

SUPPLIES WILL WIN THE WAR, DON'T WASTE 'EM

Keynote of the British Troops at the Front Now.

IT SOON MUST BE OURS

During the Construction Period the British Army Was Lavishly Equipped and Little Attention Was Paid to Waste at Spigot—Now a Salvage Department Is Literally Saving Thousands of Pounds a Day.

Over in the American lines there is a sort of a standing order—never reduced to printed form, but wholly in effect nevertheless—which runs about as follows:

"Get the goods. Never mind what they cost. Get the goods."

It was perhaps inevitable under the circumstances. A small American force reached France almost literally without a spare undershirt to its collective back. There were shortages of blankets and food and overcoats and hats and gun slings and pack saddles. It had been gathered in a hurry when the United States hurriedly determined to go to war, writes Herbert Coray, with the British armies in the field, to the Chicago News.

Because the men had not been properly equipped or clothed on our own side of the water—because they did not bring food sufficient to their needs—because so many things were needed at once—the element of economy gave way to the element of haste.

Huts at "Brown Stone" Prices. We paid and we are paying through the nose for our lack of foresight and provision.

Therefore one hears stories of French workmen being hired to build huts for our men at salaries which would make the old-fashioned Pittsburgh rolling mill boss—the sort who used to drive to work each morning in his own car—envy the French carpenter. One hears of huts which have been run up at brown stone prices. One hears of a hotel rented at four or five times its normal rental in times of peace. Even the French people, who are getting the money, are kicking about it. They say the Americans are spilling the market for them.

"It is the war price," I said in resignation the other day when I had been stung to a blue welt.

"Mia, non," objected the French friend who accompanied me. "It is the price American."

All this, as has been said, is inevitable, because we did not take that switch in time of which the proverb tells. It is perhaps also inevitable that the officers of our old regular army, which had been notoriously starved in times of peace and who are now luxuriating in unlimited funds, should develop a Coal Oil Johnny habit of mind. But the time will come when economy must be considered. It might be well for some of our staff to make a careful, even a prayerful, study of the British system for preventing waste.

It grew slowly but surely. Mind you, the British system did not spring to life over night. No army in the field has been so lavishly equipped as that of Great Britain. Its men are given of the best, from bacon to saddle leathers. During the construction period, when all energies were bent to the creation of an effective army in the field, little heed was paid to the waste at the spigot. Some of the early camps were littered with half-worn out equipment of various sorts. Guns and limbers and old shoes and what not, having worked through their period of greatest effectiveness, were cast aside.

I think it is but fair that emphasis should again be put upon the fact that this was an inevitable complement of a period of hurried army building. But when that army was once built and its routing order the orderly British mind rebelled against the wanton extravagance to be seen on every hand. A salvage department was not a part of the original organization, because no one had thought of it. It is justifying its existence today by a saving of literally thousands of pounds a day.

The American people—and the American staff—should realize that this promises to be a long and an enormously costly war for us. There is no reason why we should not prepare in advance for the army economies which will ultimately be necessary.

Old Rifles Made as Good as New. There are certain details of the British salvage system which I may not put on paper. I may not tell, for example, how many hundreds of thousands of rifles have been made over, so that they are practically as good as new. I am permitted to tell the general working of the plan.

gathered up. "Dud" shells are exploded usually, because they are a constant danger, and as a matter of economy it rarely pays to unload them. Empty shells and shell fragments are sent back to be melted down. Brass powder cases are dispatched to the rear to be cleaned and refilled. The odds and ends of a battlefield are gathered up. All are sent to a salvage depot at one of the bases.

Work of Salvage Grows Fast.

In the particular salvage depot which I have been privileged to examine many people are employed. There are hundreds of Frenchmen and women and some German prisoners and some Chinese and a sufficient number of expert British workmen who have been taken from the fighting line to be placed where they can be more useful. A few months ago, comparatively, it was housed in a single shed. Now it grows almost while you watch.

The most impressive feature of the establishment is precisely the feature which I may only hint at, for it enables one faintly to comprehend the gigantic character of the business enterprise which we call war. In a single month, for example, unserviceable horseshoes by the hundreds of tons were assorted and sent to England to be reformed. Block tin weighing several hundred pounds was recovered from unserviceable utensils. Hundred-weights of rusty horseshoe nails were cleaned and made fit for issue. Thousands of mess tins which had been thrown away were retinned so that they are literally better than ever. Hundreds of thousands of pairs of boots were cleaned, oiled and repaired. Tens of thousands of German pistols were put in condition. Other tens of thousands of water bottles were made like new.

