Humorous Department

Susie's Score Card.

Our Susie keeps a baseball score,
Just like a regular fan.
She waves it when the bleachers roar
And marks it same's a man;
She munches peanuts through the game,
She stretches like the rest,
And cheers the sound of Matty's name
With proud an dswelling chest.

Sometimes, she's so excited that
She tally's in a Slam
And jumps when Larry takes a bat
And starts the ball to lam;
She dances when her heroes win
And trembles when they fall
And often sharply through the din
You'll hear her cry: "Play Ball!"

She writes golf terms across the card
And claps the homing hikes.
She hisses at the umpire hard
When he counts out on strikes.
She questionmarks each rival run,
But underlines her side;
In ciphers that your senses stun
She indicates a slide.

Upon the pryamids,
Or ancient tablets writ with flint.
Sue has them all on skids.
Tell me not of the Sanskrit sheet
Or mystic Chinese lore.
They're easy to the secret sweet
When Sister keeps the score.
—Kate Masterson, in Life.

An Analogy.—During a financial stringency in a Pennsylvania town some years ago a clerk in a bank was trying to explain to a stolid German why the bank could not pay cash to depositors as formerly, and was insisting that the man should be satisfied with clearing-house checks.

The man could not grasp the idea, however, and finally the president of the bank was called in to elucidate matters. After a detailed explanation of the financial situation, the president concluded with:

"Now, my good friend, you understand, do you not?"

"Yes," was the reply, "I t'ink I do. It's just like dis: When my baby wakes up in der night and cries for milk, I gif her a milk ticket."—Philadelphia Ledger.

Medical Wisdom.—Old Doctor—"Now, when your patient asks you for a tonic, what are you going to do about it?"

Young Doctor—"Find what she really needs and prescribe it."

Old Doctor—"Wrong. No success in that method. Whenever your patient has diagnosed her own case and tells you she needs a tonic, you prescribe a tonic every time."

Young Doctor—"Why?"

Old Doctor—"Don't you guess why? Because she will then have to see that you know almost, if not quite, as much about medicine as she does!"—Judge.

Conserving the Ague.—To a native of a certain section of the southwest that is well known for its malarial tendencies a St. Louis traveling man said:

"I notice that there is a great deal of ague hereabout."

"Yes," was the laconic response.

"That's a great drawback. It unfits a man entirely for work, doesn't it?"

"Generally it does," said the other. "Still, here on my farm, when my man John has a right hard fit of the shakes we fastens the churn-dasher to him and, stranger, he brings the butter inside of fifteen minutes."—New York Times.

Philosophizzles.—The man who expects his dumb animals to know as much as he, proves that they do.

"Many a man, says Uncle Ned, "is so dog-gone busy he can't find time to work."

You can always tell that a man is growing old when you hear him refer to himself as being "so many years young."

"Some of our politicians ought to be careful to use only the purest language," exclaimed Senator Sorghum. "They are so frequently obliged to eat their words."

People who are looking for trouble never have any trouble in finding it.

"Argument," says Grandpop, "specially political argument, is generally two-thirds argue to one-third ment."

The Allegory of the Four Flies.—A celebrated food expert tells of an allegory that runs as follows:

Four flies, making their way into a pantry, determined to have a feast.

One flew to the sugar and ate heartily, but soon died, for the sugar was full of white lead.

The second chose the flour as his diet, but fared no better, for the flour was loaded with plaster of Paris.

The third sampled the sirup, but his six legs were soon raised in the air, for the sirup was colored with aniline dye.

The fourth fly, seeing all his friends dead, determined to end his life also, and drank deeply of the fly poison, which he found in a convenient corner.

He is alive and in good health. That, too, was adulterated.—Farm and Fireside.

Strict Censorship.—"So you were in the battle of the Marne?"

"Yes, ma'am," replied the tramp.

"What can you tell me about that great fight?"

"Not a word ma'am. I'm on my honor not to reveal a thing I saw or did. That's very strict military rule."—Detroit Press.

