

THE STAGGERING COST OF WAR

(The Charlotte News)

Every day the war is costing the United States the gross amount of \$40,000,000. The direct military cost is only \$23,400,000, but when are added the loans being made every fortnight to the Allies, the gross amount runs up to the other amazing total. And the gross cost for America outdistances the gross cost of England which is given at \$39,000,000; Germany which is rated at \$30,000,000 and France which is calculated as being \$21,000,000. Against the direct military cost of \$23,400,000 to America, the war is costing England in the same way \$35,000,000; Germany \$27,200,000 and France \$20,200,000.

Each day every citizen in the United States is called upon to contribute 28 cents for the support of the war. Every day every citizen of Great Britain spends 74 cents; every citizen of France spends 50 cents and every citizen of Germany spends 40 cents, so at least in this particular, the proportionate cost of the war which must be borne by the population of the countries, the United States is better off than the balance of them.

Of course, there is not much good to be done in submitting a long list of figures showing what the war is costing. It is literally beyond computation. We speak of the cost in terms of billions and the average man has no comprehension of what a billion dollars is worth in the world in speaking of the cost of the great war, there are several factors entering into the equation for which no calculation can be made. If we figure what a man's value is to society, what an individual human life is worth in the world in mere dollars and cents, what his rating is as to industry, and then place alongside this the fearful depletion in man-power brought on by the war, we would approach a proposition that again would run into figures nobody could understand. Similarly it is in the mere matter of material losses sustained in Europe, the spoliation of property, the irreparable ruining of ships and factories and industrial plants of every sort. There is no possible computation to be made of such a cost.

Getting down, however, to the single item of military expenses, we are none the less stupified by the colossal totals that are being piled up. A statistical booklet furnished by the Mechanics and Metals Bank of New York gives us some enlightening information along this line for those who have any aptitude at all for comprehending the figures outlined. From that brochure we discover that the daily average of all belligerents from August 1, 1914, to December 31 of that year, was \$52,700,000, and the total during the period was \$2,900,000,000. The cost during the year 1915 was, daily average \$71,800,000, total \$26,200,000,000. The cost during 1916 was, daily average \$97,700,000, total \$36,650,000,000. The cost during 1917, from January 1 to August 1 was, daily average \$131,000,000, total \$27,700,000,000. The daily average for the three years was \$90,000,000 for all belligerents and the aggregate expenditure was for the same period \$97,450,000,000.

An attempt to gauge the direct cost of the war on an assumption that hostilities will continue to its fourth anniversary, August 1, 1918, doubtless will be received by the reader as worth making, says the booklet. Such an attempt yields a series of huge figures, all of which contribute to make up a total of more than \$150,000,000,000. Should the war progress to August 1, 1918, its direct military cost to the nations will be as follows, based on estimates on the present daily rate of expenditure, which is augmented over the past by active entrance of the United States into the war:

Table with columns: Total Daily Military Aver. Cost, Three years, to August 1, 1917, One year, to August 1, 1918. Values: \$0, \$97,450, 159, \$8,150.

Totals, four years, \$107,155,600 (in millions—add "000,000.")

The above calculation means that there will have been laid out for military purposes, if the war does not end before next August, a sum greater than the developed wealth of any single nation of the world, other than the United States. It means that, for war, there has already been expended an amount three times as large as the total indebtedness of every nation in the world, as that indebtedness stood in 1914, four times as large as the deposits of all the banks of the United States, ten times as large as the value of all our agricultural products in a given year, twelve times as large as the value of our annual foreign trade, 1,000 times as large as the amount of the annual American gold output. It means that this war has already required a sum that would have extended the railway mileage of the United States to several times its present length, and that, besides, would have carried steamship lines to every corner of the earth, rebuilt the world's cities on rational, sanitary lines, provided schools and teachers for every child living, eliminated savagery, and endowed science to the devotion of its efforts to improve the living conditions of all mankind.

We further find from this interesting booklet that the cost of the present war has exceeded the combined money expenditure for all other wars that have occurred in the history of the world. The combined direct cost of the world's six greatest military struggles in the 125 years preceding this war was \$21,000,000,000. One of these raged through a period of twenty-one years. Another lasted four years. The twenty greatest wars in the century and a quarter preceding 1914 cost, directly, \$25,000,000,000. That sum measures the cost of five months' fighting at the present rate of expenditure.

