

For the Healing of the Nations.

It is a beautiful thing to know that the first armed contingent that carried the American flag to the front on the allied lines was drawn from the men of the Red Cross Ambulance, and that the first official division of the American Army to land in England for service in the war was a hospital unit. It is beautiful to think, too, that our "flag of the stars" is standing for tenderness and pity more than for the pride and glory of war, and that the blood with which it has been stained and the rents which it has received are as wounds, borne not for glory's sake, but for the healing of the nations.

For we have come at last to know that it is sacrifice alone that buys for us the high things of the spirit, that blood is the price of soul-sovereignty and national renewal of heart. We accept again this inscrutable mystery. It is God's decree.

Our starred flag, with its new wounds, its new stains of blood, is the beacon of our faith, the emblem of our trust in that war-bought peace to which our sword is pledged.

Problem of the Idlers.

It would be a good thing if there were laws on the statute books of this State which would make idleness on the part of the poor or the rich illegal and would compel everybody to work. When a man in the United States army fails to do his duty he is punished. North Carolina should have no more room for an industrial slacker than the army has for a military slacker at a time when the nation's life is in jeopardy. It is estimated by government agents who have been investigating conditions in some of the larger towns of the State, that there are 50,000 people in North Carolina who should be at work and are not at work. There is enough time wasted in the towns and cities and in the country by people who are able to work, but who spend their time loafing, to greatly increase the output of the farms and factories of the State, notwithstanding the large number of North Carolina men that have been drawn into the army. But there seems to be no way to reach this class of people. Discussing the problem of the idlers, the Statesville Landmark says, among other things:

"Under our vagrancy laws, one who can show that he has means of support can't be punished. That doesn't cover the case. In these times, when there is so much to do and so few to do the work, every able-bodied male, within certain limitations, should be required to work at some useful employment. Under an order in council in Canada recently, it was provided that every male between the ages of 16 and 60, physically fit, unless in school, shall be regularly engaged in some useful occupation. This disposes of the idle rich, the idlers who live off their relatives and all others who try to dodge work. It is a pity that during this war period Gov. Bickett and the Council of State haven't the authority to make such an order, that would have all the force of a statute."

The slacker in the factory or on the farm, in the office or elsewhere, who, without any sense of responsibility to the country, wastes his time, is a drain on the State and Nation, and he should be forced to work if he is not available for the army. He must be a fighter or a producer to the utmost extent of his ability, and he must work as a producer as vigorously from early morning until late evening as the soldier in training or else he is failing to do his duty. Let the people be taught that idleness is a disgrace and let the public be intolerant of loafers.

A military decoration more difficult to earn than the emblem of the Legion of Honor, the Victoria Cross, or the Iron Cross, is the Medal of Honor, which is the proud possession of a few American soldiers. The highest decorations that European governments bestow for exceptional valor may all be won in the ordinary course of duty, but the wearer of Medal of Honor must have distinguished himself conspicuously "for gallantry and intrepidity above his comrades—service that involved extreme jeopardy of life, or the performance of extraordinary hazardous duty."

In all the years to come the Latin student will get a new thrill from Caesar's phrase—Fortissimi sunt Belgae.

PREDICTS LONG WAR.

Officer of the American Expeditionary Force Writes of Situation in France to Friends in North Carolina.

The spirit of sacrifice of the French has inspired Lieutenant W. S. Edwards, of the 1st Infantry, in the American expeditionary force, to a new conception of national courage. Writing to a friend in Greensboro, he said that if Americans could understand the situation over there, they would not be content to await the draft.

He predicts a long war, and says they are foolish who regard the task of the United States and her allies as an easy one. There is a hard fight ahead, one which will require years yet to complete, and we must be prepared to support our side of it. His letter follows, as published in the Greensboro News:

"This is France, glorious, down-trodden France. The country whose soil is drinking up the blood of her sons while the hearts of her daughters are breaking with grief. The country which we are glad to call our sister, and which we have come from our own beloved country across the seas to assist in freeing herself from a common foe and tyrant.

