

Humor and Heroism Under Fire

"Under Four Flags for France."

WITHOUT a clear understanding of the events which led up to our entrance into the war no one can appreciate the stupendous task which America has undertaken. George Clarke Musgrave has given us in *Under Four Flags for France* an account of the conflict from the time that Germany sent her twelve hour ultimatum to Belgium demanding free passage to invade France to October 27, 1917, when the American contingent had its first engagement with the Germans in No Man's Land.

The author was in Europe when the war broke out, and remained there three years gathering information from bivouacs, hospitals, prisoner convoys and neutral points close to the enemy's frontier. As a result, he presents for the first time a comprehensive story of the united efforts of the allied armies to halt Germany and to frustrate her desperate effort to dominate the world.

That the French were in some degree physically prepared is proved by the fact that after the sudden crisis in Morocco, which converted Briand, Millerand and Clemenceau from a pacifist to a military policy, it was decided that the army and navy should be reorganized and conscription restored by a new military law.

There are specific accounts of brutality, vandalism and crime in some of the German armies, and yet the author says that not a woman or child was harmed while the army of Gen. von Stockhausen occupied Amiens. He pays tribute to the courage of the German soldiers, especially the aviators, and says that the higher officers when appealed to have invariably discouraged depredations of the German soldiers.

For the dash and good nature of the British Tommy the author has the highest praise, and he comments upon the sterling qualities of the Irish and Scotch.

There are many interesting anecdotes and the book is profusely illustrated with photographs taken within not only allied but the German lines. A volume for those who desire a coherent record of France and her allies under the guidance of the veteran Joffre.

UNDER FOUR FLAGS FOR FRANCE.
By GEORGE CLARKE MUSGRAVE. D. Appleton & Co. \$2.

"German Atrocities"

DR. NEWELL DWIGHT HILLIS, pastor of Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, spent July and August of last summer in making a tour of investigation through the devastated towns and villages of France and Belgium, and has returned with an overwhelming assemblage of evidence adding to and corroborating the reports of other unprejudiced witnesses of the work of the unspeakable Hun.

The result of these investigations Dr. Hillis has embodied in his book *German Atrocities*, of which Col. Roosevelt predicts that "when the conditions described by this unimpeachable witness are known they will awaken every man, woman and child in America."

"Modern courts are satisfied," writes

Dr. Hillis, "with two forms of testimony, but the German atrocities are evidenced by five kinds of conclusive proof," i. e., the testimony of men and women telling what they have seen and heard—"that is a high form of evidence." Then there is the testimony of little children "too innocent to invent what they are not old enough to describe . . . because children are unprejudiced their testimony is the highest form of proof known to modern courts." The testimony of the photograph, which is absolute: "The sunbeams move in straight lines, they tell no lies"; and finally, from the journals and diaries of the German soldiers: the testimony of the Germans themselves.

All these witnesses Dr. Hillis calls to the bar; and the mass of evidence procured is both corroborative and conclusive. Especially so is the evidence which the Germans themselves offer, and it is out of their own mouths that Dr. Hillis clinches his conviction as to their guilt.

The book is illustrated throughout with many full page specimens of the photographic evidence which Dr. Hillis obtained while making his tour of investigation.

GERMAN ATROCITIES. By NEWELL DWIGHT HILLIS. Fleming H. Revell Company. \$1.

Source Books on the War

FOLLOWING the book of Presidential messages and addresses to Congress, which were contained in the volume *Why We Are at War*, Harper & Brothers have now issued a larger volume which, under the title *In Our First Year of War*, contains all of the messages and addresses of President Wilson from March 5, 1917, to January 8, 1918. These two volumes now make handily available all the utterances of the President, which contain so much of moment to the history of America and of the whole world.

In *America at War* we have an American war manual in compact form, prepared by the National Security League and edited by Albert Bushnell Hart, with an introductory preface by James M. Beck.

This book is intended primarily as an aid to public speakers and writers. It gives the basic facts regarding the causes of the war and its subsequent developments; it also aims to make clear to the people of the United States as a whole the difficulties and dangers ahead of us.

The bibliographical features are especially valuable. As a compendium of the documentary literature of the war, particularly of facts which disclose the sinister part Germany played in planning and staging the conflict, *The Great Crime and Its Moral* has value both as a work of reference and as a well written, illuminative treatise on the war.

In connected narrative form J. Selden Willmore shows how the world war plot was conceived, and the psychological moment seized upon for its beginning. He shows how Germany wages war and what would be the fate of a world under German rule. The story is told, as far as possible, in the words of neutrals and the Germans themselves.

IN OUR FIRST YEAR OF THE WAR.
By WOODROW WILSON. Harper & Brothers. \$1.

AMERICA AT WAR. Edited by ALBERT BUSHNELL HART. George H. Doran Company. \$1.50.

THE GREAT CRIME AND ITS MORAL.
By J. SELDEN WILLMORE. George H. Doran Company. \$2.

Military Leadership

LINCOLN C. ANDREWS, Lieutenant-Colonel, U. S. A., is the author of a little volume, *Leadership and Military Training*, containing observations based on past experiences and those in the cantonments of the present day. The book is an analysis of the psychology of the drill manual nor of the technic of the art of war.

