

**BRITISH AND VERDUN.**

**EXTENT OF THEIR AID.**

Mr. H. Warner Allen, the representative of the British Press with the French Army, writes:

France, both the France in the trenches and the France behind the lines, fully appreciates the assistance given by the British Army during the battle of Verdun. Morally it was no small encouragement to the French troops, who have fought so long and so heroically, to know how, by an effort unprecedented in the history of war, the British Expeditionary Force had swelled in numbers to the size of a great Continental army, and that they could count on the ungrudging support of their comrades and Allies. Materially, it was an invaluable service that the British troops were able to relieve and release for other duties an entire French army that was holding one of the most difficult sectors of the front.

The aid given was none the less, valuable for being indirect, and it is desirable in the interests of historical truth, that certain unfounded reports should be contradicted. I am authorized to state that the announcement reported to have been made in the Austrian Commonwealth Parliament, to the effect that a brigade of Australian heavy artillery was actually fighting at Verdun, is incorrect. Other rumors suggesting that British guns and British troops were actually taking part in the battle are equally without foundation. The British Army has given far more assistance than could possibly have been afforded by such piecemeal aid, and the French force which has barred the way to the Germans has remained entirely homogeneous. This fact is fully appreciated in France, and an eloquent testimony to the achievement of the British Army is given by the following document, which will be published in the next number of the "Bulletin des Armes" which may be regarded as the official organ of the French soldiers in the trenches:

On the 25th of September, 1915, when the whole French Army was waiting impatiently for details of the first French successes in Champagne and Artois, news arrived that the British Army, at the side of its French Allies, had gained a brilliant victory. In a few brief words it was announced to the troops: "The English have taken Loos. They have made their way into Hulluch. On a front of five miles, with a depth in places of two-and-a-half miles, they have carried the German trenches by storm. They have taken prisoners and guns."

In the French Army there was a general outbreak of enthusiasm. The brotherhood of arms had been expressed in action in close contact with the French at the moment chosen by the Allied General Staff, the English had taken the offensive and vigorously driven their way into the enemy's lines. Their victory was a symbol and a promise. Everyone realized this, and rejoiced accordingly.

Weeks have passed since then, and the British Army has never ceased making itself more and more feared by the Germans. The day has gone by when the enemy could pretend to mock at "the contemptible little army of Marshal French." Already in the Cambresis General French's soldiers had given the first proof of their valor. From Creully-en-Brie to Coulommiers they had taken their share in the victory of the Marne, and since those glorious marches what a long way they have gone and what progress they have made. For months, at the side of the French troops, the val-

iant soldiers of Great Britain have served their apprenticeship in modern war, and as they gained in experience so they increased in number. The 60,000 men of August, 1914, are today 250,000. The Expeditionary Force has become a formidable army. It has often been said that Time is fighting for the Allies, but none of them has he favored so greatly as the English.

It has become a commonplace to praise the organization, equipment, and auxiliary services of the British Army. The striking figure of Tommy Atkins and his smart bearing have been lauded to the skies. With him the French have sung the chorus of "Tipperary," and perhaps, in France too much emphasis has been laid on his picturesque side. There is, perhaps a danger of it being forgotten that Tommy is a soldier in the most trying of wars, and that he fights as a soldier should!

**A MATTER OF TEMPERAMENT.**

It is a fact, and a natural fact, that these Englishmen who are defending the civilization and the liberty of the world, enjoy games and exercise, and do not lose the taste for them in their cantonments behind the lines, and even in the trenches. In face of the enemy, the Frenchman jokes and jests as he is always accustomed to. The Englishman plays football between the lines. This is a matter of temperament, and both have given their proof on the field of battle. Ask the German infantry what they think of the warriors of Neuve Chapelle, Loos or Saint Elor. The successes of the British Army are sufficient evidence.

The list of these successes is a long one. They are composed of daily fights throughout twenty months of war, of a thousand heroic and brilliant episodes, of victories like that of Loos, and of triumphs like those just won on the Ypres Canal of Commines and at St. Eloi.

The blood of British soldiers—soldiers of Great Britain and soldiers of the Colonies—has mingled everywhere with the blood of the French. At every opportunity the British Army has proved its friendship and has had only one desire—ever to do more for the common cause.

Only a fortnight ago the Commander-in-Chief of the French Armies replying to a letter from Sir Douglas Haig, used the following words: "The French Army is well aware that, when recently an appeal was made to the camaraderie of the British Army it replied by offering unreservedly its immediate support." In these words General Joffre made a just appreciation of a further proof of the close fraternity of arms between France and Britain.

