

New York Tribune.

First to Last—the Truth: News—Editorials—Advertisements.

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Has Britain Failed? Even among the most indulgent critics of Great Britain in the present war there are not a few who hold her altogether inexcusable in the matter so much advertised as "the failure in munitions."

The enormous difficulties involved in organizing the manufacture of munitions are but vaguely apprehended by the non-technical man.

With regard to the last point touched upon by Mr. Fitzgerald, it is curious to remark that violent and ill-informed criticism on this score has been most prevalent in certain quarters in England.

A Long "Short Ballot." It is a long "short ballot" which the report of the Constitutional Convention's Committee on Governor and State Officers provides for.

Muffling the "Hymn of Hate." The German campaign to muffle the "Hymn of Hate" is interesting; it may even be significant.

America for Americans. Sir: I do admire your spunk and manliness. Germany isn't going to win this war.

Yarn for Italy. Sir: The "Societa Pro-Esercito" of Milan (Society for the Army) is making an urgent request for knitting yarn (gray preferred) for the benefit of the Italian soldiers.

Gott Mit Uns. Sir: This far I have refrained from requesting the press to publish any of my opinions of the gigantic struggle being waged in Europe.

because the brass cannot be obtained to make the shells. This is due to the lack of zinc. When the war began zinc could be bought for something like \$140 a ton; now it costs \$600 a ton, or more.

It has been estimated that the zinc required to fill munition orders amounts to 950,000 tons, but the yearly capacity of eight smelters in this country is only 350,000 tons.

Take another example of a war material only required in relatively small quantities but nevertheless of great value—magnesium. When the war began magnesium was not manufactured in this country at all; it was imported from Europe and cost seventy-five cents to one dollar a pound.

These are only examples out of many which might be cited, but they serve the purpose well when we turn our attention to the German position.

The enormous difficulties involved in organizing the manufacture of munitions are but vaguely apprehended by the non-technical man. Some of these difficulties, as an engineer sees them, are set forth in the following letter, which may prove enlightening to those light-hearted censors who, without considering the vast navy Great Britain has to provide for or understanding in the least what it means to create an industry capable of providing munitions for a great army, can only see that what has thus far been accomplished is obviously insufficient to meet current requirements.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: There has been some speculation in the newspapers and a great deal in the minds of people with whom I have talked as to the possibility of dissensions in the Allies' camp, caused mainly by the failure of the British to be of real assistance in the land war.

It must be generally admitted that when the war broke out the British navy was fairly well prepared and has carried out its work successfully in spite of some rather disastrous mistakes, such as that which resulted in the defeat of Craock's squadron.

As regards the army, however, the conditions were very different. Obviously the first thing was to secure recruits, for an effective fighting force cannot be made out of untrained men.

Immediately following this was the call for equipment for the soldiers, and that this was sorely needed the stories we heard from Salisbury Plain showed clearly.

Now, looking back, I doubt if we could expect much greater progress than has been made in recruiting, training and equipment.

But while the papers were full of these matters work on a more formidable problem had begun—the organization of the manufacture of munitions.

It is difficult for the non-technical man fully to realize what such an undertaking means. Presumably the British munitions factories are normally prepared to furnish material for the little standing army under ordinary conditions, but obviously were unprepared for the immense new army under the conditions of the present war.

In effect, then, it was necessary to start a number of new factories and to turn to the great resources of this continent for that purpose.

Now, any engineer knows what the organization and starting of a new and highly technical industry means—it cannot be done at short notice.

As an illustration let us take the manufacture of shrapnel. This must be manufactured of a particular kind of steel, from which the blanks are made.

The blanks are then machined and must go through an elaborate and careful heat treatment. The machine work requires a high degree of accuracy, specifications calling for errors less than one-fourth-hundredth of an inch.

Naturally the working force of the factory must be trained for this, special machinery obtained, the work systematized and so forth.

Therefore, when the recruiting, etc., was fairly started, the next great agitation was for the organization of munition manufacture.

There is little doubt in my mind that the complaints about the slowness and slackness in this respect were exaggerated deliberately in order to spur on the manufacturers and their workmen to greater efforts.

I have seen American factories which almost immediately after the opening of the war put contracts for munitions and strained every effort to fill them, and yet months passed before any shells were actually turned out.

These factories, too, were not managed by any ordinary unskilled people, but by engineers of the highest ability. So far as the munition factories in this country, of which I have personal experience, are concerned, I do not see how they could have done much better.

Now a new problem has arisen—rather has become acute, for it was easily foreseen—and that is the question of raw materials. There are factories to-day with unfinished shells piled up to the roof because of the impossibility of getting the raw materials needed to finish them.