Modest Chap.—First Poet.—"Heard a jolly good compliment on your 'Daffodils' yesterday, old chap."

Second Poet—"Indeed?"

First Poet—"Yes, Fellow asked me if I wrote it."—Boston Transcript.

Physician—"Tell your wife not to worry about that slight deafness, as it is merely an indication of advancing years."

Mr. Meek—"Doctor, would you mind telling her yourself?"—Judge.

Well Trained.—Borleigh—Nice dog! Have you taught him any new tricks since I was here last?

Miss Smart—Oh, yes, if you just whistle he'll fetch your hat.—Boston Transcript.

Guessed Right—Teacher—"Harry, if you had three apples and some one gave you five more, what would you have?"

Harry—"I guess I'd have a pain in my stomach."—Chicago News.

explored my pockets again last night."

"As an explorer should. She acquired enough material for a lecture."—Life.

IMPORTANCE OF DISCIPLINE

Why the Professional Has Advantage of the Amateur.

There is as much professionalism in the fighting of war as in prizefighting. The following statements by an American general, West Point graduate, help to understand the task that Germany puts before this country and the allies.

The Germans alone knew about this kind of war and have prepared for it.

West Point neither taught nor knew anything like it except for observation and recent study. It is as new to the veteran American or English officer as to the nineteen-year-old recruits.

This modern fighting is a matter of discipline and professionalism—"discipline" that overcomes excitement, ignores wounds, endures everything, obeying orders.

To understand what this war means you must know that a Prussian officer can rely on his men as though they were so many posts of steel automatically moving or standing, as he commands.

People ask how soon after they are enlisted can they be made ready for this kind of fighting. They are surprised to hear that three months' preparation or six months' preparation is little better than nothing and guarantees nothing.

What are three or six months of discipline in training compared with the German soldier training and disciplined from the cradle?

Newspaper dispatches talk about throwing in reserves, but the truth is that reserves lacking the discipline of years can not stand.

In the noise of bursting shells, in the intense excitement of the rush the officer can not be sure that his men ("All absolutely green") compared with the Germans, will stand, or see or obey signals, or know what they are doing.

It is not a question of courage, but of discipline, that absolutely conquers nerves.

The German soldier, an automaton of discipline, stays where you put him or goes where you want him to go, and after a bullet has struck him he still looks for his signal, and obeys it exactly as though he had not been hit.

Not only the German soldier in the field but the whole German nation, the public, fathers and mothers, men in public life, have all alike been trained and disciplined from their childhood. The German nation works now in one direction, like one single Prussian soldier going forward in a bayonet charge. Germany does not discuss or give orders—she obeys.

Here in America you have all kinds of men, from Mr. Roosevelt down, telling the president what he must do and how the war must be won. You have women, and prohibitionists, and clergymen and various societies giving orders to the head of the nation.

You have the people's representatives in congress criticising and attacking everything, especially the commander-in-chief. National discipline, like individual discipline, is not known.

Germany is fighting with complete reliance on every citizen at home, on every organization, every inhabitant within that iron ring of trenches and steel.

Germany is working with absolutely safe reliance upon every disciplined man fighting in the field.

It is only necessary to give the order, and it is obeyed.

The German at home accepts starvation or semi-starvation or sixteen working hours—and here you must promise your men that they will work only eight hours on national defense work, and get double pay if they ask it.

But, most important of all, you must remember that Germans in the trenches or out of the trenches, waiting for the commander, rushing across the bloody fields with shells exploding around them, are so thoroughly disciplined that nothing checks them, confuses, or bewilders them.

To throw so-called "reserves" absolutely green men, against such forces is almost murder—yet that is what the the allies must do, and have done, and are doing.

So much for the view of an experienced American general familiar with the war's problem. You know the difference between a professional and an amateur prizefighter. A professional, inferior in character, morals, or even physique, has a great advantage over the amateur. When he is knocked down he distinctly hears the referee counting, knows enough to rest while he may, and gets up as the referee counts nine.

