

# Uncle Sam Pays His Debts

By H. F. Gadsby

ARTICLE NO. VIII.

The Americans at the front, more modest than their newspapers at home realize that it was their great privilege to lend weight to the solar plexus blow, but not to deliver it. The adversary who knocked the Hun out was the same old adversary who had fought him four rounds and left him groggy—the Entente—that is to say, England, France and Italy.

This fact, which does not lessen the high courage and the resolute intention of the United States one iota, is nicely discriminated in the diplomatic language which speaks of the "Allied powers and the United States." Inferred to as an "Associated Power." These distinctions spell difference which should not be overlooked when the future historian apportion merit to the various sharers in the war.

What the United States did in this war was to open such a boundless reservoir of man-power that Marshal Foch could go forward with confidence incurring wastages which would have not been possible if these eager, chafing American millions had not been in the background. To get back to my metaphor, the presence of the American armies at the front lent steam to the solar plexus blow which Marshal Foch delivered. It not only lent steam to the blow which was delivered but it threatened more steam for any other blow that might be necessary.

It was a matter of regret with every American soldier I talked to that his country did not get into the war sooner so that he himself could have got into it deeper. What the American soldier wanted above all things was a fight—to beat up Germany—to inflict on Hunland at least the same measure of havoc France and Belgium have suffered—to march to Berlin—to overthrow the Kaiser—to mete out justice to the practices of frightfulness,—to choke to death the Kultur that murders churches, universities, women and children with equal gusto. The American soldier came over tuned to that pitch and it must be a bitter disappointment to him that the quick march of events took the task out of his hands before his hands had reached the throat they were itching for.

The United States' zest for this war of freedom and humanity must be measured not by the casualties which were a little over a hundred thousand but by the avenging spirit of its great army which was infinite. This spirit or righteous anger was quite as keen in the United States army which—much to its disgust—fought only a little while on one front, as it was in the British army which fought four years on fifteen fronts and incurred three million casualties.

If the United States is robbed of a fight it still reaps a great satisfaction. The war has made it a citizen of the world—a big brother in the working fraternity of free nations—an intelligent and sympathetic member of that Anglo-Saxon Confederation which was Cecil Rhodes' dream. I am convinced that this rapprochement of the English speaking race is a far more real and substantial thing than the League of Nations which is still in the air. The United States has discovered that its English blood is thicker than the pro-Germany which was the cover of its politics until the war showed who were the friends of democracy and who not. The old family quarrel has been very largely healed. The United States school history will no longer twist the fact of defeating thirty thousand Hessians set on by a German King called George the Third—an imported Kaiser with the divin right bug in his head—into a victory over such English champions of American liberty as Pitt, Burke and Fox. The Englishman is a free man the world over. Whatever he calls himself—English, or American, or Canadian—liberty is the altar taper that burns in his heart. The Bible and Shakespeare and his mother tongue and democracy is the ark of his covenant. It will be of great assistance to our future relations with the United States that two million Americans have gone over seas to learn for the first time at close quarters that King George the Fifth, the hereditary ruler of a genuine republic has not one of the powers of a monarch. If he chooses to exercise the veto, King George could reign for fifty years and never be an autocrat for a minute while any President of the United States can reign four years and be so disposed. This amazing fact, which hits two million Americans right between the eyes, banishes their last misunderstanding about England. Yes, indeed, the Mother of Parliaments—the United States Parliament included—is no pretender to freedom. Her democracy is a deep-seated religion and constitutional monarchy is merely its ritual.

As a matter of fact this debt to Lafayette was very much of an illusion. The French Revolution did not occur until twenty years after the American Revolution and any tips Monsieur Lafayette, the Girondin, got on freedom, he got from the United States, who as I said before, got them from Oliver Cromwell and his associates—that is to say, from England. The debt, to use a mixed metaphor, is on the other foot. It was France that should have paid the debt to George Washington—by fighting for instance, on the northern side in the Civil War—and not the United States that should have paid the debt to Lafayette. Not that the debt to Lafayette wasn't worth paying! But there was another creditor, nearer akin, who had stronger claims. Now that the war has opened the minds of ten million Americans overseas and countless Americans at home to these forgotten facts, the debt to Lafayette sensibly dwindles and the