Piles of shrapnel shells lie waiting for bullets because these are made of an alloy containing 88 per cent lead and 12 per cent antimony, and the problem is where to get the antimony.

Thousands of unfinished shells are held up

partment heads alone would have to be impeached or removed by the Senate, as is the present procedure.

This scheme of government seems to offer the simplicity, directness and workability which have characterized the system of commission government for cities and have so popularized it.

Combined with the right to initiate a budget, it would give to the Governor a great power, but no greater than the electorate now expects him to use when he may do so only by indirect or extra-legal means; and certainly no greater power than he ought to have, when it is accompanied so directly by complete and undivided responsibility for the character of his appointees and their work in his administration.

While open to certain objections from extremists and many from the old school of "practical politicians," this plan as a whole is a long, long step ahead of what now exists. Ample care has been taken in drafting the proposed new sections, to guard against accusation of partisan politics in setting the time at which they shall go into effect.

They should be carefully studied and thoroughly discussed, so that shortcomings noted may be corrected, but if "Proposed Article Five" were put into the new constitution just as it stands it would be a distinct advance over the miscellaneous provisions which it is intended to supersede.

The Restrictionist's Day. For years the restrictionist has been seeking to change the immigration policy of the United States.

He has long desired to secure an arbitrary reduction of the volume of immigration. Without having won in the legislative halls at last he has his day.

The figures for the fiscal year show that the actual increase in alien population in that period, thanks to the war, was only 50,070.

This was the actual immigration. While 434,244 were admitted, the number of aliens who departed was 384,174.

In no previous year since the "new immigration" set in has the inward flow been at such a low level. And it is not difficult to demonstrate that only once—in the year 1862—within a period of at least seventy years, has the actual immigration been so small.

Moreover, it is interesting to observe that those immigrants who are considered "desirable" by the restrictionists, the natives of the countries fronting upon the Atlantic Ocean and the North Sea, gained in number upon the "undesirables." There were, roughly speaking, 48,900 more "desirable" than "undesirable" immigrants admitted last year.

Of those who returned to Europe the large proportion could be included in the "undesirable" group. It was the "undesirable" man who went home to fight. The most drastic restrictive legislation could not create such a situation as that in which we now find ourselves. It is, indeed, the restrictionist's day.

While there are many who have expressed the opinion that immigration will set in again as soon as the war closes, there are indications that the contrary will be true and that the flow will be only moderate for four or five years at least.

Everything points to a continuation of the war for another year at the very least. It is destroying large numbers of men of the very class that furnishes the bulk of the emigrants.

Many of those who survive are likely to be unable to pass the physical requirements of our laws regulating admission. So far as possible those countries now or which will be engaged in the great conflict will endeavor to keep at home those best equipped to aid in reconstruction.

We can well afford to let proposed legislation changing our policy lie upon the table for a while, for we now have an opportunity to study the economic and social effects of restriction without committing ourselves either way.

At the end of five years we shall be in a better position than we are now, or ever have been, to decide what is best for the country. Then we shall have experience to serve as a guide.

Muffling the "Hymn of Hate." The German campaign to muffle the "Hymn of Hate" is interesting; it may even be significant.

America for Americans. Sir: I do admire your spunk and manliness. Germany isn't going to win this war.

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CITY CLUB FOR WOMEN

Woman's Municipal League Already Fills the Bill.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: I desire to call it to the attention of those who are interested in a possible City Club for Women that there is an organization of that kind already well established.

The Woman's Municipal League was organized in 1899 by Mrs. Josephine Shaw Lowell "for the purpose," as its constitution says, "of promoting among women an intelligent interest in municipal affairs and to aid in securing permanent good government for the City of New York without regard to party or sectional lines."

It has had the support and active co-operation of a large number of the most influential women of the city. Under the efficient leadership of Mrs. Richard Aldrich and Mrs. Edward Ringwood H. Witt, it has grown until it has now sixteen hundred members.

It welcomes all women to its membership, and its committees deal with all phases of our municipal life and are in close touch with the different municipal departments.

It has district organizations covering the whole city in the districts, as well as the heads of the central committees, are women of large experience who are giving much time to the work. The league has no party or political connection nor is it devoted to any particular theory or scheme of public affairs.

It invites the aid of all women who are ready to render such aid as women can be made to do in the bettering of our common civic life. It has been successful in its aim always to work with, rather than against, the city's responsible heads, and its aid has always been welcomed by them.

Through many standing committees much good work was done during the past season. To the legislative committee, Mrs. Rosalie Loew Whitney, chairman, came all the bills introduced in the Legislature at Albany.