"They welcome us joyfully, those brave hearted people, and we are allied with them in their struggle. They are brave, gallant and noble, and bear their suffering stoically and silently. I know you would love to hear the things I would love to tell you, but consistency and safety demand silence on these points, and I must comply.

"Most of the things you see in the newspapers are just so much reading matter, and are colored to suit the policy of the papers and what is considered the best interests of the country. This, as an important point, you may rely upon, and disregard contrary reports. The war will not end in 1918, neither will it end in 1919, and those poor fools who occupy street corners and public places and prattle of things they know nothing of, especially early peace and easy victory for our troops are only distorters of the truth, and a menace to our common cause.

"Our country is great, in fact, it is the greatest country in the world, and her sons are staunch and loyal in any crisis or emergency, but they are slow to recognize this crisis as an emergency, and the longer they hold back and listen to so-called pacifists, the graver grows the emergency and the longer the struggle and the time of our separation from our homes and beloved country, for we who are here will not come back till it's over over here, and even as I write the best blood of America is turning to crimson the soil of our noble ally.

"Our people are not cowards; they are brave; yes, they are the bravest of the brave, but they are asleep, lulled by the oily tongue of the propagandist and 'the fool within our midst', and as they sleep the cloud lowers that will deluge them in the storm of Prussian autocracy. They will come running then with a great shout, but their march will be too slow and the roaring of the Huns' giant guns will drown their shouting. If those of our people who are deaf to the call of their country could be brought face to face with the things that are happening on the battle fronts of this unfortunate country every day, the word conscription would be an insult, and the man who waited for it would be stoned out of town instead of being followed to station by brass bands and called 'selective'."

"The fathers of our boys would go ahead calling to their sons, 'come on,' and the mothers would 'send them away with a smile' and a mother's blessing, just the same as my mother did and my son's mother did when both he and I crossed the ocean to do our bit in our country's service.

"On this side the soothing word 'selective' is never used in the connection in which it has been given so much prominence at home, and the man to whom it might be applied is about as popular as a leper.

THE MEN AND BILLIONS

Millions of Men and Billions of Money For the War 233,000 Called to the Colors This Month Simultaneously with the announcement Friday that 233,000 men from 15 States had been called to join the colors in May, Secretary Baker indicated the scope of the government's plans for increasing its fighting strength by stating that Congress had been asked to appropriate approximately \$15,000,000 for the army for the next fiscal year. That amount is exclusive of funds provided in the fortification appropriation, which not only covers coast defenses, but as a rule provides for the bulk of heavy field ordnance.

The call for a quarter of a million men during May goes to all States except California, Oregon and Nevada which, with the District of Columbia, already have supplied so large a part of their quota that it was decided not to include them this time. The movement in most States will begin May 20 and will be completed in five days. By this order the War Department abandons its plan of assembling men in even monthly increments of approximately 100,000. Under the original programme it was intended to call out not to exceed 700,000 men during 1918.

Now this month will bring out two months' worth of the number originally contemplated for the year. Officially it is stated that it is now the purpose to mobilize all the men for whom equipment and training facilities can be provided.

In preparation for this tremendous increase in the army the House military committee was told that every existing cantonment in the country will be enlarged and every national guard camp utilized to its full capacity. It is regarded as probable that some new cantonments must be built, but in the interest of speed and economy of effort and materials, pressure will be placed upon expanding facilities. Ground has already been obtained in the vicinity of several cantonments for the expansion and details of the new construction are being worked out by the general staff.

In connection with the exclusion of three States and the District of Columbia from the May call, officials explained that an effort is being made to balance accounts among the various States preparatory to the application of the new quota basis when Congress has approved that measure.

The men called out this month will be mobilized generally at the cantonments to which the men from the same States have previously been sent. In many cases they will find the divisions originally created at those cantonments. Some of the camps will have been converted into replacement divisions, and the new men will be redistributed in accordance with their qualifications.

It is regarded as likely that the April and May drafts will be used largely to fill up divisions at home, while the seasoned personnel from those divisions is sent overseas to fill the gaps. Since the number of divisions on the other side is rapidly and steadily increasing, the flow of replacement troops must increase proportionately.