In showing how "soldiers are like children" and how a feeling of mutual sympathy and confidence will spring from thoughtful leadership the author says:

There is one relation to the leader in which this is true. He is a father to them. On the battlefield at Santiago I saw a young Second Lieutenant put his hand on the shoulder of a gray haired old soldier and call him his boy, and there was confidence in the face of the old man as he started alone on his mission.

Lieut.-Col. Andrews has placed at the

end of his volume rules for conduct, courtesy, health, and behavior in battle. His book should be valuable in training officers.

LEADERSHIP AND MILITARY TRAINING. By LIEUT.-COL. LINCOLN C. ANDREWS, U. S. A. J. B. Lippincott Company. \$1.

In Belgium When the War Began

FOR perfect revelation, in the manner of complete simplicity, we have seen, in all the war books, no story to compare with this, told by the First Secretary of the American Legation in Brussels, Hugh Gibson, in *A Journal From Our Legation in Belgium*.

"A cart, heaped high with loot, driven by a fat Landsturner, and pulled by a tiny donkey, came creaking past us. One of our party pulled his kodak from his pocket and inquired of our guardian, a German officer, in English: 'May I take a picture?'"

"His intent evidently escaped the German, who answered cordially: 'Certainly, go ahead. You will find some beautiful things over there on the corner in the house they are getting ready to burn.' 'We kept our faces under control, and he was too much occupied with his other troubles to notice that we did not avail ourselves of his kind permission to join in the pillage.'"

On July 4, 1914, Mr. Gibson wrote in his diary: "After years of hard work and revolutions and wars and rumors of war, the change to this quiet post has been most welcome." Three weeks later the series of declarations of war began. The diary runs to the last day of 1914; Mr. Gibson appends a paper on the execution of Miss Cavell.

There could not be a clearer record than this of Mr. Gibson's of the duplicity and stupidity of Germany's treatment of Belgium; the tale of horrors is told with commendable restraint. And there could not be a finer picture than this of the genuine heroism of the little nation that saved Europe from conquest by Kultur.

A JOURNAL FROM OUR LEGATION IN BELGIUM. By HUGH GIBSON. Doubleday, Page & Co. \$2.50.

"With the French Red Cross"

IN the vast literature of the war for civilization it seems impossible that any phase worthy of investigation and record can have escaped print. Not only are military events preserved in the photographic film, but the written report of everything in the crusade against the Hun is being compiled on a scale never before realized.

With the French Red Cross, a slender volume carrying ten little stories, all vouched for as authentic, is a contribution to the religious record. The men who have undertaken the messy task of saving civilization from the mad House of Hohenzollern are going about their work in a spirit immeasurably remote from the soldier of fortune mood, and any one who is anxious to know what religious experience the war is bringing to individual soldiers will find much useful material in this collection of stories. The book is Catholic, but to us it seems pretty broadly human.

WITH THE FRENCH RED CROSS. By ALICE DEASE. P. J. Kenedy & Sons. 60 cents.

OVER THERE AND BACK

By Lieut. Joseph S. Smith
An American Tells of Heroism and Humanity at the Front.

"We marched that day round-eyed with wonder at all the things we saw. The very magnitude of it appalled us. Dimly we began to realize what a very small part of it we were, after all. And the realization did us a great deal of good." These words are from the second chapter of "Over There and Back," by Lieutenant Joseph S. Smith, an American, born in Philadelphia, who enlisted in the 29th Vancouver Battalion in Canada in 1914, and crossed to France with the 2d Canadian division to be sent over seas. He is now an officer in France in our own National Army.—*Philadelphia Record.*

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By Lieut. Joseph S. Smith

Lieutenant Smith went through all the big battles on the British end of the western front, including St. Eloi, the Somme, the Ancre and Arras. His record of experiences is a welcome change from the rank and file of recent books written by young men who have been in the heat of things at the front, for it is beautifully free of any reference to self that is over-emphatic, is always the spontaneous statement of a mind that is blessed with a camera-like response to the event of the moment in its profound significance. We are not finding fault with books of the day that belong to the list of which "Over There and Back" is a member, for it is not strange or a result to be wondered at, that the temptation to recount personal exploits and individual opinions has been too strong for boys who have found themselves seated at the task of putting on paper their stories of the war. Lieutenant Smith forgets himself in his complete immersion in the human tide of war in which his comrades were the masses of onswEEP and retreat.—*Philadelphia Record.*

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THE FLOWER OF THE CHAPDELAINES

By George W. Cable

The scene is the "vieux Carre" of New Orleans, that last lingering place of the old Creole atmosphere. There Geoffrey Chester, a young lawyer, is struck by the charm of a Creole beauty whom he daily meets on his way to the office. On account of the exclusive character of the Creole coterie to which she belongs there is little hope of their meeting, but a bookseller consults him about an old manuscript, and he finds that *Allie Chapdelaine* is the owner. The fate of this manuscript and their love is the theme of a romance of great delicacy and beauty.

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