

GERMAN MIND IS STRANGELY INCONSISTENT

(New York Sun)

In all conditions, whether of peace or war, the German mind shines lustreously as the queerest product of the twentieth century. Its capacity for blindness to all reason and common sense, its utter refusal to see any phase of a question save its own narrow, selfish one, is admirable in its way. The latest exhibition is to be found in the editorial comments upon President Wilson's reply to the German peace trial balloon.

Here is Herr Gothein for instance, writing in the Zeitung am Mittag who complains bitterly that the President's programme is "one of brute force rather than equal rights." This from a German touches the limits of the sublime in comedy. Truly the spaces of hell must echo with saturnine laughter at such a protest from such a source. But Herr Gothein omits no element of unconscious irony. Germany he says, would enter a League of Nations as prescribed by the President with feelings of "indescribable bitterness."

Indescribable bitterness, indeed! We wonder what these fine, high-spirited Teutons conceive the feelings of

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the Allied peoples to be. What is the sentiment of Belgians and Serbians, of the survivors of French manhood, of the women of France, especially those who have passed through the hands of the German soldiery? How do the compatriots of Captain Fryatt and Nurse Cavell feel? Any bitterness there? Or among Americans toward whom German friendship took the tender form of piracy and murder on the high seas?

Too bad that anything should be done to make Germany bitter! She has made the world so sweet for all mankind during the last four years that, no doubt, she has claims for special consideration in a League of Nations. It is monstrous to talk of any force but hers in such a league. Let Germany be the league, by all means, and the rest her vassal States. Plainly this is the end we are all fighting for.

Count Friedrich Von Westarp is wiser or at least less fatuous. He simply sees that the contest of arms must be fought to a finish. This is clear and candid. Very well; to a finish be it; to the bitter end; Unconditional surrender by Germany!

318,400 TONS OF SHIPS BUILT IN CANADA THIS YEAR

Great Program Made Possible by Success of Victory Loan--Immense Industry Repairing the Ravages of the Sea Pirates --Boost For the Steel Industry

The relation of the ship-building industry in Canada to the success of the forthcoming Victory Loan is an important factor to keep in mind. Possibly some people will fail to grasp the idea till they are told, on no less authority than the Finance Minister of Canada, Sir Thomas White, that:

"Every ship-building plant in Canada is working today at capacity—a fortunate situation which would not have been possible had it not been for the success of our last Victory Loan."

Get these figures: The Imperial Munitions Board has no contract, or under construction in this country 90 ships, 44 of them steel, representing a deadweight tonnage of 340,000 tons and a value in money of \$66,000,000. Of this huge program 318,000 tons will be completed this year, an output equal to the entire output of all Canadian ship-building yards from 1902 down to the outbreak of the war, and one-fourth of the output of merchantile ships in the United Kingdom during the year 1917. Then there are many contracts for war vessels for Britain and her Allies, including submarines for the British Government and Italy; 550 motor submarine chasers for Great Britain and 36 for France, and a number of steel lighters, trawlers and drifters for Great Britain.

A Great Output.

That is a prodigious output for Canada, where the industry had fallen low, but it is only the beginning. We have our own mercantile marine to build up and the Dominion Government has adopted an extensive building program. It provides for an expenditure of no less a sum than \$50,000,000. Orders for 24 ships, with a tonnage of nearly 135,000 tons, and valued at \$26,500,000 have already been given for delivery this year and next; and contracts for six giant ships, costing \$15,000,000 and a tonnage of 29,000 tons have been authorized but not yet signed.

There is one difficulty in carrying out an extensive programme, but difficulties are only to be met to be speedily overcome. Delivery of steel from the United States did not come up to expectations so arrangements have been made with the Dominion Iron and Steel Co., for the erection of a big rolling mill to take care of this new work. The government has undertaken to purchase 250,000 tons of steel plates, which will be sufficient for between 750,000 and 800,000 tons of shipping.

Steel Industry Gets Lift

So that the spur given to the ship-building industry means a lift for the steel industry, and work is likely to result that will give employment to many thousands of steel workers alone and strengthen an industry

which will add materially to the growth and prosperity of the country.

There are 18 ship yards in the Dominion, in five Provinces, and a huge amount of wealth will be distributed by keeping these yards going to their full capacity. Only the three Prairie Provinces are not directly benefitted, but they reap the advantage in the greater activity of business generally throughout the whole Dominion.

The money to start shipbuilding on a large scale had to be provided out of the Victory Loan. It was given as an advance to Great Britain, and much more money will be required from time to time. Therefore, everyone should pull hard for the Victory Loan. Make the amount placed at the disposal of the Minister so large that he will not be hampered in his financial operations.

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THE WAR LOAF AND NATIONAL FISH DAY

A recent regulation of the Canada Food Board limits substitutes to the four cereal flours, namely, corn oat, barley and rye. The miller is compelled to sell these substitutes, and the dealer to purchase them in the proportion of one pound of substitutes to each four pounds of flour, and retailers must limit their scale of substitutes to these cereal flours. The present so-called substitutes must now take the place they occupied prior to the war, that is, they will be used for porridges or cakes; but the legal substitutes are to be mixed with wheat flour in the making of bread or pastry. This means that we are to have at last to sit at a common table with the people of the Allied Nations. Let there be no shirkers.

The thirty-first day of October is Canada's National Fish day, and the Food Board is anxious that the last week in October be made a banner one in the consumption of fish throughout the Dominion. During the past few weeks our local dealers have had difficulty in securing adequate supplies of fresh fish, but the situation is rapidly improving and there is every indication that supplies will be on hand for their demand during the coming fall and winter.

We hope that all fish dealers will enter into the spirit of a National Fish Day Campaign, that they will make their premises as attractive as possible, secure plenty of fresh fish, offer tempting prices and centre the public attention upon the use of fish as a substitute for meat. The increased consumption of fish in this country should not be temporary; the dealer has an opportunity to establish the trade that he has enjoyed during the war, he should use the incentive of war conditions to lay the basis of a prosperous and enlarging business. The consumption of fish in this country has been small in comparison with that of other nations, yet we have the best fish in the world.

It is astonishing how prevalent is the absurd notion that the limitations and restrictions regarding the use and sale of sugar do not apply to the so-called brown or yellow sugar. Of course they do. It is not the facilities for refining but the raw sugar cane and beet that are scarce.

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