North Carolina's apportionment under the new call is 5,114. The men will be sent to Camp Jackson, at Columbia.

Germany Have Fresh Troops in Spite of Heavy Losses. Up to the present the enemy has made only little progress on either end of the line, but his menace has not been effaced, says a story of the fighting on the west front. It is known that the Germans, in spite of their losses, are very powerful and that total fresh divisions are available for further big efforts, notwithstanding the fact that they already have thrown approximately 2,000,000 men into the line. Several of these divisions which have not been used are composed of excellent material, but the others heretofore have occupied quiet sectors, where they have lost some of their offensive spirit.

Many divisions that have participated in the battles have been severely punished. Some estimates of the German losses amount to as high as a half million men. Conservative calculations, however, do not place the losses beyond 350,000 men. The Germans have enough men in their depots in the interior to fill all gaps for sometime, although reconstituted divisions never will be able to equal in fighting quality the original formation, since large numbers of the men have been wounded and after recuperation again thrown into the line. Prisoners taken recently do not display the old time feeling of certainty that the great blow, which has been so long prepared, will yield immediate and full success.



THE BLIND AND THE MUTILATED

By Dr. ESTHER LOVEJOY

IN the years to come this war will prove a blessing to the blind. A new world is being evolved. Nature has at least one extraordinary sense in reserve for those who lose any of the five ordinary senses. The blind feel things that are not within reach. They are conscious of vibrations that are not perceptible to seeing men.

The sightless learn to read very quickly by the Braille method. It is interesting to watch the face of a blind man as his fingers pass over the upraised dots of a Braille book and his mind perceives the mysteries recorded there for him. They have special stenographic machines and special printing presses. Books and magazines are translated into the written language of the sightless.

Men blinded in battle are acquiring great skill in the textile arts, as molders, and in other industries where a highly developed sense of touch is essential to good work. The higher type of blind men have great personal charm. Their souls seem nearer the surface. They are peculiarly beloved people, and their clairvoyance makes them conscious of the kindness and affection with which they are regarded. Naturally they react to it. Perhaps that is why they usually seem so happy and cheerful.

Unfortunately there are forms of mutilation which have the opposite effect. When a man knows that he is repulsive to every man, woman and child who looks upon him; when he shrinks from the reflection of his own disfigured face in the mirror, and shudders at the strange sound of his own voice, he wants to die.

A great deal is being done for these mutilated men. They are being refitted with arms and legs. Plastic surgery is doing its part, too, in the way of restoring palates, teeth and facial contour, and the American Red Cross in Paris is attempting to make life more livable for them by providing masks which restore their original features. They will be useful members of society, but the soul of man craves more than service. Life and liberty are precious possessions, but the pursuit of happiness is the dearest right of man. We are all alike. We want to go through life with the sweet illusion that the blue bird of happiness is just within reach, and this illusion is almost impossible for the disfigured man.

It is the sacred duty of all those who have been benefited by their sacrifice to do nothing undone to restore their usefulness; to endeavor every art to increase their mental and physical power; to cherish the charm of personalities, to the end that their lives be enriched rather than impoverished by the fortunes of war.

How Would You Get Rid Of Miles Of Barbed Wire? One of the Men Who Serves the Red Cross Meets.

Have you ever thought what a tangled and stretched out mess of barbed wire crosses about four feet long, and the whole thing makes a vast mass sometimes 15 or 20 feet wide. There are really acres of it around here, and when you think how many strips of it there are, stretching from Belgium to Switzerland—why, it's enough to be a real problem after the war to get it all up and out of the way. I bet a lot of people walk into it through the snow this winter.

"We came across unexploded shells now and then and hand grenades of various shapes and sizes also; but, believe me, we leave them alone. There are four on the wall in our back yard and several in a field near by."

The Red Cross Answers

By THEODOSIA GARRISON Of the Vigilantes.

Dear God, to leave this shattered place wherefrom I may not go To give my service to a world torn through with war and woe, To heal the wounds of broken men, to mend the shattered mind, To lend my hands unto the maimed, my eyes unto the blind; To give a woman back her man from out the very dead— "But I will do this for you," said the great Cross of Red.

