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NEWS LETTER

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GERMAN PEACE TREACHERY

TRENCH LINE PEACE

Our soldiers abroad do not take kindly to any peace but that which is born of German defeat, for we find a recent issue of *The Stars and Stripes*, the official publication of the American armies in France, saying:

American doughboys charge a German machine gun nest across an open field.

Some fall, but the others press forward. They come to their objective at the point of the bayonet, only to find the beaten Hun, with uplifted hands, crying 'Kamerad.' But with a gun or a knife concealed, ready to violate his plea of surrender.

This is the true Hun spirit, the spirit of the kaiser and his court. With the power of the offensive passing from him, he is now merely waiting for another chance to lift his hands with the cry of 'Kamerad!' or 'Peace.'

Peace—with part of the loot still in his possession! Peace—with only a thought of German gain or German victory through craft or deceit! Peace with the hidden knife ready for its sudden and treacherous thrust!

Peace! In the A. E. F. there will be no thought of peace, no whisper of peace, no dream of peace until the Hun is beaten to the dust.

The fighting lines sweeping their way forward through machine gun fire are not talking peace.

The fighting lines and the workers through the S. O. S. are not thinking of peace. Their single thought and dream is victory. They see ahead, through the battle smoke, only a savage enemy to humanity whipped until he is ready to quit and take up his share of the work for civilization.

Let the weak-hearted who are dreaming of a compromise—

Let the pacifists, who are talking of 'peace by agreement'—

Let the side-liners who have 'had enough of war'—

Let the secretly inclined pro-Germans, who think 'this great tragedy should end without a decision'—

Let them one and all know once and for all that for the A. E. F. there is no such word as peace with the Hun unbeaten. The man who talks of peace today, except through victory, is a traitor. He is only fit to face the firing squad.—Exchange.

UNTIMELY PEACE TALK

The more soundly Germany is beaten in France by the great Allied offensive the louder will be the cry for peace which we may expect to hear from the Fatherland, says the Philadelphia Record. If Marshal Foch succeeds in pushing the Huns back, first to the old von Hindenburg line and then over the border and toward the Rhine, the Teutonic clamor for a cessation of strife may be expected to become almost deafening. The speech of Dr. Solf, the Colonial Secretary, is apparently a feeler in this direction. It reflects the apprehensions aroused by the brilliant British and French successes. If these continue, old count von Hertling, the Imperial Chancellor, may be expected to come to the front and wave a peace program. Possibly even the Kaiser may be guilty of a few sobs and remind the world how persistently he struggled for peace throughout his reign and how eager he is now to see its blessings restored to distracted Europe.

It is reassuring to note that there is practically unanimous sentiment among the Allies against paying any attention to such hypocritical protestations. Germany is now on the run, and she can be decisively defeated if she does not make an unconditional surrender. The rapidly growing American army in France makes victory impossible for her. Foch now has nearly 1,500,000 fresh and eager soldiers from this side of the Atlantic, and if he throws them against the weakened German line he can break through almost at will. This is one of the interesting possibilities of the near future.

Not only must Germany be beaten to her knees, but Austria, Bulgaria and Turkey must be stripped of any advantages they have gained and be made to do penance for their many sins. Belgium, France, Russia, Poland, Roumania, Servia and Greece must all be restored in their entirety, with compensation for the wrongs they have suffered. Then there will be a chance for lasting peace. So long as von Hindenburg and the Kaiser continue to talk of a "strong German peace," the war must be kept up until the idea is knocked into their heads that their cause is lost and that they must accept such terms as the Allies are pleased to make. These will be very different from those vaguely outlined in the past by von Hertling, von Bethmann-Hollweg and other Teutonic spokesmen.—Exchange.

ROUGH ELECTRIC SHOCK

We suffered a shocking experience the other day in the company streets of the quarantine unit in Camp Hancock, while visiting with 346 raw recruits newly arrived from North Carolina.

They were bright-faced, brawny chaps who will fill the Kaiser's eye when they go over the top in France and tramp the streets of Berlin after a while. But just then they were feverish, miserable and restless from the effect of typhoid and smallpox vaccines, and they were sick and homesick beyond words.

We spent the day fetching stamps and stationery from the Y. M. C. A. hut and the knickknacks they craved from the canteen, and sitting about on their cots trying to cheer them up somewhat.

