GREAT BRITIAN GRUMBLING BUT FULL OF FIGHT

No More Serious Talk of Stopping Short of Decisive Finish Than There Was in 1914.

Fault-finders Busy as Usual, but Proud of the Year's Record—Fault Found With Admiralty for Policy of Secrecy.

By ED L. KEEN.

London, Nov. 28.—(By Mail)—The close of the year 1917 finds the people of Great Britain grumbling as usual, but—determined as usual.

Despite the war-weariness which necessarily has affected all the belligerents, there is no more serious talk in England today than there was in 1914. The pacifists may be a bit noisier, but they are no more numerous nor consequential than they ever were.

But other folks are noisier, too. The chief symptom of war-weariness in England is the steadily increasing number of vociferous amateur strategists. Most of them are fault-finders.

OBJECT TO MYSTERY.

One very considerable source of popular complaint is the mystery which surrounds the anti-submarine campaign. Britishers generally would have a greater appreciation of their navy's work if they knew about it.

Now, there are two main reasons for the reticence of the British admiralty. One is tradition, and the other is Germany. The working British naval officer is the embodiment of British modesty. It has been so since the days of Nelson. It isn't good form in the navy to talk about your work. It might be construed as boasting, and if there is anything the Englishman abhors it is this.

The British navy is doing a lot of things these days that would be read with the utmost interest and profit by both the British and the allied public—but with far greater interest and profit by Germany. This is why successive new first lords of the admiralty have speedily been persuaded that their previously conceived notions regarding the desirability of publicity were all wrong.

WANT DETAIL OF LOSSES.

It is difficult for the public to understand why, for instance, weekly detailed figures of tonnage losses as well as the number of submarines sunk should not be published. You say the Germans must know these things themselves. But they don't! The British secret service is the finest of its kind in the world today—yes, better than the kaiser's ever was even in the days of Bernstorff—and it knows the Germans don't know. Therefore it is policy to keep them guessing.

The British admiralty is convinced that it would be folly to give the German admiralty opportunity to check up on the data furnished by its submarine commanders some of whom are known to be a trifle over-enthusiastic about their own exploits. Likewise it is most useful to conceal from Germany the fate of its submarines. Some are sunk, some are mined, some surrender, and some are captured. The Germans know how many they have lost, but they don't know how they were lost. This element of uncertainty is a big asset to England. It is one reason why some German sailors recently have preferred to go to prison than embark on submarines.

The nearest approach to definite figures vouchsafed by the admiralty was when Sir Eric Geddes told commons that between 40 and 50 per cent of all German submarines commissioned for work in the northern seas since the beginning of the war had been put out of business.

ASSISTED BY AMERICANS.

In the past year the art of locating and destroying submarines had developed amazingly, and in both these branches of work the British navy has been greatly assisted by American scientists as well as the American navy. But, as Geddes recently admitted to commons, although the weekly toll of submarine victims has been steadily diminishing, the menace—the one great problem of the war—is not yet conquered.

Thanks to the tireless vigilance of the British navy's patrol work in the past year, the German fleet has stayed off the North Sea. There are no more of those sporadic raidings of the English coast which so annoyed the British people in the earlier days of the war. There was just one regrettable slip, when two high-powered, speedy German cruisers under cover of a fog, threaded their way out of their Heligoland minefields, sank a convoy of Scandinavian merchantmen and their escorting British destroyers and got safely back to their base.

It was not practicable for Britain to combat the German naval operations in the Baltic against the Russian fleet. Granted the British fleet could have forced the perilous way through to the Baltic in time and in safety, as explained by Sir Eric Geddes, it would have been impossible to maintain its supplies, and the fleet would necessarily have died of inanition. There is not a competent naval authority in England who would have sanctioned such an adventure.

GREAT MILITARY RECORD.

Militarily, Britishers have every reason to be proud of the year's record. On the west front Haig's successes have been the most notable British land achievements of the war—beginning with the capture of the highly fortified Vimy ridge in April, followed by the equally difficult Messines ridge in June, and finally after a long series of unprecedentedly fierce assaults, the domination of Passchendacle ridge in November. The latter feat especially demonstrated British superiority in driving force, morale, munitions supplies, air work, generalship—and persistence. In man power the Germans excelled, having been able to draw at will from the Russian front.