Nay, but there are little things that once were white and fair Now burned and black and desolate amid blackened fields and bare; If I might bring my people back to find there as before The stanch roof, the door, the hearth, the vines about the door; To give my hand to the maimed and leave it comforted— "But I will do this for you," said the great Cross of Red.

"You may heal the wounded and you may guide the blind, You may bring new comfort and joy to humankind, If you wish your shattered place you give me for your part The strength which you have lost, the pity at your heart; Through you, from me, you I say, by your own hand strings led, I fall but if you bless me, 'tis the great Cross of Red."

M. L. MATTHEWS, M. D.

Practice limited to the eye, ear, nose and throat. Offices in postoffice building, Sanford, N. C. Phone 117; Residence 274. Hours from 9 a. m. to 12 m. and 1.30 to 3.30 p. m., and by appointment.

DR. F. W. McCRACKEN,

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Attorneys at Law, Sanford, N. C.

Dr. L. M. Daniels,

Dentist. Offices in Wilkins-Ricks Building. Office Phone 187.

A. A. F. SEAWELL,

Attorney at Law, Sanford, N. C.

WILLIAMS & WILLIAMS,

Lawyers, Sanford, N. C.

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DR. J. C. MANN,

Chamberlain's Tablets. These Tablets are intended especially for disorders of the stomach, liver and bowels. If you are troubled with heartburn, indigestion, or constipation they will do you good.

Certificate of Dissolution.

To All to Whom These Presents May Come—Greeting: Whereas, it appears to my satisfaction, by duly authenticated record of the proceedings for the voluntary dissolution thereof by the unanimous consent of all the stockholders, deposited in my office, that the Broadway Farmers Supply Company, a corporation of this State, whose principal office is situated in the town of Broadway, County of Lee, State of North Carolina (John W. Suchman being the agent therein and in charge thereof, upon whom process may be served), has complied with the requirements of Chapter 11, Revised of 1905, entitled "Corporations," preliminary to the issuing of this Certificate of Dissolution: Now, therefore, I, J. Bryan Grimes, Secretary of State of North Carolina, do hereby certify that the said corporation did, on the 5th day of April, 1918, file in my office a duly executed and attested consent in writing to the dissolution of said corporation, executed by all the stockholders thereof, which said consent and the record of the proceedings aforesaid are now on file in my said office as provided by law.

Certificate of Dissolution.

To All to Whom These Presents May Come—Greeting: Whereas, it appears to my satisfaction, by duly authenticated record of the proceedings for the voluntary dissolution thereof by the unanimous consent of all the stockholders, deposited in my office, that the Broadway Store Company, a corporation of this State, whose principal office is situated in the town of Broadway, County of Lee, State of North Carolina, (G. E. Chandler being the agent therein and in charge thereof, upon whom process may be served), has complied with the requirements of Chapter 21, Revised of 1905, entitled "Corporations," preliminary to the issuing of this Certificate of Dissolution: Now, therefore, I, J. Bryan Grimes, Secretary of State of North Carolina, do hereby certify that the said corporation did, on the 2nd day of April, 1918, file in my office a duly executed and attested consent in writing to the dissolution of said corporation, executed by all the stockholders thereof, which said consent and the record of the proceedings aforesaid are now on file in my said office as provided by law.

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Executors Notice.

Having qualified as executor of the estate of Adeline Annis Moore, deceased, late of Lee county, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at Sanford, N. C., on or before the 13th day of April, 1918, or this notice will be placed in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment. This the 12th day of April, 1918. Thomas A. Riddle, Executor of Adeline Annis Moore.

How's This?

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Medicine. Hall's Catarrh Medicine has been taken by catarrh sufferers for the past thirty-five years, and has become known as the most reliable remedy for Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Medicine acts thru the blood on the mucous surfaces, expelling the Poison from the Blood and healing the diseased portions. After you have taken Hall's Catarrh Medicine for a short time you will see a great improvement in your general health. Take Hall's Catarrh Medicine at once and get rid of catarrh. Send for testimonials, free. Write CHICHESTER CO., Toledo, Ohio.