The professional keeps his head in "the clinches," knows when and where he should strike in the breakaway. Two men being physically and mentally equal, one a professional and one an amateur, the professional has at least three hundred per cent the advantage.

Germany, the German people, the German army, the German common soldiers are all "professional fighters."

Every man has been disciplined from childhood and trained as a fighter from his young manhood. Every one has been taught that the worst crime is disobedience.

The trained professional German fighter knows that he may be killed, if he goes ahead and obeys orders.

He knows that if he disobeys he will be killed to an absolute certainty.

This country and the allies are amateurs, men that have thought for themselves, never learned to take orders. They have lived as men should live in civilization, as free men thinking for themselves, but when war begins and the occupation of the world is murder, these amateurs of democracy questioning, deciding, are like the untrained men against the professional prizefighter.

To read what is written here is not pleasant, for it means long fighting, and some inevitable disappointment.

When a decent man resents the insults of a professional bruiser he is pretty sure to be knocked flat, in spite of having right on his side. And nation or nations that confront Europe's professional bruiser, the Prussian nation of professional fighters, must expect disappointments.

However, this country and the allied countries abroad need for their protection at least full information. They need to know what it is that confronts and threatens them and what their difficulties will be.

Professional prizefighters do not rule the world. Their status is lower and lower as the years pass. And Germany, the professional prizefighting nation, will in the end, not rule this world.—Arthur Brisbane in an editorial in The Washington Times.

THE NEW ARMY RIFLE.

American Military Experts Say It Is The Best Weapon Made.

The chief of ordnance of the United States army has authorized the following:

American troops are armed with a faster firing and more accurate rifle than used by the Germans, according to our expert designers, manufacturers and marksmen. One military critic and writer (Edward C. Crossman) claims that the German Mauser does not permit the most skilled user to get more than 50 per cent of the firing speed of the modified Enfield adopted for the United States service.

If the rapidity of fire of one army's rifle is twice that of the weapon used by enemy riflemen, and the forces numerically the same strength, the former has in effect, other things being equal, two riflemen to the enemy's one. Hence to make two bullets fly where one flew before has been one of the main objects sought in gun design since organized fighters found a more effective way to battle than the primitive stage of throwing missiles at one another.

The superiority claimed for the American weapon is supported on three counts: Quicker firing as a result of bolt handle design; easier and quicker sighting as a result of sight design; greater accuracy of bullet flight as a result of bullet design and greater mechanical accuracy of chamber and bore. In both the attack and defense of trench positions the rifles are fired without removing them from the shoulder at a rate called "rapid fire," which is the most rapid rate of magazine fire consistent with quick accuracy. When the Mauser rifle, with which the German troops are now armed, was designed in 1898 no one could fresee the development of "rapid fire" from the shoulder which followed and the necessity for which is emphasized by present-day trench warfare.

Bolt Handle in Modern Rifles.

In all modern rifles a "bolt handle" is used to lock the cartridge in the chamber for firing. After each shot the right hand must leave the trigger, grasp the bolt handle, unlock the bolt, eject the empty shell, thrust home another cartridge—all done by movements of the "bolt handle"—and then push the "bolt handle" into the position which again locks the cartridge in the chamber. Thus the position of this "bolt handle" in reference to the trigger is of great importance to rapidity of fire. The Mauser rifle has the "bolt handle" projecting horizontally from the rifle, so that in locking the bolt for firing the index or trigger finger is left several inches above the trigger.

When the United States rifle, model of 1903 (populary called the Springfield) was designed, the length of the barrel was reduced form 30 to 24 inches so that the rifle thus shortened could be used by both infantry and cavalry. The carbine had been carried by the cavalry for years in a leather scabbard attached to the side of the saddle. To allow the Springfield rifle to go readily into a scabbard and to protect its rear sight, the bolt handle was bent down toward the trigger so that it locks a little in front of it. It was little realized at the time what great advantage this design would ultimately result in.