Making Over Old Boots.

The net result is the practical elimination of waste. When Mr. Atkins at the front needs new boots now he turns in his old ones and, if he is fortunate, gets nice, well-broken in, comfortable old ones that have been fixed up. If he is unlucky he is forced to take new ones. If he goes to the hospital his old boots and his old clothes are sent to the salvage works to be cleaned and repaired. The army joke is that the army head is of a standard size, so that the army helmet is pressed to drive to work each morning in his own car—envy the French carpenter. One hears of huts which have been run up at brown stone prices. One hears of a hotel rented at four or five times its normal rental in times of peace. Even the French people, who are getting the money, are kicking about it. They say the Americans are spilling the market for them.

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Duchess Mentioned for Red Cross Work



Mary, duchess of Hamilton, was mentioned for her devoted work in the Auxiliary hospital into which her Suffolk home, Easton Park, Wickham Market, was transformed. She has given up all her social duties to devote her entire time to the Red Cross work, and she is one of the most energetic and most faithful workers there.

REHABILITATING MAIMED SOLDIERS

Canada Is Making Skilled Men of the Wounded.

HAS IDEAL PLANT FOR WORK

Only 3,514 Out of 13,826 Who Have Come Back Are Classified as Wounded—Men Are Re-Educated to Fill Positions Paying Higher Wages Than They Received Before Going Into Army.

Out of 13,826 soldiers that have returned to Canada from her overseas forces, only 3,514 are classified as wounded in a report of the Canadian military hospitals commission. The report is especially interesting to Americans because Canada's war problem is in many ways similar to our own.

"Over age" brought home 1,286; under age, 580; tuberculosis, 670; insane, 180; "other causes," 7,068. A total of 9,134 of the 13,826 were sent to hospitals or convalescent homes.

About half—7,418—are either unfitted or only 25 per cent disabled. Those disabled from 20 to 50 per cent number 2,923; disabled 51 to 75 per cent total 927; 75 to 100 per cent, 1,375.

Only 5,233 were native Canadians; 7,418 were born in the British Isles.

They Rehabilitate the Wounded.

In the Guelph Military Convalescent hospital at Guelph, Ont., the Canadian government has an almost ideal plant for the rehabilitation of wounded and sick soldiers. This establishment was formerly a reformatory. It has a farm of 800 acres, which is capable of great development, and has also a woolen mill, machine shop, broom shop, tailor shop, woodwork shop, creamery, lime kiln and equipment for many other industries. The Ontario Agricultural college adjoins this hospital, and its teaching staff will help in the work of re-educating the men. An institution such as this may take a man who is wounded and who has never been anything but a day laborer and send him out well and trained to work at a trade or a profession—whatever he has the brains to learn. Our own government is now building and commencing similar institutions for the care of wounded Americans.

One young man who has a severe scalp wound was a farmer, teamster and general laborer earning wages averaging \$80 a month. He has now a commencing salary of \$70 and is engaged at a much more agreeable occupation. Another was a lumberman and accustomed to earn \$3.50 a day, but on returning to the woods he took charge of an engine at \$4 a day. Another man who formerly made \$35 now gets \$95. All of these men were very badly wounded.

Private Henry Gerrish, who was a teamster when he enlisted, lost his entire left arm. He studied hard in the convalescent hospital, passed the civil service examination, and got an appointment as a postmaster at \$125 a month. In addition he persuaded one of the nurses in the convalescent hospital to become his wife.

A Few More Examples.

A metal polisher who made \$60 a month took a course in commercial work and is now earning \$87.50 a month as a bookkeeper. A private, who was a blacksmith's assistant, took a course in oxyacetylene welding and now makes \$90 a month. A general laborer has become a wood carver and is paid \$70 a month by the Alaska Rebuilding company.

"I always had a liking for drawing and felt that if I ever had the chance I would take up mechanical drawing," wrote a wounded prisoner who had been a milk wagon driver for some years at \$12 a week. "This opportunity was afforded me at the Gray Nuns Convalescent home at Montreal, where, after six weeks, I am in a position to accept an appointment with an initial salary of \$75 a month."

