

GERMANS BOAST OF OWN CRUELTY

Tell Neutral Nations How Church and House Are Destroyed.

IS MEANT AS A WARNING

Circular Recites Amount of Booty Seized in France and Belgium, and Mistreatment of English Prisoners of War.

Washington. — Teutonic frightfulness as practiced in France and Belgium has been made the subject of a German warning to neutral nations of the fate which they may expect if they take up arms against the central powers.

"If there are any still thinking of siding with the allies let them take warning from the fate of others," says the warning. It is in the form of a circular, which recites the amount of booty seized in France and Belgium, the number of churches damaged and destroyed, the money wrung from the stricken inhabitants and finally the deliberate mistreatment of English prisoners of war.

German propagandists have flooded Spain with this document printed in Spanish, and copies have come into the possession of the state department. Having established its German origin the department made public this translation:

"Besides an untold amount of war material captured on the battlefield the Germans have taken possession of incalculable booty in France and Belgium, including:

High grade watches..... 47
Average watches..... 5,016
Underwear..... 18,673
Embroideries and women's handkerchiefs..... 15,322
Umbrellas and parasols..... 3,705
Silver spoons..... 1,878
Bottles of champagne..... 522,000

"These figures show a large increase over those of the campaign against France in 1870-71.

"Punish Catholic Churches."

"In Belgium, besides many art treasures, they have confiscated old paintings valued at 3,000,000 pesetas. "Due to the treachery of Cardinal Mercier and other priests, who did their utmost to stir the priests against the good-hearted German soldiers, they were forced to teach a severe lesson to the Belgian and French Catholics.

Cathedrals destroyed..... 4
Rendured unserviceable..... 3
Churches destroyed..... 27
Rendured unserviceable..... 24

Total..... 58

"In Poland also a large number of churches have been destroyed for military purposes. The figures concerning these have not yet been published.

"As a result of the stupid stubbornness of the Belgian people in continuing the struggle after their bloody and final defeat on the battlefield, the German officers were forced, against their will, to impose punishments on many rich individuals and wealthy cities. This has contributed the following amounts to the German treasury:

Pesetas.
Punishments..... 57,000,000
Security..... 15,000,000
Reparations..... 15,750,000
Forced contributions..... 4,320,500

Total..... 120,071,500

"This amount includes a fine of 15,000 pesetas imposed on the Alsatian children who insist on speaking the French language and refuse to study the beautiful German language. These

statistics are a most useful warning to the neutral countries.

"If there are any still thinking of siding with the allies let them take warning from the fate of others."

Boast Also of Cruelty. It is claimed also in this document that more than 50,000 British have been made prisoners, and in this connection the following statement is made:

"Although to these figures the English report 124,896 German prisoners taken by them on the western front, it must be remembered the English treat their prisoners with notable kindness (blandura notoria), while the regime imposed on the English prisoners by the Germans is one of extreme rigor, so that the Germans, with a small number of prisoners, have secured a much superior moral effect.

"Besides, to the 2,264 officers and 51,325 soldiers, must be added the several thousand English prisoners that have died in consequence of disease, scanty food and other accidents in German concentration camps."

The figures regarding British prisoners, it is explained, refer to the total prior to the recent drive in Picardy and Flanders.

SHARE DANGERS WITH SOLDIERS

Washington.—Bursting shells are everyday, everyday experiences in the lives of all soldiers and Y. M. C. A. workers anywhere within 25 miles of the Boche guns. Dr. George Louis Meylan, who has just returned from France where he was engaged in recreation work for the Y. M. C. A., threw some strong light on the conditions under which all persons back of the trenches live—and die. He had been asked to tell some specific instances of "Y" workers under fire in first-line trenches.

"Those over here who have not been in the war zone must forget their old-time ideas of warfare and its dangers," said Doctor Meylan. "Forget this old idea of open fighting, with troops battling across a plain the size of a large athletic field. Modern artillery shoots for miles and is always shooting. Every person within 20 miles of the trenches is under fire practically all of the time, yet the reports do not call this a battle. The reports announce 'The artillery was active,' and that means shells anywhere five to twenty-five miles back of the trenches.

"Early in April the Germans made night raids and their airplanes were active in bombing. Two of my organizers were visiting camps eight or ten miles back of the front-line trenches. The Germans kept up the bombardment for three days during which time those 'Y' men were dodging shells constantly.

"On the second day they were in a Foyer de Soldat—one of the soldiers' recreation huts provided by the French with 'Y' men in charge—when, within five minutes two shells struck, one a few yards away, the other hitting the hut. The 'Y' men were thrown down by the concussion. It seemed a miracle they were not hit, for soldiers were killed and wounded all around them.

