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IT IS NOT IRON.

They called it Hindenburg's iron line, but it was not iron, after all. It was but flesh and blood and bone and brain.

And being human, this "iron" line's discipline, spirit and determination formed the key to its strength or weakness.

Opposing it was another line, human too. Both were equipped with the will to fight and with a wealth of the newest and most improved machines of destruction which inventive genius has been able to produce under the urge of patriotism and necessity.

In strength these rival lines were equal. For weeks their spirit was so nearly on a par that neither foeman moved forward nor backward save by inches.

Physical inaction gave the mental faculties an opportunity to function, and here and there among the single links which, welded together, made up the line of iron, conscience emerged from its calloused crusts of a hostile conflict to ponder these words which came from far across the ocean:

"The German people, if they would regain the world's respect, must throw off the yoke of tyranny which militarism and greed have fastened on their shoulders."

Uttered in Washington, this message made itself heard above the roar of guns in France and Flanders, above the cries of "Peace" in Berlin and Frankfurt.

It sent a thrill along the whole length of the iron line—a thrill of consciousness and individual thought.

Then came the test, and the iron line bent, cracked, snapped, began to crumble. It is threatened now with disintegration. Another "strategic" retreat, like that which carried the battle front backward many miles through France's wreckage, seems inevitable.

Dispatches from the scene of yesterday's sanguinary conflict say the Germans' opposition was less determined than it had been before. They seemed disorganized, one correspondent essays. Many surrendered while others retreated.

That indefinable quality, morale, seems to be disappearing from the vaunted "iron line." The Germans are not beaten, but the spirit and spontaneity that carried them pell-mell through Belgium and across half of France are lacking.

The old discipline is not dead. The militarist teachings of forty years in Germany are not to disappear in one series of defeats in invaded territory. Haig's battle is not won, but he has a great advantage in the fact that the men he commands are impelled by the fighting spirit, by confidence in their ability to win and, greatest of all, by the knowledge that their cause is just.

Right is mighty. Of all the axioms in all the languages, none is more faulty than "Might makes right." Might is powerful, but right is power. Might is invincible only when it is upheld by right.

After more than three years of warfare, Germany's people—in the trenches and at home—are losing faith in the righteousness of the cause for which they have sacrificed happiness, countless lives, national honor, wealth and in many instances, self respect. The Kaiser's bombastic claims of partnership with the Deity do not ring as true, even in German ears as they did when the empire was at peace and when its army was being hypnotized into the belief that it was invincible.

The spell is broken. The "iron" line has cast off its mental paralysis and realizes that it possesses a brain. Defeat begets defeat. Wrong, lawlessness, debauchery, butchery, lust and lust must face a reckoning.

The "iron" line has found its conscience. It is not iron, after all.

THE REST OF US.

Wapello county's start on the second Liberty Loan campaign is an inspiration and a very encouraging sign that the subscription in this district will surpass the quota with a considerable margin to spare.

Today the committee in every section of the county started on their canvass with the knowledge that preliminary subscriptions had cut the total to be raised from \$807,625 to \$472,625.

This does not mean that the task is an easy one, nor does it decrease the personal responsibility of any man or woman in the county whose name has not been written on the list of subscribers to the second Liberty Loan.

It does prove, however, that the spirit of loyalty is abroad in this community, that Wapello county is capable of exceeding its quota and that unified effort on the part of all its citizens can result in completing the work of the campaign within a week.

At this time, as well for everyone in the county, The Courier addresses that great proportion of the citizenship to

FACE YOUR SOLEMN DUTY.

To the men and women of Wapello county: You are called upon now—each and everyone of you—to take your full share of the second issue of the Liberty Loan Bonds and supply your part of the money which must pay the cost of the prosecution of the part the United States is taking in the greatest war in the history of mankind.

The nation is at war, therefore the people of the nation are at war. You yourself, as a citizen, have a responsibility to bear at this time.

In the past, subscriptions have been asked of you for some purposes that you did not feel concerned you and you did not subscribe. There have been other subscriptions asked of you that you knew you ought to make, but you dodged the committee by hiding down in the basement or behind the barn, and in doing so you shirked what you knew was your duty to your community.