Another man admits that he learned more while in the hospital than he did in 30 years of experience as a mechanic.

"The fact is," he writes, "that at the outbreak of the war I was earning about \$3 a day at my trade. I am now able to hold a job as foreman in a machine shop at more than twice the salary I was getting before."

In this way Canada is making out of her wounded skilled men to take the place of those who are lost.

TRIES TO LASSO BEAR

West Virginia Man Has Thrilling Experience on Mountain.

James S. Ware had a thrilling experience when he encountered a bear and her cub on Cheat mountain, near Elkins, W. Va., recently.

According to Ware, the bears climbed a tree, and being unarmed, he secured some grapevine and followed, with the intention of lassoing them. The mother bear climbed down over Ware "sllobbering in his face," he said, but making no attempt to attack him, and fled into the woods, abandoning the cub. Ware hurried home and returned with a dog and gun, but both of the animals had disappeared.

Divorces Increase in England. Statistics show that divorces have increased in England since the war began.

APPROPRIATIONS FOR WAR RELIEF REACH BIG SUM

\$77,843,435.35 Set Aside by Red Cross for Work at Home and Abroad.

The War Council of the American Red Cross has just made public a report showing appropriations totaling \$77,843,435.35, which were made from the Red Cross War Fund up to January 9. For foreign relief, the report states, \$44,657,796.99 was set aside, \$2,612,532.00 has been appropriated for United States relief and \$24,323,181.12 expended for supplies, either for foreign shipment or for distribution or resale to Red Cross chapters in this country.

The latter item, the statement sets forth, includes \$7,068,640.12, which is included also in the \$30,519,250.00, appropriated for work in France, as well as \$11,288,417.77 for material for resale to chapters. According to the report, it may thus be considered as a working fund and as a liquid asset rather than an expenditure.

The total appropriations for administration at national headquarters and at division headquarters, of which there are 14, amounted to \$1,289,292.76 for the last six months period. This includes \$365,000 for divisional administration expenses and \$250,000 donated for telegraph and cable service; the latter item extending over a considerably longer period of time.

Dues Pay Administration Cost.

Appropriations for administration did not come out of the War Fund, but were more than covered from the portion of membership dues received at national headquarters, the War Council says. These membership dues, which more than paid for all administrative expenses, were dues received before the recent membership drive was made.

The report of the War Council states:

"No expenses of administration in the United States were paid for out of the Red Cross War Fund. All administration is more than met by membership dues. Thus every dollar contributed for relief goes to relief."

The following is a recapitulation of appropriations as announced by the War Council:

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Relief in France (\$30,519,250.00), Relief in Belgium (\$1,939,631.00), Relief in Russia (\$1,545,871.00), Relief in Roumania (\$1,191,717.00), Relief in Italy (\$1,146,018.00), Relief in Serbia (\$71,132.75), Relief in Great Britain (\$1,763,642.00), Relief in Other Foreign Countries (\$2,518,206.00), Relief for Prisoners, etc. (\$49,637.00), Equipment and expenses in U. S. of personnel for Europe (\$1,900.00).

Total Foreign Relief.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Total Foreign Relief (\$44,657,796.99), U. S. Army Base Hospitals (\$4,000.00), U. S. Navy Base Hospitals (\$2,000.00), U. S. Medical and Hospital Work (\$82,000.00), U. S. Sanitary Services (\$1,104,000.00), U. S. Camp Services (\$98,725.00), U. S. Miscellaneous (\$42,817.00).

Total U. S. Relief.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Total U. S. Relief (\$24,323,181.12), Supplies for shipment to France (\$7,963,643.12), Supplies for shipment to Italy (\$4,973,984.00), Supplies for shipment to Great Britain (\$1,127.00), Supplies for distribution in U. S. and abroad (\$4,822,614.00), Supplies for resale to Chapters (\$11,388,417.00).

Total supplies.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Total supplies (\$24,323,181.12), Working cash capital (\$2,795,000.00), Restricted as to use by donor (\$2,844,925.64).

Total appropriations from the Red Cross War Fund.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Total appropriations from the Red Cross War Fund (\$77,843,435.35), From the General Fund (\$24,292.00), Headquarters administration (\$85,000.00), Division administration (\$85,000.00).