Today, in the trenches of Ablain Saint Nazaire and Carency, at Souchez, and Neuville Saint Vaast in all the villages of Artois, wrested by French courage from the invaders, Highlanders, Australians, Canadians, and the men of England, Wales and Ireland are on guard, preparing themselves for battles yet to come. Previously the British had undertaken the difficult task of defending Vermelles, carried last year by the French. Today they hold the Ouvrages Blancs, the Labyrinth Notre Dame de Lorette, and the slopes of the heights of Thebus and Vimy where so much French blood was heroically shed. Would it be possible to find a more eloquent proof of our union and friendship which the Germans would give their souls to break.

While the English friends of France are thus fulfilling the duties of their alliance, the French troops before Verdun are obstinately defending the common cause against the fiercest assaults of the enemy whose desperate efforts break against their resistance. The British Army is following the struggle with interest and emotion, but it is not and never has been in-

active.—Reprinted from the Madras (Ind.) "Mail" of May 16th.

**For Industrial Preparedness.**

A meeting of the board of directors for Pennsylvania of the organization for Industrial Preparedness, an adjunct of the naval consulting board of the United States, was held at the Fort Pitt hotel in Pittsburgh, Saturday evening, June 17th. The purpose of the meeting was the formulation of methods to be used in registering the ability of various plants in the State to meet needs likely to arise in time of war. Representatives of various engineering and manufacturing organizations were present and after thorough discussion plans were agreed upon for reporting in detail the size, capacity, and possible future output of the industries of the State for the confidential use of the War and Navy Departments.

The members of the State Board who were present included Dr. Raymond F. Bacon, director of Mellon Institute, Pittsburgh, the chairman, who presided; George S. Davidson, president of Gulf Refining company, Pittsburgh; Julian Kennedy, engineer, Pittsburgh, and Paul Spencer, electrical engineer, Philadelphia.

Those present representing manufacturers or engineering operations of the State were Aaron B. Ross, House of Representatives, Harrisburg; Lew H. Palmer, representing John Price Jackson, Department of Labor and Industry, Harrisburg; Rufus J. Foster, Scranton; Professor Elton D. Walker, State College, consulting engineer and professor of hydraulic and sanitary engineering; H. G. Moore, mining engineer, Cambria Steel company, Johnstown; H. T. Porter, chief engineer, Bessemer & Lake Erie Railroad company; James Burke, president Burke Electric company, Erie; Thomas B. Durban, general manager Erie City Iron works, Erie; John Stevenson, Jr., Driggs-Seabury Ordnance company, Sharon; S. A. Taylor, consulting, civil and mining engineer, Pittsburgh; Elmer K. Hiles, secretary Engineers Society of Western Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh; F. L. Garlinghouse, Glenshaw; Robert S. Orr, general manager Duquesne Light company, Pittsburgh.

The committee having direct charge of the work in district number 6 which includes Centre county, is R. L. Ahles, Williamsport; Ernest H. Davis, president Lycoming Edison company, Williamsport; Hon. Robert W. Hilton, Smethport; W. G. Shepherd, Williamsport; Professor Elton D. Walker, The Pennsylvania State College, State College.

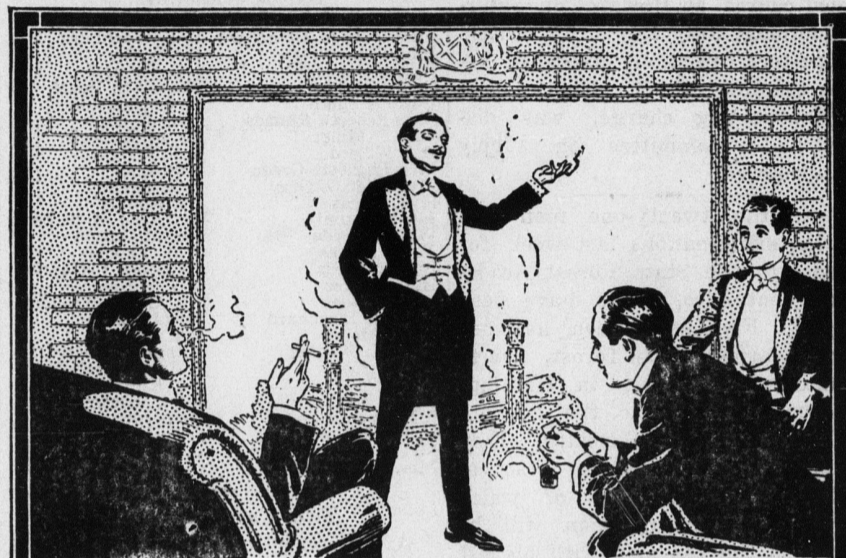
**A War-Time Puzzle.**

A company of soldiers dressed in khaki, with the bandage-like puttees about their legs, were waiting for their train at Wiltshire. Among the spectators were an old countryman and his wife.