debt to Oliver Cromwell bulks larger, as it should. The debt to Lafayette had the good fortune to retain its identity while the debt to Oliver Cromwell had the bad luck to disappear in the hodge-podge of European hatreds that went into Uncle Sam's melting pot. From that melting pot somehow or other has emerged the old Anglo-Saxon spirit of freedom,—quite a different thing from the devil's stew the Kaiser would have cooked with his doctrine of dual allegiance. Briefly, the debt to Oliver Cromwell was an honest debt. It had to be paid some time and what difference does it make if Lafayette's name was on the back of the note? A good debt is like a good man—you can't keep it down.

I won't say that two million Americans overseas love the Englishmen any better, but I will say that they understand him better. They don't like his crust of ceremony—which is merely his armor against his best emotions—but they have not far enough to find a warm heart and a true friend.

When Uncle Sam's boys come marching home they will bring back an interesting story about that debt to Lafayette. They are, as you might say, fed up with it. They would have remembered it with more pleasure if the French had forgotten it sooner. For the French are thrifty people and when two million Americans come over to pay an old debt they believe in collecting it in full with compound interest—dating from the time that Lafayette first shook hands with Washington. The French peasant, the French tradesman, the French innkeeper—these must all be close readers of history. At any rate, they all seem to have been well informed in regard to that little outstanding account with Lafayette. Any American soldier will vouch that he paid it again and again. He couldn't buy an egg or a cigarette or a bottle of vin blanc without sensing the fact that Lafayette was getting his back good and plenty.

Moreover, the United States Congress, in an access of gratitude to Lafayette, passed a law to the effect that any damage necessarily committed by the American troops on French soil, should be recouped at the French valuation. The United States was the only nation that allowed quittance to go that far. All the other Allies knew what their valentors the French were and kept the little matter of property damage and ground rent for the trenches in their own hands. They have had no reason to regret their caution as may be supposed when I tell you that a French peasant who suffers fifteen dollars worth of damage to a fifty dollar cart will invariably put in a claim for three hundred dollars. This is why I divide Germany's debt of sixty-eight billion dollars to France—as assessed by La Belle France herself—by six, knowing as I do the German tendency to put a brown stone price on a wattle cottage. When Uncle Sam looks over the French bill of damages his boys have piled up, he will wonder why he left the debt to Lafayette lie around loose that way. He will wonder too, which debt he likes better—the debt to Lafayette which all his fellow countrymen have collected, or the debt to Oliver Cromwell which nobody tried to collect at all.



MAJOR WILLIAM BROWN MACKIE, Son of Rev. Dr. Mackie, formerly pastor of St. Andrew's Church, who was wounded two days prior to signing of armistice.

the Pilgrim Fathers and with them all the free institutions of the mother country. It was a safe bet that the Englishman who had already beheaded a king for democracy's sake would bring no heresy of despotism to their new home. This was created a debt to Oliver Cromwell, shall we say, which was in as much need of pardon as that of Lafayette who was pardoned the impoliteness—a democrat by force of circumstances and not a militant republican like the great Protector.

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Must Stand Together. John Galsworthy in the October Yale Review. If we English-speaking races quarrel and become disunited, civilization will split up again and go its way to ruin. We are the ballast of the new order. I don't believe in formal alliances, or in grouping nations to exclude and keep down other nations. Friendships between countries should have the only true reality of common sentiment, and be animated by desire for the general welfare of mankind. We need no formal bonds, but we have a sacred charge in common, to let no petty matters, differences of manner, divergences of material interest, destroy our spiritual agreement. Under the pressure of this war there is, beneath the hyacinths we pay to democracy, a distrust, a loss of faith in it, because of its undoubted weakness and inconvenience in a struggle with states autocratically governed. There is even a sort of secret reaction to democracy. On those lines there is no way out of a future of bitter rivalries, chicanery, and wars, and the probable total failure of our civilization. The only cure, which I can see, lies in democratizing the whole world and removing the present weaknesses and shams of democracy by education of the individual conscience in every country. Goodbye to that chance if Americans and Britons fall foul of each other, refuse to pool their thoughts and hopes, and to keep the general welfare of mankind in view. The have fare to stand together, not in aggressive and jealous policies, but in defense and championship of the self-helpful, self-governing, "live and let live" philosophy of life.

