago, told President Wilson, at Washington.

Twelve Brooklyn physicians are to be prosecuted as a result of a recent crusade for alleged negligence in reporting births of children within ten days.

Chicago packing houses have closed contracts with the army quartermaster there for a monthly supply of 1,5000,000 pounds of meat for the army.

In his will as probated, John Black, a retired Baltimore financier, who died recently, gives more than $275,000 to religious and educational institutions.

Miss Rose Pitonof, of Dorchester, Mass., was married to Dr. Frederick Weene, a dentist of Somerville. She saved his life in Marblehead waters last fall.

Ties were found bound to the tracks of the New York Central main line at Lyons, N.Y., over which trains carrying the Massachusetts National Guard were to pass.

Reports were current that Frank A. Munsey, owner of the New York Press, and William C. Reick, owner of the Sun, are contemplating a merger of their properties.

Five million dollars was added to the fortifications bill as it passed the House at Washington, to be used for purchase and manufacture of mountain, field and seige cannon.

Private Clifford Green, Co. F., of Dover, Me., after being summoned to his company, walked 150 miles from Elm Stream through the woods before he could strike a railroad.

A protest against the promiscous removal of tonsils from children was voiced by Dr. Royal Copeland, of New York, in a paper read before the American Institute of Homoeopathy at Baltimore.

K. D. Taliaferro, aged 18, son of R. M. Taliaferro, general agent of the Norfolk and Western Railway at Ynchburg, Va., committed suicide when Miss Bertha Pfeister refused to elope with him.

GERMAN SOLDIERS HOMESICK.

Write Their Letters From the Front in Melancholy Tones.

The "Kolnische Zeitung" remarks that it has been generally observed that numerous letters from German soldiers at the front are couched in melancholic tones, giving to friends and relatives the impression that the writer is sad, and filling the hearts of those at home with uneasiness.

And yet, after exact investigation, says the "Kolnische," it has been proved that the writers of these letters are in excellent spirits. What, then, is the explanation? The writers are simply afflicted with homesickness. They are thinking of their homes. They do not wish to make those at home sad or cheerless, but so long as they have a pen in their hands they see their home life swim before their eyes, and hear the children's talk, they see the friendly faces of wives, parents, friends, they see the sunshine round their homes, and a longing for the old life and peace comes over them. It is this that casts a shadow over their surroundings, and this shadow finds its expression in their letters.

As a matter of fact, says the "Kolnische," they do not know what they have written. After they have written and sealed their letters they forget all about them, and they wonder when they hear from home, why their friends are all so anxious about them. That is the explanation. It is only home-sickness.

On the Safe Side.

Jones and his wife were seated at the dining room table perusing the evening papers when the doorbell rang. Jones arose to answer it, when his wife said:

"Let me hide those umbrellas before you let them in."

"Why, do you think somebody will steal them?" asked Jones.

"No," replied his wife. "Some one might recognize them."

GERMAN PEOPLE ARE SHORT OF FOOD

LETTER PUBLISHED IN SOCIALIST NEWSPAPER.

Four Women Went to Jail Because They Endeavored to Get Potatoes.

Four women, says, Vorwarts, the leading German Socialist organ, the wives of soldiers at the front, were present with a multitude of other women in the large market hall in Dresden, where they were looking for potatoes, the sale of which had been advertised. There was a bad shortage of potatoes all that week. All four women declared that they had no potatoes for a long time. One of them had six children.

In the crowd there was frightful crushing and excitement. The inspector, provoked by one of the four women, gave her a box on the ear. After hours of waiting without being able to obtain any potatoes, about 80 women set off for the Rathaus, the four at their head. On the street they were stopped by gendarmes and ordered to disperse. The four declined, and were arrested. One of them had her arms so twisted back by a gendarme as to cause her great pain. The four were accused of having resisted lawful authority. They were convicted of this offence, and of liberating other women from the clutches of the police, and sentenced to seven weeks' imprisonment. The court remarked that the punishment was a very lenient one for so grave an offence.

A Meal Soup Breakfast.

The War Committee for Coffee and Tea lately suggested that as these commodities were very dear and scarce it might be well if Germans resorted to the old fashion of a meal soup breakfast with a little fat in it. Vorwarts now publishes a letter in which the writer points out asparagus and butter also make a very admirable breakfast, but the difficulty about them is that they are unobtainable, nearly as unobtainable as "meal and fat." The writer proceeds:

"As cards for ink have not yet been issued, I suppose I may write. I like meal soup, but where am I to get the meal for my family of four persons? It is a problem, and if the potatoes did not help me out I could no longer say 'Prost Mahlzeit.' As to meat. Since October 15—I don't wish to go back further—there has only been ¼ pound of bacon in my house. This year, after searching seven hours for it, my wife managed to secure two pounds of 'back fat.' We kept one pound for ourselves; the other we sent to our son, who is a soldier.

"As far as I am concerned, I do not know whether I shall require anti-fat treatment this year. My wife will certainly not require it, as she is 20 pounds lighter. But there are peas and beans. This year I managed to store up one pound of beans and two pounds of rice. Unfortunately all three pounds are gone, and with them the only piece of good butter we had. By right we ought to have one pound of butter a week for the four of us, but we don't get an ounce. It is all very well writing to Vorwarts about a nice bit of butter. All I can cook with my meal is the butter card. I wonder how it tastes. Do you remember the time when there were sausages?"

Simply Ferocious.

"Yes," said the cynical old sea captain, "when I was shipwrecked in South America I came across a tribe of wild women who had no tongues."

"Good gracious!" exclaimed a listener. "How could they talk?"

"They couldn't," was the reply. "That was what made them wild."

I fell from a building and received what the doctor called a very bad sprained ankle, and told me I must not walk on it for three weeks. I got MINARD'S LINIMENT and in six days I was out to work again. I think it the best Liniment made.

ARCHIE E. LAUNDRY, Edmonton.

Surprised.

"Is that fellow a member of this church?"

"Yes."

"Does he come regularly?"

"Yes, every Sunday."

"That's a surprise to me. I've had several business deals with him and I'd never suspected that he was ever inside a church."

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Minard's Liniment Used by Physicians.

Taking a Chance.

Lawyer—What evidence have you that he promised to marry you?

Girl—What evidence? Why, my face, my form, and my sweet disposition!

Lawyer—Well, I'll do my best to get a near-sighted bachelor jury.

Marriage may be a lottery, but nine times out of ten if a man picks a loser it is his own fault.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

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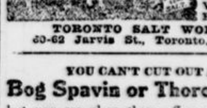

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Mrs. X.—"Bothered with time-wasting callers, are you? Why don't you try my plan?"

Mrs. Y.—"What is your plan?"

Mrs. X.—"Why, when the bell rings I put on my hat and gloves before I press the button. If it proves to be someone I don't want to see, I simply say: 'So sorry, but I'm just going out.'"

Mrs. Y.—"But suppose it's someone you want to see?"

Mrs. X.—"Oh, then I say: 'So fortunate, I've just come in.'"

Minard's Liniment Lumberman's Friend

The trouble is that by the time a girl is old enough to help mother wash the dishes she is also old enough to know that sort of work makes her hands red.

Machinery For Sale

Wheelock Engine, 150 H.P., 18 x 42, with double main driving belt 24 ins. wide, and Dynamo 30 K.W. belt driven. All in first class condition. Would be sold together or separately; also a lot of shafting at a very great bargain as room is required immediately.

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