These were classified and careful attention paid to such as came within the province of the league, which was represented at many of the important hearings at Albany as well as in the Aldermanic Chamber in New York.

The department of health, Mrs. Thomas R. French, chairman, was instrumental in doing much to abate the smoke nuisance, and the department of streets, with Mrs. Julius Henry Cohen as its chairman, completed its year's work by giving a number of medals to street cleaners and garbage collectors at the 22d Regiment Armory, under the auspices of Commissioner Fetherston.

The officers of the league are: President, Mrs. Henry A. Stimson; first vice-president, Mrs. Travis H. Whitney; second vice-president, Mrs. Thomas R. French; third vice-president, Mrs. Shepard Morgan; recording secretary, Mrs. Percy Jackson; corresponding secretary, Mrs. F. Robertson Jones; treasurer, Mrs. Nelson S. Spencer; assistant treasurer, Mrs. Edward E. Loomis.

It has offices at 42 West Thirty-ninth Street. Its expenses are small and were met even this past hard year without calling upon the public for the cost of a single ticket.

The league this summer is maturing plans for increased activities during the coming season, and would be glad to welcome to its ranks trained and experienced workers as well as those whose enthusiasm is as yet unorganized.

Applications for membership at \$2 a year may be made to Mrs. Edward S. Van Zile, at 42 West Thirty-ninth Street.

ALICE BARTLETT STIMSON, President. New York, Aug. 5, 1915.

Antichrist Is Come.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Without a doubt, according to Colonel Roosevelt's ideas, Jesus of Nazareth was the supreme "mollycoddle" and the war in Europe to-day the supreme reaction from his mollycoddle doctrines.

We see this war is lifting up before the world the reign of Antichrist within the Christian nations. In the early days of the war the terror-stricken peasant peoples in its pathway sent up the cry, "Antichrist has come!"

And they were profoundly right. If Colonel Roosevelt and his followers would like to know what Jesus Christ has revealed regarding the early Christians and their fellow servants who remained loyal to his doctrines, let them turn to the sixth chapter of the Book of Revelation and read the opening of the fifth seal.

Perhaps others might be interested to see the opening of these seals. If so, let them begin the reading at the first verse of this chapter.

The first seal opened discloses the symbol that Christian nations whose champion goes forth "conquering and to conquer," without sword, but simply the bow of promise in his hands.

"America was born a Christian nation,"—Woodrow Wilson.

The second seal opened discloses a symbol so graphic in its presentation that it needs no aid to locate its nationality in the great world tragedy now staged.

The third seal symbolizes the judgment of the nations now upon us, and the fourth seal discloses the graphic picture of the war in Europe with which the judgment has begun.

"Come and see."

M. ABRAHAM, MESSENGER. New York, Aug. 7, 1915.

America for Americans.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: I do admire your spunk and manliness. Germany isn't going to win this war.

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PEACE AT A FIXED PRICE.



"LIEGE 1914-1915." Some Teutonic Protests Against The Tribune's Editorial Attitude, with a Defence of Germany's Military Course and Conduct and a French Rejoinder.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Among the best editorials I ever read "Bastille Day" and "Liege 1914-1915," but I altogether disagree with the latter. While you in the former gave France its due credit, you in the latter disregard all the Teutonic allies accomplished, and you even go so far as to belittle their successes.

Germany and Austria-Hungary are fighting the greatest and most wonderful battle in the annals of history; they have battled against seemingly overwhelming odds and succeeded in carrying the war into their enemies' territory and withstood all attempts to invade their own. Success has crowned their arms—I admit not to the extent they expected it. Still, that does not say that they failed or their plans were altogether frustrated.

It is an undeniable fact that Germany has occupied one-sixth of France; that district includes the mining and manufacturing regions of France; that territory constitutes France's most profitable district. Although Germany's direct objective, i. e., Paris, was not taken, she still has, by the conquering of the Champagne, a reward that was well worth the stake.

The Germans are in possession of practically the whole of Belgium, which was known as the most prosperous of the minor countries. Its countless factories, coupled with great wealth, make a sufficient compensation for Germany's sacrifices. And in the east the taking of over half of Poland, Pussia's main manufacturing district, and which with Warsaw, balances the losses sustained by the Russian invasion of Galicia.

As the losses in men about balance, the world to-day witnesses the triumph of the Teutonic alliance. My claim, that the Teutons were successful, does not correspond with the esteemed Tribune, which claims a complete Teuton failure. It evidently gives no credit whatsoever to the Teuton occupation of vast and important regions, to the destruction of many powerful forts and the capture of almost two million prisoners, but, on the other hand, attributes importance to small and unimportant gains of Germany's foes.