The achievement was all the more remarkable inasmuch as it was undertaken under the most adverse weather conditions as well as over up-hill ground naturally favoring the enemy. This prolonged battle marked the British conquest of the new "pill-box" system of German defense, just as Arras, Vimy and Messines progressively vanquished the maze-like, ferro-concreted trench system.

IN THE NEAR EAST.

In the east, following the late General Maude's brilliant capture of Bagdad, after Murray's failure at Gaza, Allenby who replaced him has been daily reteaching us lessons in Biblical geography.

Britain's present solidarity is shown by the fact that it is the only belligerent country that in the past year has not suffered a cabinet upheaval. There have been several near-crises, but in no instance have these been the outgrowth of popular disaffection. They have been the artificial creations of small-sized politicians.

This was particularly true in connection with the recent effort of a little coterie of Lloyd George's personal foes in parliament to oust him from the premiership. Their short-sightedness not only left them without a leg to stand upon, but resulted in the greatest triumph of the Welsh statesman's career.

More than this, it marked a new epoch. Britain now stands firmly and unalterably pledged with its western allies to conduct the war hereafter on the basis of the closest possible co-ordination and co-operation. All fronts are now one.

DONATIONS BY THE COUNTY SCHOOLS TO CHILDREN'S HOME

Miss Vance, county superintendent of schools, inaugurated a campaign of teaching giving in the county schools this year. The appeal to the worthy causes has been productive of securing funds for the Red Cross, Y. M. C. A., war work fund, the Belgian childrens' relief fund and lastly comes the contributions for the children's home, which aggregated the neat sum of $114.65. Thirty-five schools contributed to the fund and 23 did not report contributions. Following is the list of schools which made donations, the amount given per capita and the contribution:

Name School.	Per Capita.	Ttl. Amt.
New Hope	.37	$10.00
Spring Hill	.24	3.85
Park	.23	2.10
Riverside	.22	1.55
Rocky Ford	.19	1.30
Victory	.177	7.10
Valley View	.15	4.56
Hillsdale	.15	6.00
Liberty	.14	2.78
Maple Grove	.12	5.60
Five Mile	.12	4.55
Gold Eagle	.12	1.20
Green Meadow	.107	2.15
Pierce Park	.10	3.04
McKinley	.10	1.51
Sunnyslope	.10	2.25
Keefer	.096	.96
Ten Mile Heights	.095	2.18
Stack Rock	.094	1.50
Roosevelt	.09	2.00
Highline	.088	3.24
Cloverdale	.084	3.61
Star	.08	12.09
Mora	.08	3.39
Rosebriar	.08	1.37
Borah	.08	.54
Pleasant View	.076	3.88
Fairbanks	.07	.50
Potlatch	.07	.71
Franklin	.068	11.75
Brookside	.06	1.34
Regena	.046	.32
White Cross	.04	1.10
Barber	.012	1.25
Meridian	.012	3.38
Total		$114.65

Fresh candled eggs, $15 per case. Eastern bacon, 40c. Picnic hams, 28c. Ready mixed paint, $2.25 per gal. Red beans, 12c. Peroxide soap, $1.00 per doz. Write for a price list. Co-Op. Store, Caldwell.—Adv. D29

Mickey Livery, 1002 Main. Phone 266. Adv. tf

HENDERSHOT GETS IMPORTANT PLACE ON NEW COMMITTEE

Secretary Idaho State Fair Association to Work With Two Others to Arrange for Federal Exhibits.

O. P. Hendershot, secretary of the Idaho state fair, has been appointed a member of a committee of three to co-operate with the federal government to arrange for federal exhibits for 1918 state fairs. The other two members of this committee are F. L. Sponsler of Kansas, president of the American Association of Fairs and Expositions, and H. E. McIlvaine of South Dakota. These three were selected from among 200 delegates in attendance at the annual convention of the American Association of Fairs and Expositions, held this month in Chicago, which Mr. Hendershot attended. Recognition on this committee was a distinct honor.