"It is strange that although we have only about one woman worker to every hundred men workers, not a single 'Y' man had been killed up to the time I left France, whereas Hun shells had killed two of our women workers, Miss Crandell and Miss Winona Martin.

Bet \$10 on Who Will Kill the Most Huns

Wilkesbarre, Pa.—To settle a bet of \$10 as to which could kill the most Huns, Alexander Gornacki, twenty-eight, and John Gornacki, twenty-three, enlisted in the United States army here. "We have arranged to carry a stick over with us," said Gornacki, "and every time one of us knocks a Hun over a notch on the stick will go to that man's credit. We trust each other. When the war is over and we come back the man with the most notches wins the bet."

Sells Short Pants; Enlists.

Steuvenville, O.—"I sold my short pants at Newport News," writes Gilbert E. Boycan, a negro boy aged fifteen, from somewhere in France to his parents here. "Playing truant from school to see some selective soldiers depart, the boy decided to join the army and enlisted at Wheeling, W. Va."

16 Chicks From 15 Eggs.

New Castle, Pa.—James Woods placed 15 eggs under a hen and 16 chickens were hatched. One of the eggs must have produced two chicks, he thinks, but he has not been able to identify the "twins."

SQUABS TO HELP SUPPLY OF MEAT

Pigeons Produce Rapidly and Can Be Made to Add Substantially to Food Stock.

FLY IS IDEAL ARRANGEMENT

Good Pair of Breeders Will Raise Six or Seven Pairs in Year—Confine Flock to Prevent Any Serious Damage.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.) For food purposes pigeons are usually classed with poultry. Culturally they are in a class by themselves, producing meat only, producing it very quickly, and able to produce well under conditions that do not admit of growing any other creature used for food.

While the ideal arrangement for pigeons is to have their house on the ground, and a small covered yard, called a "fly" connecting with it, pigeon keeping may be carried on quite extensively in upper rooms, or lofts, with or without open air flies. Many flocks of pigeons are kept in large cities in quarters provided for them in the lofts or on the roofs of buildings used for mercantile and manufacturing purposes.

Space for Breeding. A space six feet square, and high enough for the attendant to stand erect, will accommodate eight to ten pairs of pigeons for squab breeding. The birds mate and begin breeding when six to seven months old. Two eggs are laid by the hen. Then the male shares with her the duty of incubation. The young hatch in about seventeen days. At four weeks old, average good squabs will weigh about three-quarters of a pound each. Some of the larger ones will weigh over a pound at that age.

A good pair of breeders will produce six or seven or more pairs of squabs a year. As many as eleven pairs of squabs have been produced by one pair in a year. When production is high the female lays and begins incubation while she has young still in the nest, leaving the care of them to her mate.

Pigeons on Farms. Raising squabs has greatly increased in cities in recent years. On farms the tendency has been the other way. On a farm a flock of free pigeons, if not kept down by killing off the increase, soon becomes a nuisance, destroying grain and doing



Runt Cross.

a great deal of damage, especially on new-seeded ground. The remedy for this is to keep the pigeons under control, and use the young birds, except the few needed to keep up the flock, as fast as ready for the table. By establishing the flock of pigeons in an accessible place, giving them a little food occasionally in their loft, and keeping them shut in and feeding them when they could damage new-seeded ground, a farm flock of pigeons can be made to contribute substantially to the meat supply, and still be prevented from doing any serious damage.

POINTS ON MARKETING EGGS

Refrigeration Maintains Quality, Weight, Fresh Appearance and Higher Food Value.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.) A stale egg pleases no one. Heat is the fresh egg's enemy. Cold is its friend.

The shorter the time and the more direct the route of the egg from the nest to the packing house, the smaller the opportunity for loss. The sooner the egg is put under refrigeration and started to market, the finer its quality when it reaches its final destination and the higher its value. Don't give the eggs a hot time in the old car.

To make a good, marketable product, cracked eggs, extremely small and dirty, as well as turkey and duck eggs, should be removed from the first grade and packed separately as seconds.

Keep eggs cool. Cool the egg and cash the check. Coolness and cleanliness mean more cash.

Refrigeration during transit maintains quality, weight, fresh appearance and food value. It retards loss of quality, shrinkage, "blood-rings" and loss of food value. It enables the delivery of a high quality, uniform product.

OUTBREAK OF LATE BLIGHT

Might Diminish Potato Production at Rate of 3,000,000 Bushels Daily—Plan to Prevent.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.) A widespread outbreak of late blight throughout the important potato-producing districts (which, fortunately, rarely occurs except in restricted areas) might diminish potato production at the rate of 3,000,000 bushels a day during August and September if prolonged warm and rainy weather should occur. This disease can be prevented by spraying and early preparation should be made to combat it vigorously.