The storming of a mile of trenches by the French is called another step toward the Allied victory, while the German occupation of a great stretch of land is of no significance. The taking of Hill No. 30 by the British is hailed as a victory of vast strategic importance, while a Teuton victory which results in the capture of many thousand prisoners is called "a mere incident, with no further bearing on the final outcome."

The failure of the American press to give Germany its due credit, coupled with the misrepresentation of internal conditions in Germany and Austria-Hungary, clearly shows the bias of the press. This bias is permissible as long as it stays within certain bounds, but when it with false reports (not necessarily invented by the papers), or with nefarious editorials, poisons the people's mind and incites public opinion against Germany, and what is still worse, creates an unnecessary revolutionary spirit against them in those circles that support the Germanic cause, the press thereby becomes guilty of a crime of the worst type, for it sows the despicable seeds from which grow "hated, dissatisfaction and discontent."

The present bias does not show the much commended "fair play"; on the contrary, it is distinctly "unfair play." I do not say "boost Germany," but I do say that in consideration of what Germany did we should give them the same consideration as the Allies. We must be neutral not only as far as the government is concerned, but also with our press, for we must remember that the Teutonic alliance is fighting a world of nations, and fighting well.

That Belgian neutrality was violated is undoubted. But we must consider the circumstances. Germany claims that Belgium had secret treaties with Britain and France, whereby the two latter were to be permitted to send their troops through Belgium for an attack on Germany. In my opinion Germany would have done better

to await the French entry into Belgium, but she acted on a policy that "an attack is the best defence," and we know how Germany, with the most wonderfully equipped and trained army that ever existed, swept through Belgium and France till she was stopped at the Marne. I do not see how aught brought her army to a standstill where it could fight all comers. With that preparedness she was able to carry the war into the enemy's grounds. Belgium, though, may attribute her present miserable condition to the Anglo-French intrigue which provoked the Teuton to invade her. She thought that the Allies would be able to invade Germany, for they probably imagined that going to Berlin was like promading on the boulevard of Paris, but they were sorely disappointed.

I am indeed surprised to find that The Tribune has not yet digested the fable about the atrocities. The committing of atrocities is one of the accompanying phases of the war. In peace we even read of the most horrible crimes; we read of brutal methods of taking life, and we too often read of lynchings, where people claiming to be civilized take a criminal whose guilt often has not been proven, hurl him into a fire, kill him in the most cruel fashion imaginable, rejoice over his pain, applaud his shouts of agony and then take the terribly mutilated body and riddle it with bullets. Any person can readily imagine how degenerate man will be when amid bursting shrapnel and the rain of bullets and the sight of his dying brethren. Passion will be excited and the animal instincts in him will be aroused. If man acts with inhumanity in peace, in war he will be even worse. Inhumanity exists in all armies. That the majority of atrocities will be committed in the Allied army is very probable. When we consider that in the Allied ranks there fight negroes whose mien resemble the cannibals' meal ticket, when we find that in the Allied ranks there serve Turcos and Algerians, Gurkhas, Sikhs and Hindus, Mongolians and Tartars, plus a lesser sort of obedience, we may, without hurting our conscience, attribute the majority of atrocities to them. What proof is there for the German crimes? Stories that were circulated have been disproved by an American commission, and the Bryce report is a mere wish. The believers of Bryce will also think Munchausen a great man and take faith in Doc Cook's "North Pole expedition." And as to civilization—well, Germany's progress in the last forty years is sufficient proof.

Louvain is being rebuilt. One part was given to flames because the civilians fired on the Germans. The destruction was recorded. And it helped, too, for when the Germans entered Brussels and Antwerp there was no more of that treacherous shooting as in Louvain, Dinant, etc.

Last but not least, the Lusitania. The loss of life is very deplorable, but it could not be avoided. It could have been minimized had the steamship authorities taken the necessary precaution. Whoever enters the war zone does so at his own risk. People are foolish to intrust themselves to the care of a nation that at present is unable to protect those at sea. When blasting is going on in New York there will be men warning to keep away from the place. They do not deny anybody the right to go there. But whoever trespasses a certain place and is hurt has only him or her self to blame. This may be taken as a parallel to the Lusitania and the war zone.

I sincerely hope that the Allies, who are the instigators of this war, will lose. For "unfair play" I do not say "boost Germany," but I do say that in consideration of what Germany did we should give them the same consideration as the Allies. We must be neutral not only as far as the government is concerned, but also with our press, for we must remember that the Teutonic alliance is fighting a world of nations, and fighting well.

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