During which—and this is the point we are making—we discovered just three of these Tarheel boys who knew about the University of North Carolina, what it is doing or trying to do, and where it is on the map. Doubtless there were more than this, but we did not find them after diligent search in delicate ways during two days.

And twenty-six per cent, or more than one in every four of them, were illiterate; not ignorant and stupid but illiterate. They were souls condemned all their lives till now to live in the midwest world of the home communities. They were quietly courageous with the courage of clean manhood, but they were bewildered and haunted by nameless fears in the new world into which they had been suddenly plunged. They were the lost, forgotten children of the state whom Walter Page tells about in a little book of his that long ago ought to have become a creative classic in North Carolina.

College Frontiers

All of which means that the University of North Carolina, for all her noble dreams and endeavors, has yet a long way to go before her mission is fully wrought out.

Roughly, 55 per cent of her students come year by year from 52 counties and around 12 per cent from 30 counties, while 18 counties furnish less than 5 per cent of her student body. Ten of these counties send no students to the University or only rarely so.

Which is to say, so far as the reach and informing influence of the University are concerned, there are some forty odd counties in this state that are a frontier area, frontier for the state colleges as well as the University.

How shall we break into this area? How can college culture be related to the mass mind in these regions?

The beckoning rays of the kindly lamp of learning that hangs out of every University window fall short of reaching a half million souls in more than a full third of all the counties in North Carolina.

What shall we do about it? What feasibly can be done?

We have some very definite thoughts about this problem, and President Graham is now considering a practical plan of approach to it.

What the illuminated think about us in the rarefied ether of upper academic circles is well worth considering, but we cannot safely forget that the main-spring and measure of our civilization is the character and the culture of the plain people of North Carolina. The level of their thinking determines the level of our civic life as a people.

In emergencies and crises the fate of a people—as in Russia—is determined not by the few who think on the highest levels but by the many who feel and act on the lowest levels of blind instinct.

What Harvard thinks of us is of far less import than what the plain people of North Carolina know about us, and think about us, and the degree in which they rely upon us in every problem of life and business.

WAR HITS GERMANY HARD

Three million Germans have died in the war zone. Sickness and disease due to hardships and food troubles have run the deaths among the civilian population to a million beyond the pre-war average, and lowered the births by three and a third million a year. In the ordinary course of events, Germany's population in 1919 would be seventy-two million souls; under war conditions it will be a full seven million less than that figure.

AMERICA'S MIGHT

America's vast shipbuilding program has opened the eyes of the world to her tremendous possibilities, recently declared Peter O. Knight, vice-president and general counsel of the American International Shipbuilding

MY SERVICE FLAG

Dr. A. B. Harding

There's a flag in my library window
And on its bosom of white,
Surrounded with red as a border,
Is placed a blue star of the night.
To some it may mean very little,
The flag is all they can see,
But that star from the night
On its bosom of white
Means more than a little to me.

His country has called. He obeyed it
And if he should fall in the strife,
I know of no cause any grander,
Where a soldier could lay down his life.

And that flag in my library window
With a star on its bosom of white,
Means all that I have,
But proudly I gave
That little blue star of the night.

I have tried to be true to the nation,
I have given the gold I could spare,
I have practiced a strict abnegation,
That my country might have its full share.

And that flag in my library window
Presents on its center of white,
The last that I gave
To the land of the brave,
My little blue star of the night.

Corporation, which operates the big plant at Hog Island.

"It is the best possible evidence that we intend to stick," he said. The Japanese visitors counted the fifty ways, one by one, and exclaimed: "Why, we have only ten more ways in our whole country than you have in this one yard." And Lord Reading of England, declared that it typified the limitlessness of America.

"Others ask how we can do such things, and they learn that at the beginning of the war the wealth of the United States was \$250,000,000,000, compared with \$85,000,000,000 as the wealth of Great Britain; \$80,000,000,000 for Germany, and \$55,000,000,000 for France.

"We have half the total banking resources of the world. Since the war began we have bought back \$4,000,000,000 of securities, loaned \$7,000,000,000 to Allies and extended credit to Allies and business concerns to the amount of \$7,000,000,000 more. We have carried on the enlarged business of the country and a war costing us \$50,000,000 a day.

"And America's wealth has increased since August, 1914. It has one-fourth of the commerce of the globe and has accumulated a third of the gold supply of the world. So great is the nation's wealth that even this war cannot deplete it. Informed Germans or citizens of other nations cannot think Germany can win with America against her."—Raleigh Times.