Following is a table which shows the approximate cost of the world's most notable struggles of modern history:

Table with columns: War Name, Population, Cost, Daily. Lists wars from Napoleonic Wars to Russo-Japanese War.

Such Is Decision of Judge Waddill — Inhuman Treatment Alleged

Washington, Nov. 24.—White House picketing suffragists stood victors tonight in the first round of the legal battle for their contention that they should not be held in Occoquan, Va., work house, but instead, should be housed in the more comfortable district jail. However, the district commissioners propose to appeal from the decision of Federal Judge Waddill, rendered in Alexandria, Va.

Women's party headquarters succeeded in getting more picketers' diaries from the workhouse today alleging new hunger strike experiences and inhuman, thug-like treatment by men guards. Speaking for his wife, Dr. John Winters Brannan, of New York, declared she had been forced to do prison labor; that the suffragists had been deliberately terrorized when they entered Occoquan, and were treated with great brutality by men guards who knocked them about with the fury of thugs under the immediate direction of Superintendent Whittaker himself, who called out that men would be glad to get their hands on them.

Brannan charged Whittaker had threatened Mrs. Brannan, aged 61, with the straight-jacket and gag; that some of the picket prisoners still "bear bruises;" that Mrs. Henry Butterworth, of New York, was left alone in the men's section all night without a matron near.

The secret diary of Miss Elizabeth McShans, of Philadelphia, read: "Now eight days on a hunger strike. Very weak and ill. Fainted yesterday afternoon in cell. Forcibly fed some hours later. Food poured into a vomiting stomach. Left in cell all night unattended. Fainted and was found at 5 o'clock lying on the stone floor." President Wilson today granted Dr. Howard Kelly, of Baltimore, permission to investigate Occoquan. He is a brother of the hunger striker, Mrs. Dora Lewis, of Philadelphia.

CASSADA WARRANT WAS AMENDED BY COURT

In Police court yesterday, the warrant against Carl Cassada, charging reckless driving of an automobile at the time Theodore Parker was injured in a street accident, was amended to a charge of exceeding the speed limit. It was alleged that when Cassada struck Parker he was going at more than the seven-mile limit prescribed for travel at the intersection of streets. The police record of the accident stated that Cassada's machine skidded 78 feet. The defendant was convicted and fined the costs in the case.

Parker, a 12-year-old boy, was found guilty of riding a bicycle on the sidewalk. He was fined the costs and the fine was cancelled.

E. I. BURN IS MADE A FIRST LIEUTENANT

E. I. Burn of this city, who is attending the second Officers' Training camp at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., has been commissioned first lieutenant and assigned to the 54th infantry, stationed at Chickamauga park, according to a message received here last night. It is expected that announcements will be made the first week of the commissions for all of the men who are now attending the camp, who will receive appointments.

SUFFRAGISTS SHOULD NOT BE IN WORKHOUSE

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GOOD SAMARITAN DINNER ON TUESDAY EVENING

A large attendance is expected at the annual dinner of the Good Samaritan Mission, which will be held at the Langren hotel, Tuesday evening at 6:30 o'clock, at this meeting the reports of the work of the mission will be made and plans perfected for the work to be done during the year. Several show addresses are on the program and a tempting menu has been arranged for the dinner. Tickets for the dinner can be secured at the mission headquarters on Spruce street, telephone No. 1795.

V. F. I. Beat Roanoke. Blacksburg, Va., Nov. 24.—Virginia Polytechnic ran away with Roanoke college here this afternoon, 70 to 0. Block made a record for himself, kicking ten goals from touchdowns.

Lafayette Overwhelmed. South Bethlehem, Penn., Nov. 24.—Lehigh crushed Lafayette by the score of 78 to 0 here this afternoon. This was the worst defeat suffered by either team in the 33-year period they have played each other.

Total Receipts, \$60,000. Cincinnati, O., Nov. 24.—Total receipts of the football game here Nov. 17 between the Camp Sherman and Camp Sheridan teams was \$61,000, it was announced today. Expenses were about \$4,900, leaving \$56,000 for the Camp Sherman emergency fund.

