

THE BRITISH WHIG 85TH YEAR.



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The only paradise in the world is in honest, hard and useful work.

How can the Russians be starving when they have a provisional government?

Will General Winter lead us out of these deep snow trenches before July 1st?

Germany has accomplished another of her important war designs; she has eliminated Russia from the war.

The United States claims to have perfected an unsinkable ship. Maybe it's true, but sinkable submarines would fill a long-felt want just now.

Canada's net debt is now almost a billion dollars and still rapidly increasing. Paying the interest alone will soon become a problem.

Hamilton is securing options on timber lands near the city, in case of a fuel shortage next winter. What precaution is our council taking?

The Bolsheviks drop out of the war against the Germans without signing a treaty of peace. They evidently remember what a scrap of paper means.

The United States Post Office Department has called for tenders on five aeroplanes to establish an air mail service between Washington, Philadelphia and New York. This is the age of the airship.

The average citizen cannot understand why any pool or billiard room or dance hall should remain open during the war. Let Monday's closure be extended to cover the whole week.

Baron Beaverbrook has now a seat in the British Cabinet. His career has been an amazing one; a parallel to it would be difficult to find. Thirty-nine years ago he was born in a poor Canadian manse.

"We shall be worse than craven," declares Sir Walter Long, Secretary of State for the Colonies, "if we falter in the path of duty or fail to show to-day, in the fourth year of war, that the silken thread binds the British Empire more closely than in the earlier days of its existence, and if we fail to prove to the common enemy of liberty and of everything that we care for most that the British Empire is not ever to lay down the sword until those eternal principles are placed upon a foundation which shall endure forever."

The importance of the St. Lawrence canal, so close at hand, is apt to be obscured or entirely overlooked. It is interesting, therefore, to note that over 70,000 tons of grain and miscellaneous cargo were carried by all vessels going through the Lachine canal during the 1917 season above what they carried in 1916. In 1917 there were 738 more passengers, 22 more vessels, 265,411 more tons of coal, 8,309 more cords of pulpwood bound up to Canadian ports, 24,693 more tons of pulp, and 85,800 more sacks of flour. On the other hand, in grain alone, 1917 shows the total for grain cargoes to be 5,818,100 bushels under 1916.

SCANDAL AT THE CAPITAL

The Civil Service Department at Ottawa has been in the limelight for some time past as the result of the talk of scandal-mongers. A prominent official, it was whispered, had done unpardonable things, and it was also openly declared by the Civil Service organ, the Civilian, that there were loose characters among the war workers who rubbed shoulders with the daughters from clean homes and that contamination was not unlikely in the natural course of events. It seems that Ottawa, which at regular intervals has some scandal, recently had another good-sized one, and according to the Journal, more than one reputation in the Capital was cruelly and unjustifiably smirched as a result of a "nine days' jag of tittle-tattle."

THE BALKAN FRONT

During the past year many fire-side critics have advocated the withdrawal of the Allied forces from the Balkans. They claim that this force is being kept there in idleness when it might be used to great advantage in other theatres of war. But to have withdrawn the Allied armies would have been a disaster of the greatest magnitude, especially now that Greece is lined up actively on the side of the Allies. The Allies owe it to Serbia, Montenegro, Greece and Roumania, to maintain there an army of sufficient strength to be able to meet any attack, and to take the offensive at the first opportunity. No withdrawal is possible without the loss of a large amount of prestige, and without a military disaster.

The Central Powers frankly admit that one of their greatest aims is to have a clear route from Berlin to Bagdad and Constantinople. To accomplish this Serbia must remain in their hands, and the Allies are pledged to liberate this unfortunate little country. The Eastern push of Germany must be checked in the Balkans if the British Asiatic possessions are to be saved. Therefore the situation in the Balkans is one which is of the greatest importance.

In this theatre the bulk of the opposing troops are Bulgarians, aided by a certain number of Austrians, a few Germans and a sprinkling of Turks. These troops, although not of the fighting calibre of the Germans on the Western front, are still capable of putting up a stubborn fight. Since the advance through Serbia was halted, and the city of Monastir was recaptured by a counter-offensive there has been little or no hard fighting on this front. Both sides have had ample time to complete substantial defence systems, equalling the German defences which existed on the French front prior to the battle of the Somme. There has been what seemed like a deadlock, but what has really been a time of feverish preparation for active hostilities. And the time for action is almost ripe. The coming spring and summer should see great activity all along the Balkan front. And in this activity are well-founded hopes for an Allied victory.