MARKET DEMAND FOR STRAW FOR BEDDING

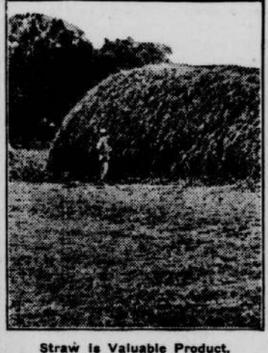
Commodity Will Now Bring Good Margin of Profit to Farmer.

Large Number of Horses and Mules in Army Camps Has Materially Increased Prices for Commodity—Bale All Surplus.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.) Nearly a third of a million of horses and mules have been removed from farms and ranges and placed in army camps. This has increased the market demand for straw for bedding several hundred tons per week.

The prices at army camps and large markets have naturally influenced the price of this commodity on local markets, and the straw that was formerly burned or allowed to be trampled down by stock will now bring enough on the market to leave a good margin of profit to farmers over the cost of baling and shipping. The market price of straw is now between \$8 and \$20 per ton, and there is a good demand for almost any kind of straw.

Farmers who are not in the habit of selling straw, but who can advantageously do so, should bale their surplus or arrange to do so during the



Straw is Valuable Product.

present year. Since the war department naturally prefers to buy from those who can furnish large quantities regularly, individual farmers can either sell their surplus through regular trade channels or unite with each other and ship co-operatively.

It is suggested that farmers consult their county agricultural agents regarding the cost of baling and shipping, the kind of straw in greatest demand, market grades and markets.

NOTE ALL FARM HAPPENINGS

Records Make Reference to Them Easy and They Become Valuable When Memory Fails.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.) Simple accounts of the everyday happenings on the farm will often be found of great value. Every farmer makes a note when a calf is born or a sow farrows. Many do so mentally only, but it is none the less a note. If such notes are written down in a way that makes reference to them easy, they become of much use in supplying needed information when memory fails.

Notes recording other everyday happenings often prove useful. Among these may be mentioned the dates when animals are bred, men hired or discharged, accidents occur, pasture season begins and ends, first and last frosts occur, incubators are set, spring work begins and fall work ends, seed time and harvest occur, etc. Such notes as these when systematically recorded and constantly referred to are of much value. They enable one to take proper precautions as to feed and care of animals prior to the birth of young, thereby often saving both mother and offspring. Disputes with hired men as to wages are avoided by recording when they are hired, a wage agreement, and all amounts subsequently paid them. Accident records are of value when seeking redress for damages, pasture data when figuring on feed supply, and frost and other weather data in planning the year's work.

STOP WEEDS FROM SEEDING

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.) Most persons do not realize what an enormous number of seeds are produced by weeds. The number varies with different species, most kinds producing from one hundred to several thousand seeds per plant. Some weeds, such as wild carrot, burdock and sow thistle, are capable of producing 20,000 or more seeds to the plant. Moreover, not all weed seeds germinate at once, but delay sprouting for a period, some of them for several years. This is the basis of the old saying, "One year's seeding makes seven years' weeding."

INCREASE SUPPLY OF HUMUS

Winter Cover Crops Now Extensively Grown to Be Turned Under Early in Spring.

There are many well-known methods of supplying the necessary vegetable matter to the soil. Crop residue is usually the basis of more humus. Grass or sod crops are the most valuable in this respect. Stable manure is also of great value in increasing humus. Winter cover crops, such as annual clover, vetch or rye, are now extensively grown to be turned under in the early spring.

Prevent Big Bean Losses.

Bean losses from anthracnose and other diseases can be prevented to a large extent by the use of disease-free seed.

KEEP THE BEAST ACROSS THE SEA

Prussian in War Has Neither Honor Nor Decency Nor Humanity.

INSIST GOD IS WITH THEM

Past History of Germany Shows Only Barbaric Tendencies and an Inherent Desire to Rule the World.

By JOHN REED SCOTT. (From the Committee on Public Information, Washington, D. C.)

The American always makes the mistake of judging every other nation by the American standard. We do not allow for racial nor national traits and customs. Because an American wouldn't do something we fancy that no other nation would do it. It's against our conscience or against our laws—or we just don't do it. Therefore, we assume that it must be against the other nation's law or conscience—or it just won't do it.

And we have this peculiar idea, not by reason of any self-conceit or fancied national superiority, but because of our proneness to play square; to grant that the other nation is of the same mentality as ourselves and as ready and anxious as we to do the right thing.

