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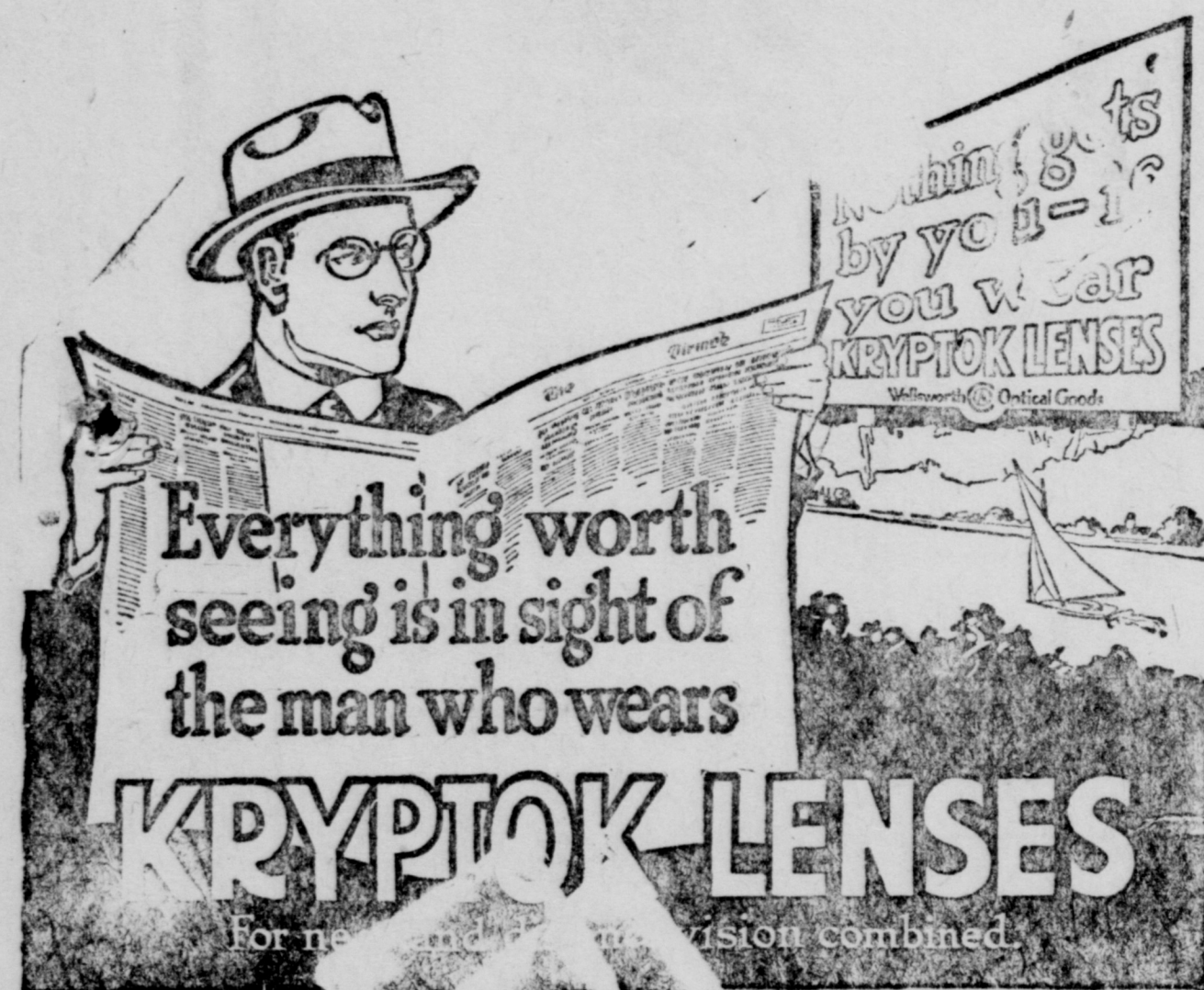
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Burns for 15 hours on 1 quart gasoline, 300 candle power.

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FIGHTING FOR ALLIES

FRENCH COLONIAL TROOPS ANXIOUS TO FIGHT.

Black Men From Africa Eager to Avenge Sufferings of Friends in Tropic Colonies—Sengaleses Have Especially Distinguished Themselves in Important Action and Are Brave and Loyal.

YOU white men are forced to fight; we are volunteers," say proudly France's colonial soldiers when they reply to questions as to the reason for their coming to Europe to fight. Whether they come from Senegal, Madagascar, or Somaliland, all of them express gladness at the opportunity to pay off old scores for cruelties committed on their kindred in the German colonies in Africa, the news of which has been spread among them from one end of the continent to the other by their mysterious methods of communication. All of them know of the fate of the Herero nation in German Southwest Africa, where only a few wandering groups remain alive of what once was a powerful negro tribe.

Undoubtedly the most popular of the French colonial volunteers are the cool-black Sengaleses. Their courage in the field and their devotion to their white officers have become proverbial. The mentality of these tribesmen is almost infantile in its simplicity, but they are quick to learn. Their adaptability is such in warlike matters that they have become expert in very short time with all the most modern weapons and is such that even in their hours of rest in their instruction camps they may be seen in groups exercising with them and repeating the words of command in French, which they rapidly learn.