In the United States rifle, model of 1917 (popularly called the Modified Enfield), the bolt handle is bent not only down but also about an inch to the rear so that upon locking the bolt for firing the index finger is guided naturally into position for firing. This feature was adopted from the British Enfield rifle, model of 1914, as made in America, for Great Britain. The speed of firing thus gained is considerable. The contrast in the position of the sights in the two rifles is best illustrated by a simple example. If a pencil is held between the eye and a door knob it may be seen that the farther the pencil from the eye, the greater the movement of the head necessary to cause an equal amount of lateral displacement in the position of the pencil. Assume the pencil to be the position of the rear sight of a gun and the door knob the front sight; the nearer the rear sight to the eye, the slighter movement of the head brings the eye in position to sight the gun. The rear sights on both the modified Enfield and Springfield rifles are placed nearer to the eye of the firer than in the case of the Mauser rifle. The rear sight on the Mauser is placed well forward of the receiver on the barrel, while the rear sight on the Springfield is placed right against the front end of the receiver. The modified Enfield has the rear sight on the rear end of the receiver, immediately in front of the eye of the firer.

The modified Enfield is also provided with a large "open peep" near the eye, through which the eye easily looks and quickly and automatically centres itself in aiming. This large "open peep," combined with its rearward position, gives a good field of view, permitting the rifle to be quickly pointed at an advancing enemy. Incidentally, the rearward position of the rear sight on the modified Enfield rifle lengthens the sighting radius (or distance between the front and rear sights), resulting in increased accuracy. The weight of the Mauser bullet is slightly greater than that of the United States bullet and the bullet is propelled at a somewhat greater velocity, but the Mauser bullet is of a peculiar shape, such that at the longer fighting ranges it is not considered by many of our rifle experts as accurate as the United States bullet, because more apt to tumble or "keyhole" at those ranges, especially when the wind is blowing across the range. It is also known that the Mauser rifle, produced in large quantities for the German government and others, is not made with the mechanical accuracy demanded in the manufacture of the chamber and bore of the United States rifles. One of our rifle experts, who recently fired a captured German rifle, states that the bore was not as accurately finished as in the Springfield rifle, nor was the rifle ammunition as accurate.

The modified Enfield rifle has been received with satisfaction in the National Army camps and some remarkable scores for men untrained in military rifle shooting have been made.

Indian Witch Doctors.—That insects are carriers of many diseases was an accepted idea among Cherokee medicine men long before it was thought of by modern physicians.

The theory of these aboriginal "witch doctors" was (and is today) that insects, being constantly crushed or otherwise destroyed by human beings, seek revenge by establishing communities under people's skins, thus producing an irritation that results in fevers, boils and other maladies.

Primitive medicine is mostly magic, and the treatment of a patient consists largely in incantations that are supposed to drive out the evil spirit or other mischief-maker that causes the trouble. Somewhat elaborate paraphernalia is employed, all of it magical. The Sioux doctor at the bedside wears a hideous mask.

It is very desirable to "stand in" with the medicine men, who may incidentally deal in dangerous spells, selling them to good customers who wish to kill or afflict an enemy.

The possession of a little of a person's saliva, collected on the end of a stick, enables the Cherokee doctor to make life very unenjoyable to that individual. He may cause it to breed animals or sprout corn in the body of its former owner.

For example cases the doctor has a special prescription which is prepared by putting into a joint of the poisonous wild parsnip seven earthworms beaten to a paste and as many splinters from a tree that has been struck by lightning. These are buried with proper ceremony and the person aimed at is expected to shrivel up and die within seven days.—Popular Science.

NOTICE

IS hereby given that a meeting of the stockholders of the Kirkpatrick-Belk Company, a South Carolina corporation with its principal place of business at York, S. C., will be held in the office of the company on TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 1918, at 4 o'clock P. M., to consider a resolution to increase the capital stock of said corporation.

By order of the Directors.

KIRKPATRICK-BELK CO.

April 5, 12, 19. 26