What we, as a nation, aim at in our dealing with other nations is the ultimate right in a concrete form. And we are slow to realize—and quick to forget, when realized—that other nations either may not have the same policy (may even be robbers and brutes by natural instinct), may not have the national altruistic idea—that try to live by the Golden Rule, and, as a nation, be satisfied with what it has.

As a result, the American people, in the hundred and some few years of their national existence, have had a few fairly severe jolts. Now we are in the midst of the German affair; and an amazing number of our people refuse to realize what it means to us or to appreciate the menace to our national existence.

America, they know, wants no territory, no conquests; therefore, they ask why should Germany, if it win, want them? Why should America send troops to Europe to fight Europe's battles? Germany is in no danger from us, so why should we be in danger from Germany? We shall not do anything to Germany, even after she is victorious over her, so why should Germany, if she is victorious, do anything to us? Let Europe settle her own battles, they say; we, of another continent, are not concerned. If we let Germany alone, Germany will let us alone.

Estimating on American Basis.

It is quite likely that some Americans who now have such ideas will have changed those ideas by the time this article appears; but it is certain that others will still be deluding themselves by persisting in the old American habit of estimating others—even an enemy—on the American basis.

And with some enemies—even some savages—the estimate would not be far amiss, because they are not wholly lost to honor and decency and humanity. But the Prussian is not of them; in war he has neither honor nor decency nor humanity, as such qualities are understood by civilized nations. In war—particularly the present war—the Prussians have put aside even the temporary veneer that they had assumed to conceal from the rest of the world—a decent and human world, it is—the true nature of the Prussian brutes; and, because they had thought to win the world war and to establish right on the basis of might, they have dared to stand forth in the buff. The bully of Europe, having prepared himself with, as he thought, an invincible thoroughness, proceeded to carry out his long-nursed intentions and, by brute force and atrocity, impose his imperial will on an amazed and helpless world and drag it to his Kultur—a Prussian Kultur. God save us!

I say Prussian because, as everyone knows, the central powers, as they are today, are dominated absolutely by and humbly subservient to Prussia.

And in that process of conquest and enslavement the Prussians have, for more than three years, inflicted on the helpless nations and peoples whom they overrun such cruelties, such unspeakable atrocities, as history has never recorded. All the famous, or infamous, conquerors of the past are insignificant in comparison with the savage Prussian brute—the brute who has the cold effrontery to bid his soldiers march "onward with God" along his bloody way.

Assert God is With Them.

Contemplate for a moment a nation which insists that God is with it in its fiendish work, and then reflect how far back into the dimness of the past one must go to find a nation which had the effrontery to claim that it was simply God's chosen instrument to work his will! Contemplate the gentle one of Bethlehem—whom the Prussian professes to revere as God—wading in the blood of mankind! Contemplate Christ in a Prussian helmet, with a Prussian sword and Prussian manners! Contemplate William Hohenzollern, Von Hindenburg, Von Ludendorff, Von Mackensen as disciples of him of Gethsemane and Calvary!

One must go back to the darkest period of the dark ages to find similar effrontery—to Alaric and the rest who claimed, as William of Prussia claims in all his published felicitations to his armies, that they were doing the will of the Almighty, that they were marching "onward with God."

It must be a peculiar mentality that, in this day and generation, could have the arrogance to advance such a claim—and a queer, a very queer, people that has the mentality and docility to accept such rot—and actually believe it.

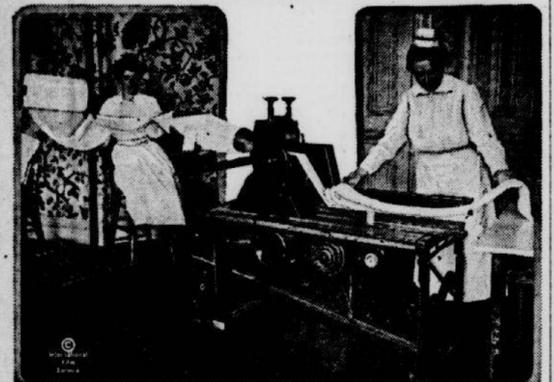
We Americans freely admit that we cannot follow the mental processes that would evolve such a claim or would use such methods in war; and yet there are those of us who persist in judging what the Prussians will do to us, if they win this war, by what we will do to them if we win it. Which necessarily must mean that as soon as the Prussian has won he will experience a change of heart, abandon his savage methods, and be converted to our terms of peace—that victorious he will forego the Prussian fruits of victory; will cease to march "onward with his God" will put his God aside and be converted to the God of civilization, the God of the Golden Rule and the sermon on the Mount, the follower of the meek and lowly Jesus, him of the manger, of Gethsemane, of Calvary.