Speaking of the convention, Mr. Hendershot said:

"Fair problems were discussed from all angles, especially as to how the fair managers can aid to win the war. Recognizing the unusual conditions brought about by the war and recognizing the great necessity of conservation of foods, feeds and encouraging the raising of agricultural products and livestock, all agricultural fairs being allies of our government, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

RESOLUTION ADOPTED.

"'Resolved, that we do hereby extend to the United States government the hearty co-operation of our state fairs and expositions, both collectively and individually, and our undivided and individual efforts to aid its officers in winning the war.'

"Secretary of Agriculture Houston was represented at the convention by Mr. Scribner, who came direct from Washington to learn how the department of agriculture might co-operate with the various state fairs and expositions. He was so strongly impressed with what the state fairs are doing that he recommended that a committee of three persons be sent to Washington at an early date to confer with like committees appointed by the heads of co-operating departments. He said that the department of exhibits of which he is the head, exhibited at 10 state fairs in 1917 and would in all probability exhibit at all fairs being members of the American Association of State Fairs in 1918.

FATS ARE NEEDED.

"Hon. Dunkin Marshall, minister of agriculture of Canada, told what Canada is doing for her agricultural fairs. He stated that Canada pays 60 per cent of all prize money offered by their fairs and also pays all judges and their expenses. He finished his address with an appeal for patriotism from all state fair managers, emphasizing the urgent need of increasing the production of pork, saying: 'If we win the war it will be by increasing the productions of fats in the United States and Canada.'

BIG MONEY FOR BULLS.

"The Canadian government is buying all the brood sows offered for sale, sending them back to the farms to be bred in order to increase pork production, regardless of the cost of producing the pork.

"All in all, it was a wonderful convention along patriotic lines. Every address ending with an appeal for co-operation with the government to win the war."

One of the prize bulls offered at the national livestock show held in Chicago at the same time, Secretary Hendershot said, brought $30,000. Another, a yearling, could have been sold for $40,000, but the owner turned down the offer.

The pure bred livestock associations have promised Secretary Hendershot it would do as much for the Idaho state fair in 1918 as it did in 1917 and several will do more, which means $6000 for the Idaho fair next year as against $4000 in 1917.

The Ford Agency now in their new quarters, Eleventh and Front streets. —apv—

Good Night Stories

By Blanche Silvers

GRANDMA'S SUN STORY.

Tell me a story, Grandma, I can't go to sleep," begged little Bess.

Grandma drew her rocker up beside the bed and wiped her glasses, and told this story:

Once upon a time in Fairyland there lived an old man. The Fairies had found him wandering among the clouds one day and had taken him to Fairyland with them.

Fairy Queen had never seen an Earth Being before, so she asked his name and where he came from.

"I have no name. My home is in the great world below," replied the old man. "My people are restless and unhappy because they have no light and I have come in search of help."

The Fairies thought this very strange, so they sailed down to earth. The old man had spoken truly and they planned to help him all they could.

"Gather all the iron, the copper and the silver you can find and bring it to me," the old man begged.

When the Fairies did as he asked them to the old man put the metal into a big kettle and placed them over a fairy fire until they melted and ran together. This he made into a golden ball and hung it up in the sky so its rays shot down upon the earth below.

"It Shall Be Their Sun."

"This will make my people happy, for it shall be their sun," laughed the old man, and he decided to go back to earth and see if they really were happy.

So one day a band of Fairies sailed with him to the meadows, but the Earth Beings were still restless.

"If the Fairies can give us light by day, why can't they lighten our nights?" complained the Earth Beings.

So the old man returned once more to Fairyland.

"They want more," he laughed.

"I can help you," replied Fairy Queen. "If you're willing to give up your life with the Earth Beings and live always with us."

The old man thought about this a short time, but he agreed.

Then Fairy Queen told him he must turn the golden ball until the sparks flew into the air.

The old man took his place at the golden ball and turned and turned until the sparks flew from the sun and fastened their points into the fairy cloud curtains and shed their tiny rays down upon the earth. These the old man called stars. But still the Earth Beings weren't happy.