Statement of the Condition of The Battery Park Bank of Asheville, N. C.

At the Close of Business, November 20, 1917

Table with columns: Resources, Liabilities. Resources include Loans and discounts, Overdrafts, Furniture and Fixtures, Banking House, Stocks and Securities, UNITED STATES BONDS, NORTH CAROLINA STATE BONDS, CASH IN VAULT & IN OTHER BANKS. Liabilities include Capital, Surplus and Undivided Profits, Interest Reserve, Bills Payable, Bills Re-discounted, DEPOSITS.

I, C. Rankin, cashier of the above named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief. C. RANKIN, Cashier. Subscribed and Sworn to before me this 24th day of November, A. D. 1917. GRAHAM BROWN, Notary Public. My commission expires August 13, 1919.

No Loans Are Made by this Bank to any of its Officers or Directors

- Officers: JAMES P. SAWYER, Chairman of Board. T. C. COXE, President. ERWIN SLUDER, Vice President. Directors: JAMES P. SAWYER, T. C. COXE, C. A. RAYSON, J. W. NORWOOD, Greenville, S. C. ERWIN SLUDER, D. C. WADDELL, Jr., Vice President. C. RANKIN, Cashier. D. C. WADDELL, Jr., ERWIN SLUDER, C. A. RAYSON, D. C. WADDELL, Jr.

EDWIN L. RAY, President. JULIUS C. MARTIN, Vice President. JOHN A. CAMPBELL, Cashier. WM. F. DUNCAN, Asst. Cashier.

Statement of the Condition of CITIZENS BANK Asheville, N. C.

Resources: Loans, North Carolina 4 per cent Bonds, Furniture and Fixtures, Cash on Hand and in Banks. Liabilities: Earned, \$50,000.00, Capital Stock Paid in, \$50,000.00, Surplus and Profits, Bills Payable, Deposits.

Directors: JULIUS C. MARTIN, Lawyer. H. TAYLOR ROGERS, Bookseller, Stationer, Printer. S. LIPINSKY, Dry Goods. F. STIKELEATHER, Insurance, Real Estate. C. BREWSTER CHAPMAN, Capitalist and Vice-President. R. J. WOODCOCK, Real Estate. W. R. WHITSON, Lawyer. GEO. S. POWELL, Investments. M. H. KELLY, Water and Sewer Contractor. H. C. JOHNSON, Proprietor Asheville Grocery Co. JOHN A. CAMPBELL, Cashier. EDWIN L. RAY, President.

Asheville Chapter Red Cross

Increased activity and output of hospital supplies has marked the past week's work in the Red Cross quarters, 17 Biltmore avenue. The large and well lighted workroom is open all day and there has rarely been a moment between 9:30 o'clock in the morning until 6 o'clock in the evening that some women have not been engaged there. The working attendance, as reported by Mrs. John A. Campbell, chairman in immediate charge, has varied from 90 to 125 a day, the average being about 110. Some of the ladies give their time in the forenoon and others in the afternoon. The two periods of the day mark a division of the work. The mornings are devoted chiefly to the making of surgical dressings and gauze work, and the afternoons to garments, pajamas, sweaters, bed shirts, etc. Red Cross bags, which are sold for the benefit

ROBERT HARRIS STRUCK WITH BOTTLE LAST NIGHT

Robert Harris, a chauffeur, is in the Meriwether hospital, suffering from a deep cut across the upper lip and in the forehead and the police at an early hour this morning were looking for Dewey Johnson as a result of a fight between the men at the corner of West College and Haywood streets at 11 o'clock last night. Johnson is charged with assaulting Harris with a bottle, both cuts being deep, evidently coming from severe blows. Details of the fight are lacking.

NINE PERSONS ARRESTED BY POLICE YESTERDAY

Up to 2 o'clock this morning the police had arrested nine persons, two of the number being charged with drunkenness. Three cases of assault were on the docket. Otis Styles, Charles Sullivan and Earl Smith, being charged with engaging in a three-corner altercation, although the police report that no serious damage was done to any of the parties participating. The other charges were for minor offenses.