You must wake up now to this fact: No shirking of your duty to the men who are dying for you on the battle front will be allowed at this time. Every person in this county—man or woman, young or old—who is able to buy a bond must step up to the front and buy a Liberty Bond for an amount in proportion to his or her ability to pay.

Which would you prefer, to step out in front of the German machine guns, bayonets and wall of bullets, or step up and buy a Liberty Bond? At the battle front, men are undergoing torture, for you. They stand for endless hours in the mud and slime of the trenches, knowing that death is searching for them. They wait in the cold and the rain for the order that sends them into the charge, to grapple with the enemy—your enemy. They know that many of them must go to their death and that many more must be wounded and suffer for hours on the battle field.

They are going through the fire and fury of battle and are making the supreme sacrifice, many of them, so that you may be safe and sound, far from the realms of danger, far from the presence of death.

Can you remain here, surrounded by the comforts of your home, and contemplate what your fellow countrymen are doing for you, and then refuse to do your part for them, and for yourself?

These boys are doing the fighting, and we who are left here at home must do the financing.

Do you realize that the failure of a single issue of government bonds of this nation would be a significant victory for Germany?

Men and women of Wapello county, this Liberty Loan must be a success. Our part of it—your part of it—must be subscribed. Everyone must do his or her part. Don't figure on how little you can do, but figure on the maximum amount you can invest in Liberty Bonds. Then buy.

These bonds draw 4 per cent interest from November 15, 1917. They will run at least ten years and possibly twenty-five.

But this is no time to quibble about the rate of interest nor the time of the loan. The government asks you to lend it some of your money for the equipping and support of the soldiers at the front. It is your duty to do it. If you don't do it voluntarily now, it will be demanded of you before this war is ended.

Don't wait for the committee to call on you, but go directly to your bank and make your subscription at once.

whom investment in a Liberty Bond means personal sacrifice and self-denial. This includes all but a few of our citizens, for ours is distinctly a community of individuals of moderate means.

The first list of subscribers, whose purchases total \$335,000, is comparatively a short one. It is representative of the small proportion of the country's citizenship which is associated in our minds with the possession of large means. The subscriptions listed are liberal and in proportion to the resources of the investors.

The men whose names are in that list are the very men to whom many of us would do go for advice as to the safety of investments. Their own financial success is evidence of their business judgment. Their investment in the Liberty Loan is the best indication of their regard it as a wise business move. It is evidence, too, that they recognize their duty to their government and are disposed to meet their responsibility as citizens.

Are we any less loyal? Are our rights as citizens any less than theirs? Is our duty and responsibility to our government and to our families and ourselves any less? There are any reasons why we should not invest our money as they have invested theirs, in proportion to our means and in discharge of our responsibilities?

Not all of us can lend our government \$5,000, nor \$10,000, nor \$100,000. But each of us can lend some amount proportionate to our resources. Each of us can muster enough money to buy a Liberty Bond—for \$50, or \$100, or \$500, or \$1,000—by saving and diverting a portion of his or her net income.

Suppose a few months. Suppose it means the sacrifice of a vacation trip, or a new automobile, or entails the wearing of last winter's overcoat another season. Is any sacrifice of which we are capable too great to make for our country? Is our patriotism to be measured by hesitating over buying a Liberty Bond when hundreds of young men from our own community are offering their lives in defense of that same government which asks only money from us?

OUT OF THEIR OWN MOUTHS.

Whatever shortcomings his critics may charge against Secretary Lansing, he cannot be said to lack a sense of dramatic values. His announcement of yesterday, which merely made public three more of the damning documents which prove Germany's iniquity, would have been weakened by any comment he could have added. Such revelations are the more impressive when the comment is supplied by the indignant American citizen who reads them.

Out of their own mouths comes the evidence to prove the guilt of the Germans. Were it not for the unimpeachable source of the information the state department has given to the public it would be difficult to believe that

a coal shortage which seemed to us, and still seems, inevitable.

entrance of their leafy shelter tents they lie, whining for mercy; but whether they are bravely or mortally wounded, our brave musketeers save the fatherland the costly care of numerous enemies.

THE GERMAN TREND. The news of the mutiny in the German navy is of much more than passing interest since it indicates that after all there is enough spirit among some of the Kaiser's subjects to impel them to revolt. The furor that the revelations of the mutiny have aroused in Germany and the indignation expressed by the inspired imperial press is ample proof that the supporters of the Kaiser feel extreme anxiety over the situation.