"I say, Garge," the old lady whispered, "there's somethin' I can't understand about they soldiers."

"What be it, lass?"

"I can't think how they got their laigs into they twisted trousers."—Youth's Companion.



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When you see an alert-looking young man in a lively argument roll a "Bull" Durham cigarette—it's the natural thing. He likes to punctuate a crisp sentence with a puff of "Bull" Durham. His mind responds to the freshness that's in the taste of it, and his senses are quickened by its unique aroma. A cigarette of "Bull" Durham just fits in with keen thinking and forceful action.

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2nd: Michelin Tubes are not simply pieces of straight tubing with their ends cemented, but are formed on a ring mandrel to exactly the circular shape of the inside of the casing itself and consequently fit perfectly.

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NOW is your opportunity to buy summer dress goods, coats, suits, etc. at great reductions. We have special lots of the following:

- Lot 1—One lot Voiles, Lawns in figures and stripes, all colors, that sold at 18 and 20c. Special Sale price 12½c.
  - Lot 2—Better quality. 36-inch Voiles, Organdies, Crepes, quality of 35 and 40 cent grade, now at 25c.
  - Lot 3—Voiles, Crepes and Lawn, values 12, 15 and 20c. Special 8 cents.
- Awning Stripes and Lace Voiles in all colors. Special price 35 cents.

**SUITS AND COATS.**  
All summer Suits in Checks, Black and White and Navy that sold at \$15, \$18 and \$22. Special price \$12.50.

**SILK SWEATERS.**  
All Silk Sweaters that sold at \$7. and \$8, now \$5.00.

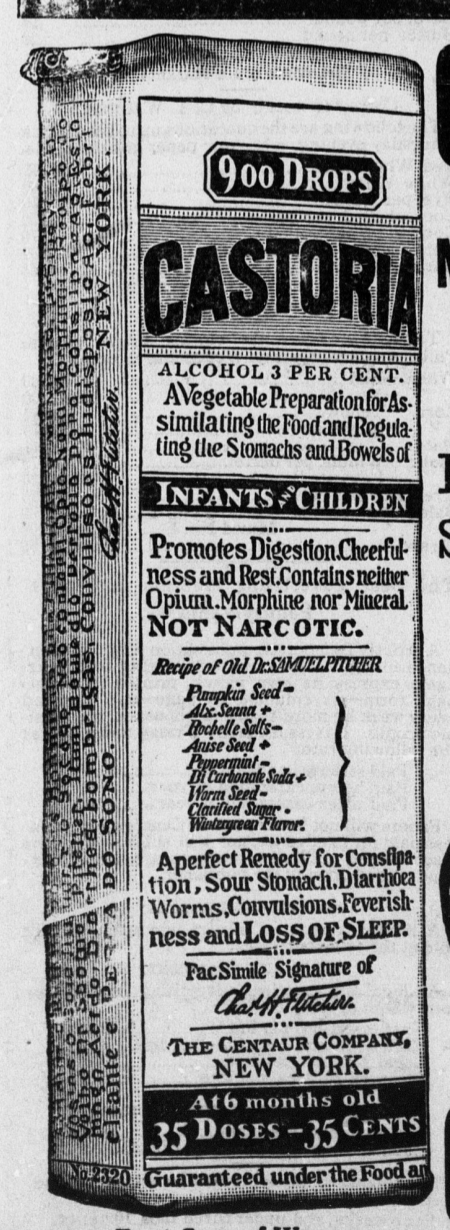
**SHIRT WAISTS.**  
Silk Waists now from \$1.00 up. Cotton Shirt Waists, all new styles, with frills, etc., that sold at \$1.25 and \$1.50, now 98 cents.

**DOVE UNDERMUSLINS.**  
See our Nightgowns at 98 cents. Ladies' Envelope Chemise, 48 cents. Petticoats, plain and trimmed, 48c. Blue and Pink Batist Nightgowns, hand embroidered, Empire style, quality \$1.50; sale price 98 cents. Muslin Drawers, 22 cents. Umbrella Drawers, made of fine Nainsook and Embroidery trimmed, value 85c; now 48c.

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