It has been asserted erroneously that negro troops are not able to support the strain of a bombardment. There certainly have been instances in which a company of Sengaleses, when all its white officers have been picked off by German sharpshooters, has hesitated during an advance, but this was merely because they did not know what to do. During the battle of the Aisne, the Somme offensive, the attack at Laffaux Mill, and the defense of Craonne and the California and Casemates plateau have all been scenes of the heroic courage of the negro troops under artillery fire of the most terrific character.

A battalion of Sengaleses stationed on the spot where the village of Fleury had once stood, on the Verdun front, during the heaviest of the fighting there, made an advance, during which their flank reached almost to the fort of Douaumont. Then they walked into an enfilading fire from dozens of German machine-guns. The French commander, Captain Chauvin, ordered his men to storm the machine-gun positions. The German gunners, on seeing the black warriors coming at them, threw up their hands and surrendered to the number of sixty. The German resistance all along the line was overcome owing to this daring feat. Their brilliant work brought the distinction of the war cross to many of the negro troops and the entire battalion was mentioned in army orders for its bravery.

When in rest camp the Sengaleses amuse themselves like schoolboys. Dancing and singing and gambling occupy much of their time. Many of them, however, give up hours daily to learning French, for they regard everything pertaining to France as better than anything else. One of them came upon a Canadian station wagon driver repairing his motor and spoke to the Canadian in his broken French. The Canadian did not understand, and the African turned and walked away, wearing a disdainful expression and remarking, "What? You don't understand French? Have you never been to school?"

Japan Flourishes.

Activities growing out of the war have led to the development of the heretofore neglected stretch of territory between Tokyo and her seaport, Yokohama. It began with the rise of the Asano Shipbuilding Company, the yards of which have grown like magic, gathering around them hundreds of new dwellings for employees and tradesmen. Prices of land have mounted to high figures. Kawasaki has taken on new aspects and the sky is darkened by the smoke that pours from its lofty factory chimneys. Pure drinking water is a serious want which will be remedied by new works and the laying of mains for supply to the Kamata, Inada, and Kawasaki districts. Another project is the immediate construction of a canal between Tokyo and Yokohama at a cost of \$2,500,000. The foreshore will be reclaimed to the extent of 7,200,000 square feet. When the canal already financed is completed the distance between the two cities will be covered by barges and canal boats in daylight trips, whereas the present sea route of twenty-four nautical miles often takes a lighter four to seven days. These improvements, with better railway facilities, will ultimately lead to what will practically be a continuous town from one city to the other. —East and West News.

A Valuable Tree.

Besides the rats used in confectionery the Indian cashew tree yields an insect-repelling gum, a juice that makes indestructible ink and three kinds of oil, one edible, the other used to tan fishing nets and preserve wood.

How Butterflies Sleep.

The butterfly, like the bat, invariably goes to sleep head downwards, its eyes looking straight down the stem of the grass on which it rests. It folds its wings to the utmost, and thus protects its body from the cold.



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A safe, reliable regulating medicine. Sold in three degrees of strength—No. 1, 2, 3. No. 2, 50¢ per box. Sold by all druggists, or sent prepaid on receipt of price. Free literature. Address: **THE COOK MEDICINE CO., TORONTO, ONT. (Formerly Walker).**

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If you shiver in frosty weather, if you have cold hands and feet, if colds are stubborn and frequent, then your blood may be thin and impoverished.

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ANNUAL REPORT OF L. P. FISHER LIBRARY

Very Large Number of Books in Circulation. Some Donations.

Number of persons making applications for books Jan. 1st, 1917-1377.

Number of persons making applications for books Jan. 1st, 1918-1637. Being an increase of 260 persons.

Number of persons using library for reading and reference work—4435.

The following books have been in circulation during the year—

Miscellaneous.....	199
Science.....	264
Literature.....	538
Travel.....	207
Biography.....	222
History.....	573
Fiction.....	11831
Junior Non-Fiction.....	539
Junior Fiction.....	539
Total	19753

Books and magazines have been donated by the following:

Mrs. C. H. L. Perkins, Mrs. Lenox Napier, Mrs. Chas. McLean, Miss Lane, Dr. R. F. Quigley, St. John; E. S. Fairweather, Esq.; St. John; G. Ernest Fairweather, Esq.; St. John; Dr. N. Ayer, Rev. Frank Baird, Glenn F. Adney, John Lindsay, Esq., A. B. Connell, Esq., G. L. Holyoke, Esq., Bank of Montreal.

Since writing the above report, 'The British Colonies' in twelve volumes has been presented to the Library by Byron Bull Esq.

