

Sweden's Change Of Heart.

Sweden, which was pronouncedly pro-German in its sympathies at the outbreak of the war, and for some months afterward, may still cherish its ancient and natural anti-Russian sentiments, but admiration for Germany has departed. The moral support of the Scandinavians, which might have been counted one of Germany's proudest assets has been forfeited by degrees until now Norway, like Denmark, is openly pro-British, and Sweden is called the "most ostentatiously neutral" nation in Europe. In addition to the war features that have alienated the esteem of nearly the whole world, Sweden has seen a mercantile marine loss from Germany's reckless war zone policy, and perhaps has its indignation aroused by the persistent attempts of Germany to drag the Swedish army into the war. On this latter subject there is more to be said when the whole story of Germany's intrigue is told German diplomacy has not been of the same quality as German guns. Such bungles as have perpetrated by the German ambassador to the United States are fair sample of a weakness that becomes doubly prominent when compared with the empire's war strength in other directions. —Brockton Times.

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Germans Fail In Attack

PARIS May 7.—(2.35 p.m.)—The French war office this afternoon gave out the following statement on the progress of hostilities:

The Germans delivered an attack yesterday at the close of the day at Bagatelle in the Arzonne. It resulted in a complete failure.

"On the remainder of the front particularly to the north of Ypres, and in the region of Vauquois, there have been no joint artillery engagements."

LONDON, May 7.—A despatch from Havre to the Daily Telegraph says that Prince de Ligne, President of the Belgian Red Cross, reports that General von Bissing, the German Governor of Belgium, has dispossessed the Red Cross of its powers and seized funds amounting to 200,000 francs (\$400,000). The despatch states that Prince de Ligne has filed protests with the American Minister to Belgium and the international headquarters of the Red Cross at Geneva.

GENEVA, via London, May 7.—A despatch to the Tribune from Vienna says that army corps under Archduke Eugene has arrived at Moraviz, ten miles from the Serbian frontier, advancing against Serbia.

LONDON, May 7.—The Harrison liner Candidate, vessel of 5,858 tons, has been sunk by a German submarine off the Irish coast. The Candidate was attacked on Thursday, off Waterford, near where St. George's Channel joins the Atlantic Ocean. The crew was saved. The Candidate hailed from Liverpool.

PARIS, May 7.—A special despatch from Rome says that former Premier Venizelos of Greece, who is now at Cairo, has been recalled suddenly, to Athens in view of events which are impending.

M. Venizelos and his cabinet resigned when King Constantine declined to accept his recommendation that Greece enter the war on the side of the Allies. He exiled himself voluntarily from his country, when a question of veracity arose, between the King and himself, declaring he would not return until he had been vindicated.

UNKIND COMMENT.

Recently while going through a cemetery in a California town the visitor came upon this on a tombstone: "I would not live away." Beneath the inscription some irreverent person had penciled, "Sour Grapes."

Italy's Motives

The Pope, or at least his newspaper organ, the "Observatore Romano," deploring the war fever in Italy, accuses the people of wanting war through sheer love of fighting. I am in all cases impossible to say how far the survival of the fittest in man is the cause of warfare. The instinct is still very strong in the human race, and the Englishman has always had the credit of having his full share, and we do not only know that the Italian is after his own fashion a fighting animal. But nations are usually civilized enough to allege to themselves as well as to others some more intelligent cause for their strife. Under the usages of nations it is required that a nation shall allege some good and sufficient selfish cause for fighting, and Italy has not pretended anything but self-seeking motives in threatening to enter the war. Judged by her professions and her diplomacy she is entirely selfish. The woman's anguish is nothing to her, but she sees in the distress of Austria an opportunity to add some bits of territory, which, being Italian in population, she has always known as not deemed Italy since Garibaldi gave them that name. By her own showing her purpose is to take advantage of Austria's extremity to get her prey easily, and she has always professed to be calculating just how long she could leave the fighting to others, so that she could seize her prey at greatest cost to the present Allies and at least cost to herself. This is the attitude of Greece and the Balkan States that have not yet joined in the melee. To this attitude they are confined by the present state of international ethics.

But a side light morally reassuring is thrown on Italy's real spirit by one of her statesmen who has been a strong advocate of peace. He says that it looks to him as though the Germans were trying to provoke Italy to war, seeing that whenever the people were getting calmed a little they always did some new exasperating act that roused them again to rage. Not one of the acts that he enumerated as having this effect was done against Italy. He referred to the bombardment of English coast towns and the sinking of neutral ships in the North Sea and to such like inhumanities. So it seems then that when we pierce through the veil of Italy's reason and reach her heart her real desire to get into the war is because of the wrong that is being done, and the menace of successful despotism, a reason altogether honorable and a foretaste of what we may look for in the new era when, instead of being required to forswear brotherhood, the nations will unite to vindicate the right of any one that is wronged. This is a kind of cooperation that must precede the achievement of universal peace. In so far as Italy is under the impulse of sympathy with injured humanity her anger will be kindled to sevenfold heat by the sinking of the "Lusitania." One English paper prophesies that this will bring all the neutral nations into the war. Should it do that it would be a blessing worth the cost, as it would be the beginning of co-operation among the nations, not for their own, but for the world's good.—Montreal Weekly Witness.

Knitting For the Belgians

[By Jalara Cnyler, in The Living Church.]