Although this theatre of war is so far removed from the real bases, which are Britain and France, and in spite of the tremendous difficulties of transportation, the Allies have at last secured a big superiority in men and materials. This is partly due to the large army of Greeks which are now in the field. There is now available a fresh Greek army of 400,000 soldiers, ready to take part in any action on this part of the far-flung battle-line. In addition there is a strong, splendidly-equipped force of Serbians, and an army of French and British soldiers which bring the total Allied forces in the Balkans up to 1,200,000 men. Thus what was at first a small expeditionary force designed to give more moral than material support to the Serbian, has developed into a huge fighting force. Against it is an army of German, Austrian, Bulgarian and Turkish troops about 800,000 strong. They are well-equipped and well-supported by strong lines of communication. But they lack the splendid morale of the Allies. They have been deserting in large numbers and are openly dissatisfied with their lot. And in warfare morale is one of the most potent factors of defence. And it is practically certain that they will be on the defensive during the coming spring and summer. The Allies now have the power, and it is quite reasonable to expect that they will take the initiative and commence the backward push which will clear the Balkans of the enemy.

The time is almost ripe for a strong Allied offensive. With so great a preponderance over the enemy, this offensive is sure to be successful. On the Macedonian and Monastir fronts are the points of vital importance, and the points which may be chosen

PROPERTY OF EX-CZAR CAUSES BIG SCRAMBLE

Appraisers in Brooklyn Are Busy on \$200,000,000 Worth of Munitions.

New York, Feb. 14.—If Nicholas Romanoff, formerly Czar of Russia, could spend a busy couple of years defending legal actions in and around New York, which no doubt he would be glad to do. Over in Brooklyn yesterday Sheriff's appraisers were busy making an inventory of the \$200,000,000 worth of munitions bought and paid for by the defunct pre-revolutionary Russian Government and at present stored on the huge fourteen-acre pier at the foot of Forty-third street, Bush Docks.

PUBLIC OPINION

As Germany Well Knows. (Milwaukee Journal) The brother of the German Emperor thinks President Wilson is a "Pharisee." Anyhow, the President is quite a scribe.

Of Ancient Memory. (Rochester Union) Dr. Wiley's assurance that neither mince pie nor plum pudding will injure a healthy person makes pleasant reading, but what are mince pie and plum pudding?

Did His Joy Bit. (Washington Star) "Have you made anybody happy to-day?" "Yes," replied Mr. Gropper. "I gave the neighbors a good laugh when I fell on the ice this morning."

Lincoln and the Press. (Rochester Herald) Without intent to wound the feelings of clamorous gentlemen, we may say in passing that Abraham Lincoln did not appoint Edwin M. Stanton to be secretary of war with the advice and consent of the Republican editors of his day.

A PEACE DEBATE.

German Chancellor To Make Statement to the Reichstag. (Canadian Press Despatch) London, Feb. 14.—An important peace debate will begin in the German Reichstag on Feb. 21st, according to a wireless despatch from Amsterdam. Chancellor von Hertling will discuss the treaty with the Ukraine and will reply to President Wilson, Premier Lloyd George and Premier Orlando.

More Wheat in Britain. London, Feb. 14.—The total stocks of wheat in Great Britain at the end of December last exceeded those at the end of December, 1916, by a million quarters, or 8,400,000 bushels, Andrew Bonar Law, the Chancellor at the Exchequer, told the House of Commons yesterday.

United States Fuel Administrator Garfield has suspended the Monday closing order.

Rippling Rhymes

ROADS TO RICHES

They send me bunk by every mail, the men with gorgeous schemes; they tell me if I'll send them 'kale they'll make me wealthy without fail, beyond my wildest dreams. Oh, every day I get a raft of circulars and such, explaining how Dame Fortune laughed on gents who tried the senders' graft, and they grew wealthy rich. They say I labor, in my lair, the cheerful writers ask, when I'd only buy a share in oil well, mine, or other snare, in opulence I'd bask. Why do I sprain my back to make a pittance dire to see? If I'd invest in some one's fake I soon would have so big a stake I'd grin at old John D. If I'd invest in orange groves, or buy some gilt-edged stocks in mills for making wooden shoes, back-acting churns, revolving axes, I'd soon have lots of rocks. And yet I am content to toil the old-time honored way; to burn at times the midnight oil, that I may make the kettle boil, and buy the children hay. I've known a lot of down-and-outs, who tried out pipe dreams, and tried to get rich quick. Why should I long for wealth to burn? Methinks it is a crime for unearned increment to yearn; so I am satisfied to earn one ruble at a time.