And these Americans have so much (7) on which to base their trust, so much to justify their belief that America has nothing to fear from Germany, because Germany has nothing to fear from her.

Dates Back to Ancient Rulers. Go back to the Prussian nation's hero, Frederick the Great. "Old Fritz," as they fondly call him—as contemptible a bully and sneak and blackguard and liar as ever lived. Would he have turned back from an avowed purpose to "make America pay the cost of this war" if he were victorious? Did he ever turn aside from any purpose if he could effect it by force, by chicanery, by lies, by bluff, by dishonesty, by any crime? History—at least Prussian history—gives him the title of "Great," but in the civilized sense there is nothing great about him except meanness of character and of action. He was, when compared with his contemporaries, a successful warrior, but he, like the present Hohenzollern, had for that time a marvelous army which was prepared to strike and struck. Magnanimity or any other of the attributes of greatness he had not at all, even the traditional kingly honor, which is assumed to be the heritage of a throne, was utterly wanting to him; and his chief claim to live in history is based on the fact that he robbed a woman; that without cause he made war on a helpless queen, Maria Theresa, and despoiled her of a province, and cynically boasted to all the world that he has caught her helpless and so stole what he desired. Moreover, he gloried in the infamy.

Bismarck, who ruled while his stupid sovereign reigned, deliberately forged—altered as he put it—a telegram of that kind, and so forced France into war and robbed her of billions of money and two provinces. And William the infamous was simply running true to form and trying to outdo the shameful examples of his predecessors, when, absolutely ready, he forced the present war. Have we forgotten that the toast for years at every Prussian officers' mess, drunk standing and with cheers, was: "To the day," meaning the day that Prussia would rule the world and the other nations were but her vassals.

NEW MACHINE FOR ROLLING BANDAGES



Mrs. John Ames and Mrs. John Mural, both of Boston, are shown in this picture rolling bandages by means of a new machine recently invented by Dr. John W. Elliot. The machine folds, cuts and rolls bandages and can turn 100 yards of gauze into dressings in five minutes.

ADOPT WAR ORPHANS

American Soldiers Plan to Help Destitute French.

Generations hence some French man or woman eminent in art, literature, commerce, religion, politics or other lines will publicly testify that he or she was sustained back in 1918 as a child by the generous action of some American soldier.

Thus the United States is welding indissoluble links of friendship, not only in France, but in Italy, Great Britain, Russia, Serbia, Greece, Roumania and all other allied countries.

If our soldiers and sailors, already pledged to give their lives for their country, are willing also to share their small pay with the needy citizens of France, Belgium and Italy, the people safe at home will amply support the next Red Cross fund campaign for \$100,000,000 in May.

Buckshot League Busy. Beaver, Pa.—"Warning to the kaiser's friends: Keep your mouth shut or you'll be next. By order of Squad A. Buckshot League." This warning on a placard adorned an image presumed to represent a pro-German that was suspended by a rope from a pole in front of the Bridgewater postoffice.

REFOREST BARE HILLSIDES

Scarcity of Timber Moves Mining Companies in Pennsylvania to Take Action.

Hazleton, Pa.—The scarcity of lumber for mine pillars and other mine uses has led to the creation of a forestry department by several of the large mining companies, one of which has just reforested Bear Creek watershed with 3,000 white pine and 5,000 Norway spruce trees.

Thirty thousand more trees are in process of cultivation at Hugo, Pa., in the Panther Creek valley. When timber is ready to cut in the vicinity of the mines troublesome waits and long hauls will be eliminated.

More timber in the anthracite region would stop floods, add to the water supply, reduce the drought periods and enable the anthracite industry to add to its output. Many thousands of acres are available about the mines for reforestation.

Need You Worry About This?

The edges on the \$20 gold pieces wear holes in your pocket.

Gets Long Lost Watch.

Easton, Pa.—Twenty years ago William D. Evans lost a watch in Washington township, between Bangor and Centreville. He took no less than twenty-five bicycle trips between these points in searching for the timepiece, but to no avail. Several days ago Evans was talking about the incident to a friend at Centreville. As a result of the conversation, it was learned a resident of Centreville had found the watch, and after explanations the long lost watch was returned to its owner.

Champion Whittier.

Big Flat, Ark.—W. J. Sword is ninety years old, yet he holds a state championship. Sword is champion whittler of Arkansas. He challenges all comers. With a trusty pocketknife he began whittling on drygoods boxes fifty years ago. Now he carves out bird houses, hoe handles and little windmills.

To remove paint from common wooden chairs, scrub them with a strong solution of washing soda.