It is the irony of fate that the authors of the revolt adopted the plan of having been in communication with representatives of the councils which abound in the army and navy of Russia. These same councils have had a major part in the removal of Russia from the list of effective enemies of Germany. That they should weaken the iron discipline which for so long has been a prominent characteristic of the Kaiser's militarist organization seems almost a providential dispensation.

Chancellor Michaelis, according to dispatches, induced Emperor William to rescind his original order for the execution of a large number of the mutineers and was successful in reducing the death total. His interference with the stern measures prescribed by the Kaiser was not through desire to be merciful. His object was that he would find it very difficult to justify the killing of so many when called to account by the reichstag.

The reichstag majority, which is exercising a lively opposition to the government's plan of warfare, has been a thorn in Chancellor Michaelis' side since the day he succeeded Von Bethmann-Hollweg. This reprobate majority, to be sure, is not an independent body, but the way of reform legislation or revision of the government's program, but its members are decidedly industrious speech makers and their criticism worries the loyal Michaelis noticeably.

It is evident that an effort is being made by the pan-Germans to fasten on the socialist direct responsibility for the mutiny plots. Vorwarts, organ of the socialist party, wishes to the defense of the accused men, but the imperialist journals call loudly for revenge.

Dr. von Kuehman's apparent efforts to commit the government to a peace program which would go at least part way toward the terms Germany's enemies could accept seem to have been too impulsive. Vorwarts' organ of us to Belgium which he said have sent to Pope Benedict never has reached Rome but its existence has been denied emphatically by Chancellor Michaelis without provoking a reply from Vice Chancellor von Kuehman.

Now, it appears, the vice chancellor has let fall a remark to the general effect that the way is clear for peace negotiations, and a socialist journal quoted as demanding world-wide circulation of the Kuehman assertion that aside from the question of Alsace-Lorraine there seems no actual bar to a peace parley.

Such a turn of events, of course, is a direct challenge to the new fatherland party of Tirpitz, which without question has the approval of the Kaiser. The fact that he and his chancellor are afraid to say so in answer to the reichstag interpellation. Tirpitz, Hindenburg, Ludendorff and their associates do the royal bidding always and it is idle to think that they would organize a new political party for the sole purpose of maintaining the Kaiser's iron control over the German public, without his approval and inspiration.

All the recent events in Germany indicate that unrest among the people is increasing continually. Whether it will reach the boiling point in time to serve as an aid to the enemies of Germany in forcing the Kaiser's surrender is a question that can be answered only by the future. Withal it is an interesting subject to ponder.

COPY OF A SCRAP OF PAPER. If a copy of The Hague conventions of 1899 and 1907 is available, glance at its provisions at random and select any one of them. The chances are that you will find a solemn agreement to which Germany and other nations subscribed only a few years ago and which Germany has violated openly and without apparent regret.

This, for instance, is the text of Article 4 of the 1907 draft: Prisoners of war are in the power of the hostile government, but not of the individuals or corps who capture them. They must be humanely treated. All their personal belongings, except arms, horses and military papers, remain their property.

With this in mind, read the following abstract from an article by Under Officer Klemm, of the first company, 154th German infantry. It tells of a fight in which his regiment took part September 24, 1914, and was published in the Jauresches Tageblatt of October 18. After leaving Hannover the regiment was suddenly hit by artillery and infantry fire and suffered heavy losses, but the enemy was invisible. At last, Officer Klemm says, French soldiers were found to have climbed into trees from which they were shooting. He continued:

"We told them that they were shot down from the trees like squirrels. \* \* \* No quarter is given. \* \* \* We come to a hollow where dead and wounded, red-breeches are lying about in heaps. The wounded are hammered or stabbed because we know these scoundrels will shoot us from behind as soon as we pass them. There lies stretched out, face to the ground, a Frenchman, but he is only shamming dead. The kick of a sturdy musketeer tells him we are there. Turning over, he calls for quarter, but he is told that he needs a dose of French medicine and is pinned to the earth. A weird noise near me comes from blows that a soldier of the 154th is raining upon the bald head of a Frenchman with a clubbed rifle. Very wisely he has appropriated for this purpose the Frenchman's gun, for fear of breaking his own. Very soft hearted men put the French wounded out of their misery with bullets; the others hew and stab whenever they can. \* \* \* At the