But one day, after the old man had been turning the golden ball many years, a piece larger than the other sparks flew into the clouds and hung there like a tiny sickle in the sky. Fairy Queen gave it to the Fairies and they hung it among the darkest clouds and the old man called it the Moon.

Should you ever visit Fairyland you will still see the old man turning the golden ball of fire, so the children of the earth may enjoy the light of the sun, the moon and the stars.

'Who was the old man, Grandma?" asked Bess drowsily.

"Old Father Time," replied Grandma, tucking the covers under Bess's chin.

"What a beautiful man he must have been to give up his life to help—" Bess's voice trailed off into a whisper. Grandma turned out the light. Bess was sound asleep.

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Lv. Boise for Duncan, *6:10, *7:00 *8:05 a. m.; 12:05 *4:05, 5:05, 6:05 p. m.

Lv. Duncan for Boise, *6:35 *7:30, *8:30 a. m.; 12:30, *4:30, 5:30, 6:30 p. m.

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Lv. McDermott for Boise 8:15, 11:30, a. m.; 5:55 p. m.

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NOTICE.

The regular annual stockholder's Farmers' Union Ditch company, Ltd., Saturday, January 12, 1918, at the hour of 10 o'clock a. m. at the Pleasant View school house, Ada county, Idaho for the purpose of electing five directors for the ensuing year, and to transact such other business as shall legally come before the meeting.

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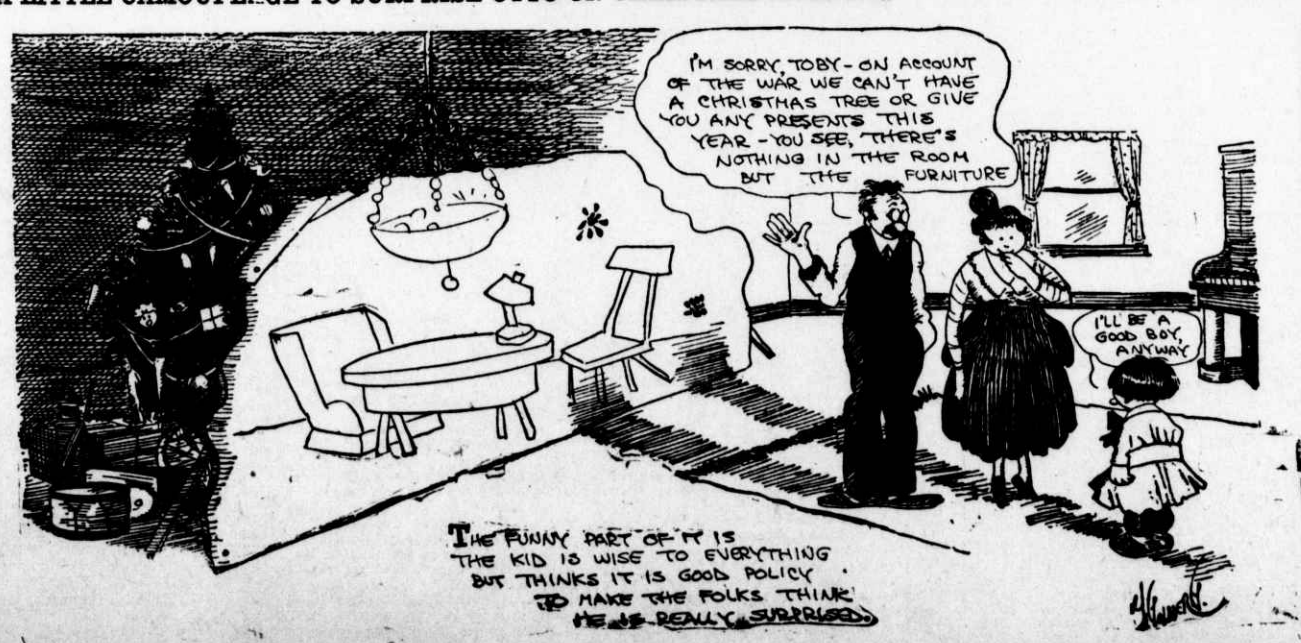
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