FOCH'S WAY

The following story is going the rounds of the newspapers in Italy:

The Italians—influenced by devil-made rumors—were still retreating before their German-Austrian kamerads. The British and French troops poured into Italy commanded by Foch.

At once the Italians began to make some sort of a stand.

An Italian boy soldier, loaded down with a heavy bag of supplies, was climbing a steep path. No horse or automobile could make it; everything must go on men's backs.

The young Italian was very tired. The load was too much for him, but he kept on plugging ahead.

He heard a footstep. A brisk old man, dressed in the horizon blue of France, came up beside him.

"Pretty heavy load for you, son," said the old Frenchman, speaking Italian.

"Oui, m'sieu," agreed the son of Italy, speaking French to be courteous.

"Let me give you a hand," said the old French soldier, and he seized the heavy bag and threw it over his own shoulder, and the sons of the Latin nations kept climbing. After a time the man in horizon blue said "Let us rest a minute," and they sat down beside the path.

Soon some Italian general staff officers appeared—one of them being on the king's personal staff. Of course the two soldiers by the roadside came to their feet to salute the high officers.

But the Italian officers stopped. The one who belonged to the king's personal staff ejaculated one word:

"Foch."

That's who it was—Foch, "Le Patron," which is French for the "big boss."

He had been caught acting like a common human being. But it didn't faze him. He didn't forget that he is Le Patron. He saluted the Italian high officers stiffly, threw the bag on his shoulders again, and with the Italian soldier beside him protesting volubly, those two started up the path.

Pretty safe sort of a man, Foch, eh?

Pretty good sort to have charge of our boys who go "over there."—Rome Dispatch.

PERSHING'S FIRST VICTORY

The story of the conflict between General Pershing and disease and immorality is a fascinating and a long one, says Dr. Luther B. Gulick, in August Good Housekeeping. There is no element in military policy which has been given more attention by General Pershing and his staff than has been given to this one point. As far as I know, he is the first military commander to see fully the significance of immorality and disease and then to set up a campaign administered so thoroughly as really to meet the situation—something hitherto unattained by any army.

The set of influences that now surround the men from the time they disembark to when they leave the port of entry show a successful plan of operation which restricts opportunity and inclination for evil and promotes inclination for right. On the medical side the campaign has been conducted with unparalleled brilliance. Those diseases which are popularly supposed to be connected with the army are less prevalent in the American expeditionary force than they are in America. Not just a little less, but very much less!

Stations for the treatment of these diseases are to be found everywhere the soldiers go. Officers contracting these diseases are court-martialed. Commanding officers whose troops contract these diseases are regarded as having failed even more culpably than if they had unnecessarily lost the lives of many more in battle. Brigadier General Bradley gave me the figures week by week from January 10. At no time in any of these weeks did the number of men who were ineffective from these causes reach as high as one out of each three hundred soldiers. No such record has been found in any army in the world since these plagues first swept Europe with their devastations.

I looked at our men all the way from the ports of entry to the dugouts back of our front line 500 miles away—straight-standing men, the kind who look you right back in the eye without a question, and I thought, can it be possible that these are the same men who only a few months before had joined the army, 26 per cent of them afflicted with venereal disease? It did not seem possible. They were, and at the same time they were not the same men, for the wonderful things that Pershing had done, the new ideals that he has created, the medical and moral defenses against vice, the organized temptations for righteousness which have been set up with his co-operation by the Y. M. C. A. had made new men.

This, the greatest organized piece of teamwork for righteousness that the world has ever seen, has done for these men what the church, the homes and the schools of America had not been able to do. The greatest single cause of disease and suffering among innocent women and children has already been stamped out in the A. E. F. These men are not becoming diseased and debauched; exactly the opposite thing is happening. They are being trained up and are getting finer ideals than they ever had.—Exchange.

THE NEW-TIME WOMAN

I believe that every woman needs a skilled occupation developed to the degree of possible self-support.

She needs it commercially for an insurance against reverses.

She needs it socially for a comprehending sympathy with the world's workers.

She needs it intellectually for constructive habits of mind which make knowledge usable.

She needs it esthetically for an understanding of harmony relationships as determining factors in conduct of work.

I believe that every young woman should practice this skilled occupation up to the time of her marriage for gainful ends with deliberate intent to acquire therefrom the widest possible professional and financial experience.