Total appropriations from the General Fund.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Total appropriations from the General Fund (\$1,289,292.00), From Miscellaneous Funds (\$18,000.00).

Total appropriations from all funds to January 9, 1918.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Total appropriations from all funds to January 9, 1918 (\$79,460,727.35).

Every appropriation since the appointment of the War Council up to January 9 is itemized in the report, together with a detailed description of the purposes for which the appropriations were made. For instance, the item, \$4,492,014 for supplies for distribution in the United States and abroad, covers appropriations for the purchase of 297,398 blankets, 50,000 comforters, 1,050,000 sweaters, 300,000 helmets, 250,000 woolies gloves, 150,000 woolen wristlets and 260,000 woolen socks.

Condition of the War Fund.

The total amount pledged in the campaign for the Red Cross War Fund last June was \$106,000,000, exclusive of dividends declared by corporations, the War Council announces. The total amount collected was \$98,925,204.66 up to December 23, 1917.

In addition there has been collected direct at national headquarters, either in special or direct contributions, \$3,319,362.19, making a total amount collected, less certain refunds, \$97,226,256.65. Included in this amount, however, is the known amount that was received from dividends.

The War Finance Committee of the Red Cross estimated the total gross amount which it will receive will be \$109,525,055.64, but this does not include a sum which amounts to \$3,000,000 retained by chapters, in accordance with the arrangement by which they were to receive 25 per cent of collections. Thus the gross amount of the War Fund may be stated to be, including interest to date, \$106,525,055.64, the War Council announces.

WAR SLACKERS IN 1776 LIKE THOSE OF 1917

Echoes of America's Struggle for Liberty Seen in County Records in Maryland.

Echoes of the Americans' struggle for liberty in 1776 have been found by war department officials in their search of the records of Harford county, Maryland, in connection with perfecting title to the new army proving ground. A detached document in the clerk's files, dated 1776, sets forth the names of fifteen citizens of the region who refused to sign a declaration of independence said to have been among the first moves in that direction by the American colonists. The reasons given in refusing to sign present a vivid picture of the perturbed state of mind of the colonists. The document reads:

"Benjamin T. Hargrove refuses to sign through religious principles.

"William Wilson, son of John, refuses to sign through religious principles.

"Benjamin Harbord refuses to sign through religious principles.

"Michael Bosor don't sign by reason he signed before.

"Thomas Gilbert don't sign by reason he don't choose.

"Thomas West don't sign by reason it is a mystery to him.

"Philip Cummins don't sign by reason he don't understand the matter.

"John Ward don't sign by reason the congress don't sign and by reason he thinks that if the English gain the day then the congress and the great people will turn the scale and say the commonality of people forced them to stand in opposition to the English.

"John Clark don't sign by no reason he can give.

"Ephraim Arald don't sign for fear it would fetch him into a scrape.

"Isaac Penrose don't sign for reason he don't choose to fight for liberty and never will.

"Benjamin Fleetwood refuses to sign. He says he will go in a vessel, will not fight by land.

"Samuel Gallion says if he should sign he may fetch on himself that he cannot go through.

"Richard Spencer says he cannot write or read and shall not sign any paper."

OBEDY SIGN "KEEP OUT"

Reckless Learning First Lesson in Obedience Returns With Message.

A "green rookie" at Camp Funston, Kan., has been impressed time and time again with the fact that a private of the National Army has to remember a thousand and one "do's" and "don't's."

Recently he was given an order to deliver at a certain office. He returned with the message undelivered.

When asked the reason he replied: "On the side of the building in big letters, is 'Private—Keep Out!' Guess I can read what's what for me."

KAISER WELL GUARDED ON TRIPS TO BELGIUM

Extreme Precautions Taken in Traveling—Even Own Troops Disarmed.

How closely the German emperor is guarded when he travels through Belgium is told as follows by a correspondent of the London Daily Chronicle, who several times has witnessed the Kaiser's arrival.

"Whenever the passage of the imperial train is to take place the fact is not known to the chief railway office until the same day and to his subordinates not until a quarter of an hour before the arrival. In the station the lines are all kept free.

"All workmen on this occasion, whether Belgian or German, were dispatched outside, and access to the station was forbidden. This applied to all passengers as well. The military guards occupying parts of the station and the environs were ordered to leave their posts and pile their arms. The only persons allowed on the platform were the station master, his employees appointed to work the signals and the military chief. There was no guard of honor, no manifestation whatever.