Couldn't Use That One. The young housewife, looking very pretty and womanlike in a big green overall, was cleaning out the pantry cupboard. "Dickie," she called to her young husband, who was smoking in the spic and span little drawing room. "I want you to bring me a mouse-trap home to-morrow." "But, angel," cried the young man,

"I brought you one home only yesterday." "I know, pet," called back the young bride; "but that one has a mouse in it." The bottom of a new coal hod is perforated to serve as an ash sifter, the fine ashes passing through into a pan which can be fastened beneath the hod.



## "That is a most disagreeable East wind. I nearly always catch cold in this kind of weather"

"WELL, I seldom have a cold, and you know that I go out, no matter what the weather is like."

"How do you account for that?"

"For one thing I always try to dress to suit the season, and then I am careful to keep my general health in good condition."

"As far as that goes, I am never very sick, but I do catch cold easily. I have always been inclined to be anaemic. The doctor says the blood is thin and I lack the reserve force necessary to ward off disease."

"That used to be my trouble, but a friend told me about using Dr. Chase's Nerve Food to build up the blood and make it pure and rich, and I followed her advice."

"How did that help you?"

"Well, as I understand it, the germs of disease cannot make much headway when the blood is rich and red. If they do get into the system the red corpuscles in the blood overcomes them and good health is maintained."

"There may be something in that."

"My experience proves it, for I used to be easy prey for every cold or contagious disease that was about."

"Well, what causes pneumonia?"

"Pneumonia, the doctors say, is usually the result of catching cold when you are tired and the system in an exhausted condition. That should be a warning to

everybody to keep their vitality up to high-water mark."

"I never just thought of it that way before, but I guess you have studied this thing out about right. What did you say you used?"

"Dr. Chase's Nerve Food. When I first used it I was pale and weak and much run-down in health. My head ached frequently, and I had spells of indigestion. It took about fifteen boxes of the Nerve Food to get my system in good healthy condition, but it changed my whole life, for I have been so healthy ever since."

"How long ago was that?"

"Why, it must be ten years."

"And have you never used any since?"

"Yes, I have used a few boxes at odd times. Sometimes in the spring I don't feel any too brisk and find the benefit of using some Nerve Food, but I think nearly everybody is the better for a little restorative treatment then."

"Well, I must say you make out a good case for Dr. Chase's Nerve Food. There are so many of the same opinion I believe I will go in for the 'red blood idea' and see if I cannot prevent colds and steer clear of the grippe and pneumonia."

You can obtain Dr. Chase's Nerve Food from all dealers, or Edmanson, Bates & Co., Ltd., Toronto, at 50 cents a box, 6 for \$2.75. You are protected from imitations by the portrait and signature of A. W. Chase, M.D., which are on every box.



On Monday, December 2nd, 1918, will be offered the First Issue of Canadian Government

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"War-Savings Stamps will provide financial assistance to the Government; an excellent investment for small savings; and a strong incentive to every-day economy."

Sir THOMAS WHITE, Minister of Finance.

Order-in-Council P.C. No. 2462 authorizes the issue of War-Savings Stamps for the purpose of assisting in the financing of Government expenditures. The Stamps may be obtained at all Money Order Post Offices, Banks, and at other authorized agencies, and are interest bearing.

## Issue of 1919—Payable January 1st, 1924

The first issue will be offered from December, 1918, to December 31st, 1919, and each War-Savings Stamp of this issue constitutes the Government's promise to pay the sum of Five Dollars on January First, 1924.