Milady's Hat This Spring

The commandments this season are entirely new. Inexpensiveness looms up as a vital consideration, and the problem of selecting a spring hat assumes a different aspect. To quote from an article in the February Good Housekeeping:

"As in previous seasons, the first dictates of fashion are small, close-fitting turbans of satin; some are not unlike Oriental headresses in their conformity to the head, while others feature brims in a fascinating and wholly new manner. Some small hats are popular with a brim turned down over the face with the effect of an eyeshade, probably designed by the French so that they might escape by a turn of the head some of the horror of a hat that surround them. Many of these little hats have the brim rolling upward



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A Healing Salve

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Send 3c in stamps for a generous size sample.

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Bridgeburg, Ont.
12-17.

in the back, too, so that whatever way that brims are blown by the winds of fashion, the owner of such a one is always certain to be in style."—Good Housekeeping.

Milady's Liniment Relieves Neuralgia.

"TAPPED" GERMAN MESSAGES.

How Eiffel Tower Did Its Bit in the War.

General Clergerie, who was chief of staff to General Gallieni at the battle of the Marne, has recalled some crucial events that turned the tide of the war, says a Paris correspondent of The London Telegraph.

To begin with, the Eiffel Tower played a useful part, and those who never admitted the 300-meter iron monument are now reconciled to it. The German commanders, apparently under the delusion that the French were too stupid to know anything about wireless, used the latter constantly in communication among themselves. All these messages were tapped by the Eiffel Tower and, when necessary, decoded, but half the time the Germans did not even take the trouble to use cypher. Thus among other interesting pieces of information General Clergerie learned that General von Marwitz, commanding the cavalry in von Kluck's army, informed von Kluck that his men and horses were spent and could not move for two days; that the men fell asleep with exhaustion on their saddles, and that nearly all the horses wanted re-shoeing.

Another useful message tapped by the Eiffel Tower was one, September 9, from von Kluck himself, saying that he was retiring with his first army, and in fact telling the other army commanders bluntly, "You must hurry up; I am clearing out."

General Clergerie also gave the first authentic account of the historic taxicab day of September 7. A new division arrived that day to join the Paris army, but how to get it out to the front, nearly forty miles away, in time? Railway transport, it was found, could carry only 6,000 men. How are the remaining 6,000 to be got out?

Clergerie had an inspiration, and decided to risk using taxicabs. Gallieni approved. Clergerie had 100 taxis permanently at his disposal, but wanted 600. Each taxi could carry five men, and thus in two journeys 600 could bring 6,000 men to the front. They must be ready by 6 o'clock. A requisition order was sent out at 1 o'clock. The news spread like wildfire in the taxicab depots, and, as Clergerie says, it was a curious sight to see many chauffeurs driving fares in the Paris streets suddenly stop on hearing the order, turn the fact out and start off at once "to go into battle," and by 6 o'clock the 600 taxis stood ready at Gagny, just outside Paris. They were inspected by Gallieni.

Two routes, going and coming for the double journey, were mapped out, relief cars with tires and petrol drove at intervals in the procession, and stores were also placed at points along the road. The taxis, each carrying five men, started 20 yards behind one another, and in two journeys the 600 taxis had so much 6,000 men by daylight, ready to go into the battle of the Ourcq, and win it, which they did.

Germans to Seize Brass.

All pleas of German landlords and sighs of German housewives notwithstanding, the War Ministry in Berlin declares that the requisitioning of brass and bronze door and window handles and fittings in dwelling houses and other buildings is inevitable. The measure will be carried out in three to four months' time.

The Association of Berlin House-owners' Societies had sent a deputation to wait on the chief of the particular section of the War Office concerned, but all in vain. In place of the brightly shining brass and bronze articles in which she takes so much pride the German housewife will have to content herself as best she can with black "ersatz" (substitute) door and window handles and fittings.

At least the State proposes to supply such uniform substitutes, and even to see to the affixing of some directly after the removal of the original articles. If this be not to the taste of those concerned they must bear the expense of replacement themselves.

Under still another official decree expected very shortly all brass and bronze ornaments, grates, fenders, etc., are to be seized for the metal-deavouring war, while the provisional exemption of requisitioning copper, brass, and nickel objects, particularly domestic articles, has been already withdrawn.

"Life Germs."

The many speculations that have been published concerning the origin of life on the earth and on any other bodies in the universe where it may possibly exist usually assume that, in some way or other, "life germs" are transported across the gulfs of space from one planet to another. Thus it has been suggested that life may have been brought to the earth in meteors. One of the most recent suggestions is that minute "life germs" may escape from the atmosphere of a planet in which life exists, just as molecules of the atmospheric gases are believed to escape from our terrestrial atmosphere, and may be driven by light pressure to some world where physical conditions have become suitable to support life. While there is nothing essentially absurd in these hypotheses, it is not clear why their authors should take it for granted that life can not originate de novo on a cooling planet.—Scientific American.

Russian Salt.

About 51 per cent. of the salt produced in Russia is from lakes, 23 per cent. being obtained by evaporating brine pumped up from boreholes, and 26 per cent. by mining beds of rock salt.

Buttons From Japan.

Japan is supplying this country with some of the buttons used here, and which formerly were provided by Germany and Austria. The value of the Japanese shipments of buttons has trebled in three years.

Makes Baking a Success



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