

HOW WILL ALLIES PAY DEBT?

England and France Said to Be in Peculiar Position of Financial Distress.

England's foreign investments are not owned by the government, but by individuals, and they will not sell; and there seems as yet no way to compel them. American securities are the only ones that appeal to the British and French investors at this moment as being good.

What no financial expert ever predicted was the amazing trouble that England and France would have in paying for the equipment purchased in this country. It has been thought that these two creditor nations would merely have to sell their foreign securities, or merely stop making foreign investments, to have all the money they needed. Sir George Parish, a representative of the British treasury, came to this country last winter and boastfully told his interviewers and hosts that England could fight on for five years merely on the interest from its foreign investments—an assertion that Sir George probably wishes he had never made. Even Lloyd-George formerly spoke of the \$5,000,000,000 and the \$2,000,000,000 this country and Argentina respectively owe Great Britain; but he has long since changed his tune. England and France are in a position of peculiar financial distress, Albert W. Atwood asserts in the Saturday Evening Post. They are buying war equipment in this country on a gigantic scale. They are exporting practically nothing to this country, and their inhabitants will not or cannot sell American securities back to America. They have nothing to pay with but gold, and they cannot afford to lose gold.

France is in an even more embarrassing position. She has gone mad for years over *epargnes-savings*. The average Frenchman would rather go without clothes and food at the present moment than sell his American securities at a loss. A friend of mine in New York recently received a letter from a French banker in which it was said that only one thing gave his clients une grande quietude at the present moment, and that was their holdings of American stocks and bonds.

Wherever you go in France today you will find American investments held intact; for the Frenchman will tell you that if he sells others will do the same, and that would put down the price of American securities—"which would never do."

NOT ALTERED BY SUFFRAGE

Writer's Testimony Is That Scandinavian Women Have Proved Their Right to It.

An old story much believed was that Charles XII of Sweden was a woman. He wasn't; but if Scandinavian women showed the capacity for public affairs in his day that they are showing now it was not surprising that even military genius was ascribed to a woman.

All those old viking countries of the North are today further advanced in woman's rights than any other countries. Norway, Denmark and Finland and Iceland have practically equal political and industrial rights of men and women. Sweden's promised law for that equality has been held back only because the critical conditions of the great war has produced have subordinated every other question. And Sweden was the first country or state where the municipal vote was given to women.

Mabel Potter Daggett writes in the Pictorial Review that these free women of the North, as she calls them, are as good housewives and as capable and womanly mothers and wives as they ever were or as can be found anywhere. These women, who have elected members of national parliaments and of town councils, whose industrial and economic councils and clubs and organizations have as effective a voice as those of men—these women have sunk none of their feminine values in their values as feminists.

In tradition and history the mothers and wives and daughters of the ancient Northmen shared the hardships and the daring, and shared the heroic virtues of the men. It is not a violent change that in an age of different actions and perplexities they should assume their different share and retain their corresponding virtues.—Kansas City Star.

"Rag-Time."

Rag-time music, "being in no wise serious" is the reverse of depressing. "The African jingles of the present day create an emotional atmosphere of restlessness and excitement which is typically American, and which is opposed to health only so far as our national restlessness and lack of poise tend to make us a people whose national disease is nervous exhaustion." Roughly speaking, lively music, such as rag-time, is likely to rouse depressed persons from their melancholy; sad and pathetic music will soothe the excitable and hypernervous.

Offered a Compromise. Househusband—Yes, I'll give you a good, square meal after you saw some wood. Trampette—My back's too lame, but, instead, I could lecture on suffrage before your literary society.—Life.

IS CALLED DUTCH THACKERAY

Work of Maarten Maartens, Says Eastern Journal, Will Live as Long as "Pendennis."

Holland lost in the death of Joost Marius Willem Van der Poorten Schwartz, known to the world of letters as Maarten Maartens, the one great novelist of whom it had a right to be proud, a writer in the Brooklyn Eagle declared. In some respect he was the leader of the world in novel making. His breadth of sympathy, his keenness of observation, his hatred of sham, his gentle humor, made "God's Fool," "The Sin of Joost Aveilingh," "Dorothea," "The Healers" and a dozen other works familiar to readers in every land, and there was a grave loss to the world of letters as well as to his native country in his passing.

"Maarten Maartens" lived much in Paris. He loved to be in the world and of the world. But his work was mostly done in the old castle of Zonheuvel, near Doorn. With Maurice Maeterlinck, the Belgian, he kept the literary art of the "low countries" in the world's van. To Americans his skill was a delight, losing little in translation. He might be called the Dutch Thackeray without much stretching of the imagination. He had much in common with the author of "Vanity Fair," and his works are bound to live as long as "Pendennis" or "Henry Esmond."

Try This.

If you will take a pavement that is clear, and walk briskly in the center, you will find that before you have gone 50 yards you have unconsciously veered very much to one side. To make this test accurate you must not use any effort to keep in the center. If you think of something else and endeavor to walk naturally, you will find that you are not able to keep going in a straight line. In the same way a person lost in a wide expanse of level country will describe a complete circle as he keeps walking on and on. The explanation of this lies in the propensity of one foot to walk faster than the other, or to take a longer stride than the other, causing you to veer to one side or the other.

CASTORIA

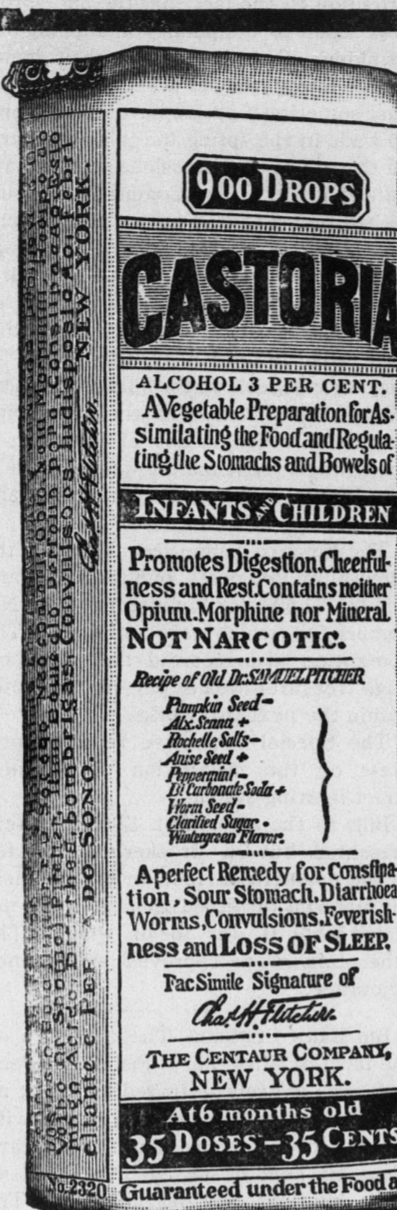
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THE PATH OF LIFE.
He who lets the world choose his path of life for him has no need of any other faculty than the poor ape-like one of imitation. He who chooses his own plan for himself employs all his faculties.—John Stuart Mill.

OUR OWN FAULTS.
Our worst fault is not seeing that we have any. There can be no repentance over wrongs when we are sure that the blame rests entirely with some one else and the spirit that is satisfied with its own goodness and attainments ceases to grow.

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