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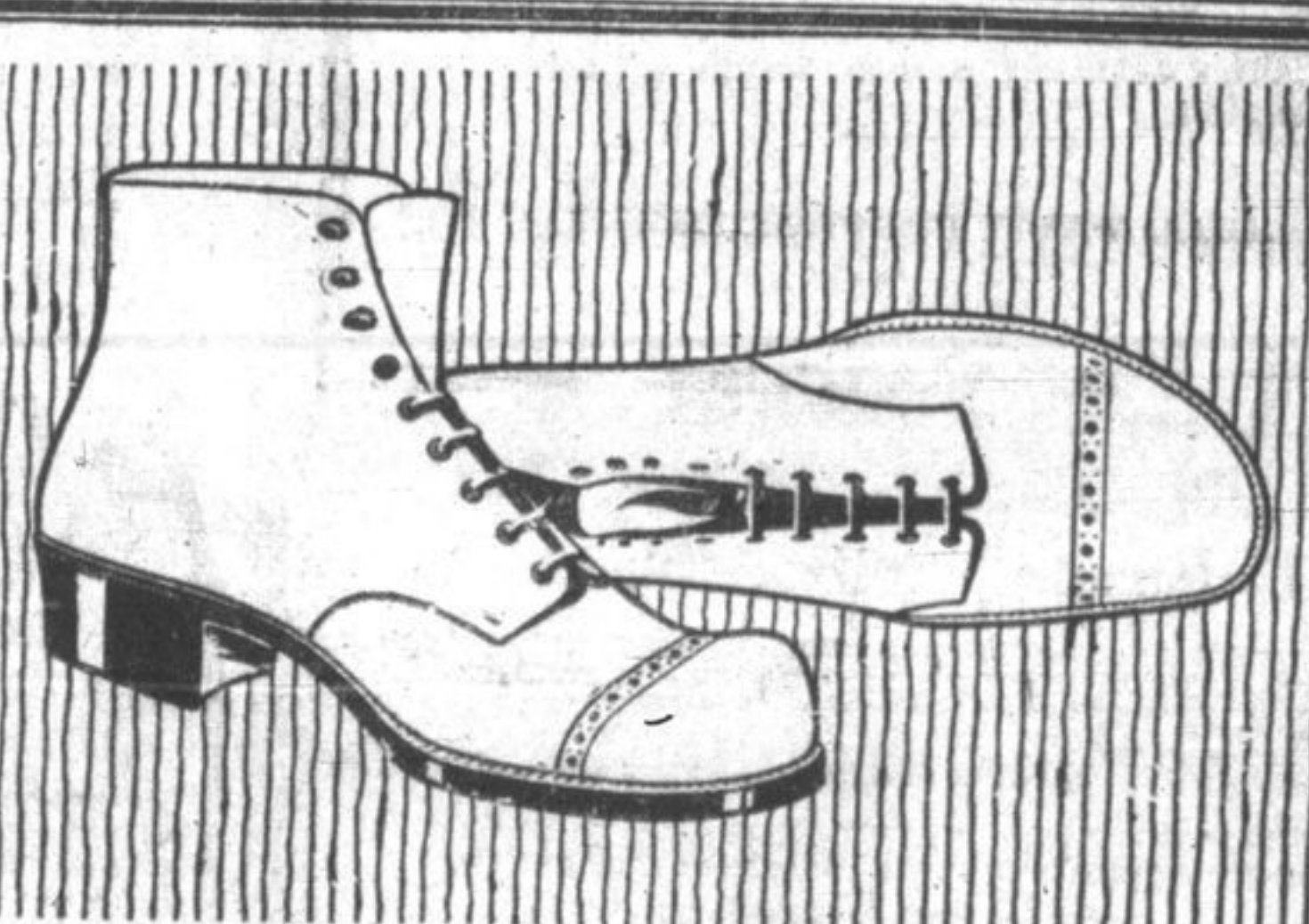
When a person buys his first War-Savings Stamp, a certificate is issued, without charge, providing space for ten such stamps. If circumstances compel him to realize on his investment, the certificate will be found the cash surrender value of the stamps at various dates before the end of the full term.

### Registration Against Loss

A certificate with one or more W.S.S. thereon will be registered for you without charge by the Post Master at any Money Order Post Office. This protects the owner in case such certificate is lost, stolen or destroyed. By applying at the Post Office where your certificate was registered, you can have your money refunded.

In order to make it easier to acquire War-Savings Stamps, THRIFT STAMPS are issued at 25 cents each. These do not bear interest, but 16 of them affixed to a Thrift Card will be exchanged for a W.-S.S.

Issued under Authorization of National War-Savings Committee. Sir HERBERT AMES, Chairman.



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