entrance of their leafy shelter tents they lie, whining for mercy; but whether they are bravely or mortally wounded, our brave musketeers save the fatherland the costly care of numerous enemies. The writer then reports that Prince Oscar of Prussia, learning of the feats performed by the 154th, declared them to be worthy of the name, 'King's Brigade.' At the end of his narrative, Officer Klemm obtained the following attestation: Above statement confirmed. De Niem, lieutenant in command of the company. To be sure, The Hague conventions, like the treaty establishing Belgium's neutrality, and supposed inviolability, are only 'a scrap of paper.' Wilhelm has said so.

AN IMMEDIATE NECESSITY. Buy a Liberty Bond. Buy it now.

Your immediate response to the government's appeal for subscriptions to the second Liberty Loan is a vital necessity.

Help your government to get into the war effectively while England, France and Italy can help us. We are at war with Germany. We are not in a formal alliance with any other nation. If the entente allies should quit fighting tomorrow the United States still would be at war with Germany, the most implacable, the most lawless, brutal, bestial, merciless enemy in world history.

It behooves us to strike our strongest blows now, while so many other peoples are uniting their efforts with ours and while the heroic armies of the entente allies are bearing the brunt of the battle. Victory over Germany within a year means more to America than Russia has fallen. No one is able to guarantee that others of the allies may not break under the strain—"blow up" in one way or another. Should we rely active participation in the war until such a catastrophe occurred our task would be multiplied and our defeat and subjugation would be within the realm of possibility.

The government is asking its citizens to buy bonds, to lend the money which must be available to equip, arm and maintain a vast fighting force. It needs the money, now. It is within your power and it is your solemn duty to supply a share of that money.

Do not let yourself imagine that Germany is whipped. The men who are fighting against the German soldiers are the ones who know that Germany is far from defeat.

Germany was prepared for this war—physically, mentally and economically. Therefore she has escaped the embarrassment and hardship of preparing and fighting at the same time. That double duty has been a terrible strain on England, France and Germany. It is a strain on America.

But the tension will be eased greatly, the war will be shortened, the government will be safeguarded and your welfare will be the better insured if the Liberty Loan is subscribed and over-subscribed without delay.

This money—\$5,000,000,000 or more—must be forthcoming if America is to win in the war. That is the great fact that is before us now. It is our patriotic duty to the government and to ourselves to do our best to help make up this sum by buying Liberty Bonds in the largest sum it is possible for us to purchase.

Immediate action is a vital necessity, the greatest duty that faces Americans—and that means you—to-day.

LITTLE BENNY'S NOTE BOOK BY LEE PAPP

The Park Ave. News. Weather. Less frys.

Sissy Notes. Big Skandil in Sisseton. Mr. Sam Crook on a late Saturday afternoon, and was saw by Miss Mary Watkins and Miss Gertrude Simsin walking home holding a big piece of newspaper in back of him.

Mr. Leroy Shooster has received a silver watch with his initials on the back for his birthday, and he keeps on telling everybody what time it is whether they want to know or not.

Miss Maud Johnson has had her hair bobbed, looking very fashionable, and several sissy men were observed setting on her front steps last Sunday afternoon, among those present being Mr. Benny Potts, Mr. Charles (Puds) Simkins, and Mr. Artie Alkander.

Why not learn to talk Chinese? Ed Wernick will teach you to talk so much like Chinese that nobody will be able to differ unless they really know Chinese. One sent a lesson. Advertisement.

Short Story 2 for a Sent Hay, what time is it and wats you sucking on?

Its 3 o'clock and Im sucking on a sourball. Hay, what time is it now and wats you sucking on?

Its half past 6 and Im sucking on the same sourball.

Interesting Facts About Intriguing People. Lew Davis has got a unkle in the button business and he cood get all the buttons he wanted if he wanted em.

MILITARY RULES AT GIRLS' "DORM." Grinnell, Oct. 13.—Why so many "busy" signs at the girls' dormitory doors?

The mystery has been solved. A system of military inspection among the girls of Grinnell college, whereby the offenders are compelled to do all kinds of "dirty work," has been instituted in an effort to maintain strict order in the rooms of the dormitories at all times.