I believe that every woman should expect marriage to interrupt for some years the pursuit of any regular gainful occupation; that she should pre-arrange with her husband some equitable division of the family income such as will insure a genuine partnership, rather than a position of dependence (on either side); and that she should focus her chief thought during the early youth of her children upon the science and art of wise family life.

I believe that every woman should hope to return, in the second leisure of middle age, to some of her early skilled occupations—either as an unsalaried worker in some one of its social phases, or, if income be an object, as a salaried worker in a phase of it requiring maturity and social experience.

I believe that this general policy of economic service for American women would yield generous by-products of intelligence, responsibility and contentment.—Laura Drake Gill.

THE WELL-TO-DO FEW

Americans cannot be said to be a well-to-do people, according to the Government census statistics, which show that only two per cent of the whole population in this country has the distinction of being in this class. The other ninety-eight per cent have only their wages from day to day or are dependent upon relatives or charity. Only nine persons in a hundred have more than \$5,000 when they die, while sixty-six of every hundred dying leave no estate and die penniless. Of the remaining thirty-four persons, twenty-five never accumulate more than \$1,300 in their life time, and die with much less than that.

This has been America's record in the past. When the census is taken in 1920, two years hence, the above figures are likely to show considerable changes, but when the census of 1930 is taken, so different will be the story of America's well-to-do class as well as of her charity seekers, that people will declare that magicians have handled the figures.

The year 1918 is the beginning of a new era for America. It marks her entry into an industrial and economic independence. It is the year in which she shook off her chains of poverty and dependence and walked free in the consciousness of prosperity, independence, and self-esteem.

The cause of this magic change? One little habit, one little trait of character, wrought the miracle. It was the habit in people to save, to spend less than they made, and their wisdom to order their lives on simpler, saner lines. It was the work of the War Savings Campaign, the great thrift movement, that new and at first unpopular, doctrine, which made saving fashionable and extravagance a disgrace. Individuals who missed this training became poorer financially and weaker morally. On the other hand those who practiced its virtues prospered and it was they who increased the number of the well-to-do class.—N. C. War Savings Bureau.

RELIGION AND WAR

The bloody gauntlet of the World War lies at the door of the Church, challenging at once its efficacy as a force in human affairs and the validity of its message. As they watched bags of treasure carried in through the gates of the Lateran Church at Rome, Pope Innocent IV, said to Saint Thomas Aquinas: "The day is past when the Church could say, 'Silver and gold have I none.'" Saint Thomas replied: "Yes, Holy Father, and the day is past when the Church could say to the lame man, 'Rise up and walk.'"

The Church has wealth; has it power? Does it meet the needs of men on the levels of daily human life? Does it bear burdens, console and inspire, or split hairs 'twixt south and southwest side? Does it speak the authoritative word of rebuke of wrong in high places, of guidance in perplexity, of assurance and hope?

That clear-souled, radiant Christian, Donald Hankey, writing out of intimate association with the British soldier in the trenches of France, and presenting his practical conception of the aloofness of the Church, says the present crisis is an unprecedented opportunity for the Church of England either to make a new start or to commit suicide.

What answer does Christian culture make to such a challenge? It will not do to ignore it as foreign to our relatively sheltered and untossed experience. It is pressing in now upon every type of experience, even the most remote and unresponsive. We must take up this challenge. We will help forward the movement already well advanced which is shifting the emphasis of Christian interest from opinion to conduct, from metaphysics to service. We will insist upon co-operation in the divided body of Christ and upon an ampler adjustment to the moving world which it is set to transform.

At the same time, you will assert that the Church as the instrument of religion is regnant in human life. It is the agency of the coming Kingdom of God to pluck up the root of sin out of which all social wrong springs. There can be no new and better world following this crisis, no reconstructed social order after the mind of Christ, apart from the reconstruction of the units of society.

It is not a new social mechanism that we want, but a new social spirit. Not new laws, but new people. And it is the primary function of the Christian Church to make of men and women new creatures in Christ Jesus. As another has pointed out, the three historic scourges of mankind—famine, pestilence, war—have counted their victims by the tens of millions. The first two have been mastered—famine by commerce, pestilence by science. But war, instead of yielding to pestilence or science, is in reality born in commerce. "Only religion can kill war, for religion alone creates the new heart."—President W. L. Poteat.