Little Joan had learned to knit to help the Belgians. All the pity that six years is capable of, all the energy which seems impossible to have been generated in only six years, was given to them with that singleness of purpose characteristic of six years. The only thing the stiff little fingers could essay was a scarf; but before it was set up on the fat, wooden needles it had become, in her imagination, a finished product, something which could be thrown as a refuge from the horrors of war all over Europe's "far-flung battle line." It was a wizard's wand. By its magical touch it could change the whole aspect of things; it was that long-sought-for balm which, poured out as oil, could still the troubled waters of men's souls; it was that vague something suggested to our administration which would compel men to lay down their arms, to the making of which many had given the energy and brains of the most efficient years of their life.

Truly its mission was great, this flimsy, woolen scarf on the fat, wooden needles!

I watched little Joan as she sat there knitting, her short legs dangling half way to the floor, her whole soul concentrated on her work. Outside, the other children were playing with shouts of joy, and occasionally she lifted her head to look at them with wistful eyes, drawing her breath in a little quivering sigh.

When I kissed the tired face "goodnight," there were fourteen rows to the good in the gray woolen scarf.

As I sat reading by the lamp in the evening, my English governess came into the room holding in her hand Joan's knitting. It had been unravelled out down to a few remaining rows. "Joan made a mistake way down here," she said, "and I thought as she was learning to knit it is important that she should do it properly, so I pulled it out."

"Oh, couldn't you have knitted the stitch up?" I asked in dismay as I thought of the indomitable spirit which had gone into the knitting of those fourteen rows.

"It wasn't a dropped stitch," she said, "She had muddled it a bit, and I thought it had best come out. American children are never taught to do anything thoroughly."

I knew she was right, theoretically and yet as I looked at all that was left of it it seemed so pitifully small and inadequate, a labor of Sisyphus, a few stitches its only foundation of fact, its accomplishment a thing of faith! And, after all, it had not been given the child as a task, it was a voluntary offering of her best labor, unskilled though that labor might be. By her act of service little Joan had enrolled herself in that great army of Pity the stream of whose self-sacrificing love is being poured forth for the healing of the nations. Against the horror and misery of war that other army stands, its patient devotion helping to prepare the way for that Love which must eventually conquer all things, and on through the dim vista of the future years the young recruits, of whom little Joan is one, are coming a vast unnumbered

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ed multitude on whose forehead is set as a seal, the vision of Peace.

Before I went to bed I had knitted all the crinkly, ravelled-up part of the worsted in again. Then I took it upstairs and laid it at the feet of little, sleeping Joan.

I knew that with the first light of the coming day she would sit up in bed and with all the pity six years is capable of and all the energy which had been generated in six years, she would knit, with her stiff little fingers, for the "Belgiums."

Truly its destiny is great—the flimsy grey scarf on the fat wooden needles!

Seed-Growing in Canada.

In 1913-14, according to information gathered and supplied by Mr. George H. Clark, the Dominion Seed Commissioner, Canada imported from France and Germany no less than 900, 743 pounds of beet and mangel seed; from Holland and France, 350,849 pounds of turnip seed, and from France alone 32,966 pounds of carrot seed. Radish, cabbage, cauliflower, celery and parsnip seed were also imported in large quantities, mainly from France. While it is thought there was nearly sufficient of these seeds on hand to meet the requirements for this year, these channels being closed, for 1916 there will plainly be a dearth.

The foregoing important facts are duly set down in Bulletin No. 22, of the Second Series of the central Experimental Farm, of which M. O. Malte, Ph. D., Dominion Agrostologist, and W. T. Macoun, Dominion Horticulturist, are the authors. "Canada," the Bulletin very emphatically says, "should make herself independent of foreign markets, and produce at home what now has to be bought abroad. Canadian farmers should not only try to meet the emergency demand for field root seed in the immediate future, but should also try to establish a permanent seed-growing industry which would make them independent of any other countries." There will assuredly not be a dissenting voice

to this doctrine as a general principle and the Bulletin, which is being gratuitously distributed and can be had on application to the Publications Branch, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, tells in detail how this desirable state of affairs can be brought about. Cases are given where successful effort has already been made but the date regarding the matter, it would seem, is not quite as available as could be wished. What is definitely known is that quantities of seed are brought in from abroad, much of which it is believed could, with the requisite care, be produced in Canada and of a character equally as good and high.

General principles for successful seed-growing (selection, etc.), are laid down in the Bulletin, which also details methods that could profitably be adopted for planting, threshing and cleaning of many species of field roots. A list that is given of the best varieties of vegetables for stock seed is of good practical value. Farmers and gardeners are also reminded that as an inducement to the growing of field roots and garden seeds in Canada the Dominion Government is willing to aid seed-growers by cash subventions, particulars of which can be obtained from the Seed Branch, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa. It should be added that as the purpose is to encourage the growing of selected seed, only bona fide growers of such seed are eligible to receive the subventions.

Beautifying Clothes Line Posts

A suburban resident grew tired of the wooden clothes-line posts in his back yard; he incased them in chicken wire netting and planted sprouts of honeysuckle around the posts; he then nailed a little bird house to the top of each. In a short time the honeysuckle had completely covered the unsightly posts, and a pair of bluebirds built a nest in one of the houses. Many of this man's neighbors took up the idea, and honeysuckle vines and bird houses now make the clothes-line posts of his locality a pride to their owners.

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