Big Lot Pretty Voile Dresses

Just in. The cream of the market fresh and new from New York's best manufacturers in a range of beautiful styles. Big assortment of Fancy Voiles in Plaids, Figures, Stripes and Gingham Patterns, beautifully trimmed with white organdie, while some are self-trimmed. Plain colors are white, belgian blue, pink and rose. Come in and see these good values. Priced from \$6.95, \$8.75 and to \$13.75

Big Oxford Sale

Now going on. Bargains here await you in oxfords. Many ladies' oxfords in small sizes are selling as low as 98c. Children's \$1.50 oxfords are going for 98c. Come and look these over.

Boys' Wash Suits and Blouses.

Just in big assortment of good values in boys' wash suits, 2 1/2 years to 8, at 75c, 98c, \$1.25 and \$1.50. Blouses 50c, 59c, 75c.

New Millinery.

Lots of handsome hats just received. Come and see these. Some special values now on sale.

SEND POSTAGE.

When ordering patterns please include postage to cover same. We cannot send out patterns hereafter unless postage accompanies same.

WILLIAMS-BELK CO.

SANFORD, N. C. 17 BIG RETAIL STORES.

NOTICE.

To the People of Sanford.

We have a large quantity of cedar wood cut into stove lengths on our yard at our mill in Sanford which we will sell at \$2.00 per cord on the yard from this date until June 1, 1918.

We suggest that those who may need wood for future use should secure their wood now as it will be much higher later on in the season.

George C. Brown & Company.

COULD SCARCELY WALK ABOUT

And For Three Summers Mrs. Vincent Was Unable to Attend to Any of Her Household.

Pleasant Hill, N. C.—"I suffered for three summers," writes Mrs. Walter Vincent, of this town, "and the third and last time, was my worst. I had dreadful nervous headaches and prostration, and was scarcely able to walk about. Could not do any of my household. I also had dreadful pains in my back and sides and when one of those weak, sinking spells would come on me, I would have to give up and lie down until it wore off. I was certainly in a dreadful state of health, when I finally decided to try Chamberlain's, the woman's tonic, and I firmly believe I would have died if I hadn't taken it. After I began taking Cardui, I was greatly helped, and all three bottles relieved me entirely. I fattened up, and grew so much stronger in three months, I felt like another person altogether." Cardui is purely vegetable and gentling. Its ingredients have a mild, tonic effect, on the womanly constitution. Cardui makes for increased strength, improves the appetite, tones up the nervous system, and helps to make pale, sallow cheeks, fresh and rosy. Cardui has helped more than a million weak women, during the past 50 years. It will surely do for you, what it has done for them. Try Cardui today.

HERE AT HOME.

Sanford Citizens Gladly Testify and Confidently Recommend Doan's Kidney Pills. It is testimony like the following that has placed "Doan's Kidney Pills" so far above competitors. When people right here at home raise their voice in praise there is no room left for doubt. Read the public statement of a Sanford citizen: J. P. Rivers, traveling salesman, Charlotte Ave., Sanford, says: "I suffered from a constant, dull pain across my kidneys and on several occasions I was taken down with lumbago. I couldn't move on account of the awful sharp pains in the small of my back. My kidneys acted irregularly, too. Doan's Kidney Pills made my back feel as good as ever and regulated my kidneys." Price 60c, at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mr. Rivers had. Foster-Milburn Co., Props., Buffalo, N. Y.

A Hint to the Aged.

If people past sixty years of age could be persuaded to go to bed as soon as they take cold and remain in bed for one or two days, they would recover much more quickly, especially if they take Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. There would also be less danger of the cold being followed by any of the more serious diseases.

About Constipation.

Certain articles of diet tend to check movements of the bowels. The most common of these are cheese, tea and boiled milk. On the other hand raw fruits, especially apples and bananas, also Graham bread and whole wheat bread promote a movement of the bowels. When the bowels are badly constipated, however, the sure way to take one or two of Chamberlain's Tablets immediately after supper.

RUB-MY-TISM—Antiseptic, Relieves Rheumatism, Sprains, Neuralgia, etc.