—WALT MASON.

THINGS THAT NEVER HAPPEN



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Bibbys LINEN COLLARS 4 for 25c. First Showing of New Spring Suits. NEW BELTERS — TRENCH STYLE. BEAUTIES FOR \$20.00. SIZES 34 TO 42. Try Bibbys FOR MEN'S UNDERWEAR AND HOSIERY BOYS' SUIT SALE IS ON. MEN'S RUBBERS, 69c.

CLIFFS TOWER OVER GRAVES

OF THE AMERICAN SOLDIERS FROM THE TUSCANA.

Dramatic Burial On Scottish Beach—Mourners 300 Feet Above—Village Women Worked All Night To Make American Flag.

A Scotch Seaport, Monday, Feb. 13.—A correspondent of the Associated Press, who reached here this morning with two American officers after a perilous voyage from Ireland, is able to give the first account of the last movements of many of the American victims who perished as a result of the Tuscania disaster, and of pathetic incidents attending their burial on this bleak and rocky shore of this barren coast.

To-day's burial was at the water's edge, at the base of rocky cliffs, and was picturesque in the extreme. All the tiny villages for miles around were in mourning for the American, and farm and fisherfolk came great distances to attend the ceremonies. Twenty-five American survivors of the disaster, who had been left behind for the purpose, assisted the natives in digging the graves into which the khaki-clad troops tenderly placed their dead comrades. Looking down from the top of the cliffs, three hundred feet above, stood the mourners, headed by a British colonel and an American private, carrying an "old glory" made for the occasion by a group of Scotch women, who, on learning that the Americans had no large flag, obtained a small silk handkerchief edition of the flag from a sergeant and remained up all night copying it on a larger scale.

Two clergymen came many miles and read the Scotch and Episcopal services, after which volunteers fired three volleys, which were echoed again at the hillside. While this was going on, the only photographer within twenty miles photographed the mourners.

The ceremony was much the same as was carried out at the same spot on the previous day, when 34 Americans were laid to rest in two other graves. So badly mutilated were many of the bodies that two American army officers, who were sent here from London expressly for the purpose, found it impossible to take fingerprints for identification purposes.

Wooden crosses with distinguishing numbers have been placed on each grave, all of which are enclosed by temporary fences.

The bodies of the Americans have come ashore thus far at eight widely-separated points along the coast.

THE GERMAN AGENTS SHOW MUCH IGNORANCE

Are Still Convinced That United States Will Not Fight in Earnest.

New York, Feb. 13.—Ignorance displayed by German agents in Switzerland concerning the war preparations of the United States was described in an address here to-day by Dr. Hugh Birchhead, pastor of Emmanuel church, Baltimore, who had travelled extensively in Europe as a representative of the American Red Cross. Dr. Birchhead said the German agents appeared glad to talk to an American. They told him that "the United States has been terribly deceived by England and France," and that the present policy of Germany is "not to annoy America, as she is not in earnest."

Just One Application and the Hairs Vanish

(Modes of Today)

A harmless, yet very effective, treatment is here given for the quick removal of hairy growths: Mix enough powdered delatone and water to cover the undesirable hairs, apply paste and after 2 or 3 minutes remove, wash the skin and the hairs have vanished. One application usually is sufficient, but to be certain of results, buy the delatone in an original package.

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Cooked Meats of All Kinds, Baked Meat Loaf with Cheese, Pork Sausages, Cooked Shoulders, Headcheese, Emuzy, Frankfurts, Jellied Tongue, Cooked Ham, Ham Bologna, Jellied Hock.

Fresh assortment always on hand. Alex Potter. Phone 752. 12 Niagara St.

BREAD PRICE GOES UP.

Bakers in Winnipeg Get Smaller Returns With Standard Flour.

Winnipeg, Feb. 14.—Bakers here announce that an advance in prices will be necessary under the new regulations given out at Ottawa. They claim they cannot make within three loaves as much bread out of a standardized barrel of flour as they could out of white flour. Prices now are thirteen twenty-ounce loaves for a dollar.

WATCH YOUR FURNACE. ECONOMIZE IN COAL DO NOT WASTE

Foot of Queen St. Phone 9.

CRAWFORD

Foot of Queen St. Phone 9.

DO YOU SUFFER FROM BACKACHE?

When your kidneys are weak and torpid they do not properly perform their functions; your back aches and you do not feel like doing much of anything. You are likely to be despondent and to borrow trouble, just as if you had's enough ready. Don't be a victim any longer.

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