"This clearing of the station takes place at every station through which the train passes, which it does at the maximum regulation speed. At Brussels the detouring took place opposite the Place Rogier, which is a military post since the occupation.

"During the presence of the Kaiser the officials always display the utmost nervousness, in fear of anything taking place, and they always breathe a sigh of relief when their master has gone. The fact that even the military are obliged to retire and pile their arms seems to suggest a distrust of their own army."

ALLIES TO TRY AERIAL TANKS

To Do Work Like That of Land Battleships.

MUST PROTECT THE AIRPLANE

Problem of Construction Still Far From Being Solved—Experience Has Proved Necessity for Building Machines That Are Able to Defend Themselves—Influence on Morale of Troops Is Great.

The construction of aerial tanks, or, to use the technical term, armored airplanes, that will accompany the infantry in the air just as the tanks go forward on the ground, is being considered by the French aviation authorities. The Germans have been using airplanes of this type, recognizing the value of this aid to an attack by infantry.

These machines, being necessarily of considerable weight, cannot fly very fast and are useless for scouting or fighting in the air with enemy planes. But the effect on the morale of troops of airplanes flying over the heads of the foe, pouring into their ranks volleys from machine guns, was amply demonstrated in the battle in Flanders, when British and French observation and fighting planes abandoned their legitimate functions and took part in the infantry attacks. Being of the lightest construction and wholly unprotected, they were easy marks for rifle and machine gun fire.

Must Protect Airplanes.

To utilize to the utmost the airplane in connection with the infantry the protection of the craft by means of light armor is being considered. This principle may be also applied to other classes of planes. Today French tactical aviation possesses the best multi-place machines.

The Breguet, the Hansson, the Caproni B-II are of the greatest efficiency. But experience has demonstrated that artillery observation machines are never safe from attacks of the enemy fighting planes, no matter how vigilant are the acrobats, whose duty it is to defend them. This fact has made it evident that it is necessary to build machines that are able to defend themselves.

The problem of construction is still far from being solved. It is necessary to have specialized planes for reconnaissance, photography and artillery regulation, and there must also be planes for infantry liaison and trench attacks.

Requirements of Service. The first class must be able to fly high and fast; the second, that accompany the infantry, must crawl and go slowly. To crawl at a low altitude they must be armored, otherwise they are quickly doomed to destruction.

Armored planes existed in 1914, and even before the war, but little by little they have disappeared.

On days of attack the French pilots are forced to fly for hours at less than 300 feet to the enemy trenches, filled with machine guns. For several months the Germans have employed an airship of the Junker type, entirely made of metal, all of whose machinery, motor and guns are protected by a shell-proof armored covering. They are thus able in the very face of enemy infantry to attack without such danger to themselves. It is to meet this emergency that the allies are now considering the building of aerial tanks.

HIGH PRICES IN GERMANY

Price List Shows Big Increases Since Beginning of War.

The Massachusetts woman's committee of the council of national defense is in receipt of a price list now in force in Germany which contains the following interesting quotations:

Cotton socks for infants were 6 cents per pair, now 72 cents for same grade.

Machin cotton was 4 cents per spool, now 22 cents.

Ladies' woolen stockings were 60 cents, now \$3.00 per pair for same quality.

Cotton voile was 13 cents per yard, now \$2.85 for same quality.

Ladies' chemises were \$1, now \$16 for same quality.

Half-wool dress goods were 26 cents per yard, now \$6.75 for identical material.

Such prices here would make American women think that we have gone back to Civil War prices.

SHOOT BEAR IN CAVE

Followed Him Into His Den and Used a Torch.

With a 400-pound brown bear as the trophy of his hunting expedition, W. H. Figgins returned to his farm home north of Belgrade, Colo., from the West Gallatin canyon. In killing the bear he had an experience that probably few sportsmen would care to duplicate.

Mr. Figgins followed the bear into his den about 100 feet underground, taking a torch with him.

The bear started toward Mr. Figgins, and as it gave a big grunt it blew out the torch. In the utter darkness of the bear's den Mr. Figgins fired his gun and killed the animal. It took ten men besides himself with ropes to get the dead bear out of the den.