Disorder in any room is reported as soon as discovered by the proctor of that building, and after two reports, the name of the victim is posted. Also she is warned. At the third report she is compelled to scrub up the kitchen "spick and span" for a week!

That's why the "busy" signs.

Children's Evening Story

Copyright, 1915, by A. S. Bailey.

PETER LEARNS A NEW WORD.

While Peter Mink marched on, believing that the circus parade was following him (when Jimmy Rabbit had actually led it away in the opposite direction), Peter kept trying to think of some trick he could play on the parade.

He decided, at last, that he would hunt around until he found the smallest hole he could possibly squeeze through, and he would squirm through it, and then have fun watching the others try to follow him.

Finally he found a log which lay upon a rocky ledge. Between the log and the rock there was a narrow opening. And when he saw that, Peter was looking for. Without once glancing round, he thrust his head through the crack.

Then something happened. Peter Mink always claimed, afterwards, that the log settled a bit lower, or the rock rose a bit higher. Anyhow, to his astonishment, he found himself stuck fast under the log. Such a thing had never happened to him before.

"Well," he said to himself, "there are plenty of people here to help me, anyhow." You see, he hadn't discovered that the whole parade—except Jimmy Rabbit—had turned about and followed Jimmy Rabbit.

Peter Mink thought it was strange that nobody came and offered to help him. And soon he began to shout.

Still no one came. And Peter began to wish he hadn't tried to play a trick on the paraders. For he saw that he was in something very like a trap. In fact, it was a trap, which Johnnie Green had set. But Peter didn't know that.

That more worried than he was, it even more worried than he was, it even more worried, just to imagine what would happen if old dog Spot should come along and find him.

Jimmy Rabbit had a fine time leading the parade. You may be sure he looked around at the procession following him. And he shouted a good many orders, too, telling different ones just what they should or shouldn't do.

The parade had marched through the woods for a long time, when he saw all at once that it was really just going to begin. For right in front of him he saw his friend, Peter Mink, pinned fast beneath the log.

"You've been long enough coming to help me!" Peter growled. "Get this ago."

log off me—you people—and be quick about it!"

Brownie Beaver left his place in the parade and hurried forward, because he knew more about handling logs than anybody else there. But before he could get his coat off Jimmy Rabbit called him to one side and whispered to him. And then Jimmy whispered to everybody else. And the parade disbanded. Then everybody crowded around Peter Mink.

"What is it you want?" Jimmy Rabbit asked Peter.

"Want?" said Jimmy. "Can't you see this great log on top of me? Can't you get it off? What are you waiting for?"

"Ah!" said Jimmy Rabbit. "We are waiting for just one thing. And we haven't heard it yet."

"Heard it?" Peter Mink snarled. "Aren't your ears big enough to hear everything?"

"We're going to teach you something," said Jimmy. "And until you've learned the lesson, we're going to leave you right where you are."

You should have heard Peter Mink then—or rather, you're lucky you didn't hear him. For the way he went on was something dreadful. But until Jimmy Rabbit heard what he was waiting for, he wouldn't let anyone roll the log off Peter.

Finally it grew so late that some of the paraders said they would have to be going home pretty soon. And then Billy Woodchuck remarked that he didn't believe Peter Mink had the least idea what they were waiting for.

"I think we ought to tell him," Billy said.

So Jimmy Rabbit told Peter what it was.

"Don't know what it means," said Peter.

"Well—say it anyhow!" Jimmy Rabbit ordered. "And after this whenever you want anybody to do anything for you, don't forget to say it! It wouldn't do you a bit of harm to practice saying it every day, for a while, until you get used to it."

Peter Mink looked as if he would like to do something to Jimmy Rabbit. And for a long time he refused to obey. But when Brownie Beaver said that he simply must go home, because it was so late, Peter Mink said what Jimmy had been waiting for.

It was "Please!" And no doubt you guessed it long ago.

TOLD HOW TO SAVE WHEAT

MISS HOPKINS DEMONSTRATES USE OF SUBSTITUTES IN MAKING BREADS.

"If each family will use one sack of wheat flour this year where one and one-third sacks were used last year, 300,000 bushels of wheat will be conserved for the use of the soldiers and for the allies," was one of the pertinent facts toward wheat conservation given out by Miss Mariel Hopkins, county home demonstration agent, in her wheat-saving demonstration conducted before a large number of women in the Commercial club yesterday afternoon.

This was the first of a series of demonstrations which Miss Hopkins will conduct in the county in the interests of conservation of wheat and other commodities of which there is a shortage at present. An effort will be made to reach every woman in the county to impress upon her the importance of this sort of patriotism.

In the meeting yesterday Miss Hopkins gave demonstrations in the making of both yeast and quick breads with wheat substitutes, showing each process in the making of yeast bread from the making of the sponge to the baked loaf. Cornmeal and oatmeal as wheat substitutes with equal food value were demonstrated, the use of these products being emphasized especially because they are low products. Miss Hopkins urged that low products should be used by low people in preference to products of other localities. These breads were pronounced by the women present to be equal in flavor to wheat bread. Corn muffins and Johnny cakes were demonstrated as easily made and nutritious quick breads.

Stress was laid on the necessity for prevention of waste and the women were urged to influence their families to eat one slice of bread less each day, and to say that no scraps of bread find their way into the garbage can.

MISSOURI HIRES MORE COUNTY AGENTS

Jefferson City, Mo., Oct. 13.—Linn county has contracted for an agent. Work began October 10. Ross Nichols has been assigned to that county by the University of Missouri College of Agriculture. Mr. Nichols is a Missourian and a graduate of the College of Agriculture. Adair county has also contracted for an agent, but a man has not yet been found to fill the position. These two counties together with Lincoln and Mississippi which have already received agents comprise the first four counties which look advantage of the opportunities to obtain a county agent.

Thirty-four counties have applied for agents under the emergency food production act of congress. The four new counties together with the fifteen which had agents under the old plan make a total of nineteen Missouri counties which have obtained agents. There are also four district agents who have charge of several counties each.

MRS. NANCY WOLF DIES.

Eldon, Oct. 13.—Mrs. Nancy Wolf died at the home of Mrs. Charles Burns, Thursday evening, October 11. She was ninety-one years of age. The funeral services were held at the Baptist church today at 2:30 p. m.

REPORTS SHOW MUCH ACTIVITY

MONTHLY BOARD MEETING AT Y. W. C. A. TOLD OF WHAT IS BEING DONE THERE.

The activity of the Y. W. C. A. during the past month shows that the fall work of the association is under way and already much has been done and many branches of the organization's work for girls started for the fall and winter seasons. The heads of the various departments reported at the meeting Thursday on their different activities.

The bible study department reported work being done in the two bible classes, that meet Thursday evenings, one under Mrs. F. E. Day, taking up a general survey of the bible, and the other under Miss Mary Alexander, studying a course in "The Women of Ancient Israel."

Practice Conversation.

The lunch department has been working for food conservation by canning sixty-five quarts of tomatoes, twenty-three quarts of beans and sixty dozen eggs, all of which have been stored for winter use. The daily average of persons using the dining room is sixty.

The physical department had a report of the commencing of the classes in physical training, not one of which has an enrollment of less than eighty. A new class which meets twice each week has been formed, and the gymnasium is given over to high school students Wednesday and Saturday afternoons. The total attendance of members at the swimming classes conducted during the summer was 877, with 164 individuals.

Girls' Clubs Are Active.

There are a number of clubs organized in the Girls' Work department. The Student club, composed of high school girls, meets for gym and supper the first and third Tuesday of each month. The Stuart school club has been reorganized and meets each Tuesday afternoon at 4:15. Both these clubs are taking courses in home nursing. An all-day conference for high school girls is being planned for October 20, and invitations have been sent to nine neighboring high schools.

The educational department reported the beginning of the winter's work next Monday evening with classes in Spanish and cooking, for each of which a small tuition is charged and a free class in knitting.

The extension department is conducting noon meetings at Hall's candy factory and at the Morrill plant, with bible talks at Hall's, and talks on food conservation by Miss Mariel Hopkins at Morrill's.

The Traveler's Aid conducted by the association has cared in various ways for 502 persons at the C. M. & St. P. station.

FREE MILITARY TRAINING.

Cedar Rapids, Oct. 13.—The Cedar Rapids branch of the Sokols of America will give free of charge, military training to any man in the city beginning next Sunday, in accordance with the plan of the Sokol organization.

Seholl's Foot Comfort Service

HAGBERG & PETERSON

"Shoe Economists."