

SUMMING UP.

When wars and rumors of wars have passed... And the red is rubbed from the earth; When ghosts and shadows are no more massed...

Centre County Woman Doing Welfare Work in London.

Mrs. Willis Weaver, of Windber, but a former resident of Centre county, has received a letter from her sister, Mrs. Harriet Holmes Schaub, who is attached to the Y. W. C. A. doing welfare work among the soldiers in London.

"How good it was to get your letter this week. I have hoped every day for time to write a detailed account of my doings but time is almost as scarce as food over here, so I will write what I can and let it go at that."

"We speak to the boys in uniform, endeavoring to get them away from the women—who literally swarm the London streets—helping the boys find a place to sleep. Not an easy task when you consider that last week the population of this town was fifteen millions instead of its customary eight millions—finding places of amusement for them, coaxing the boys who are the worse for wear in for a cup of tea, or helping them find the lodging which they have already engaged—or just visit with them, telling them the last news we had from the States, etc., etc."

"My 'beat' is the Strand, from Waterloo Bridge to Trafalgar Square. Some of your friends there could tell you about the street. Working all night we have to sleep at least a couple of the day so there has not been much time for sight-seeing. My room-mate is a very pleasant woman, from Cuba, New York. We went to Westminster Abbey the other day and happened to fall in with a very lovely woman whose face and figure is Westminster. We saw much more than the average guide would have shown us. We got there just a few hours after the coronation chairs were put in place—the first time they have been out in four years. We also saw the tomb of Edward the Confessor, just after they had taken the sand bags away that had been covering it since the war started and before they had put the scarlet drapery over it with which it is always covered. So we had the one chance of a lifetime to see the carvings on the tomb and we saw many things the usual visitor never sees."

"Yesterday being what Londoners consider a clear day, we got on top of one of these queer double deck busses and rode out to Putney Commons. That was lovely and we crossed the Thames at a most picturesque spot. The food we are getting makes us realize what war rations are. The first thing you do upon arrival here is to get your food card. On that card are little coupons which entitle you to just so much meat, either at the butcher's or in a restaurant, so much sugar, jam, tea, butter, lard, etc."

"When you go to a restaurant you carry your sugar and butter or margarine with you. You can get fish, awful salty ham or bacon and eggs—if you have money to pay for eggs—without a coupon. You cannot buy sweets or desserts as we know them for love or money. They have lights on the streets now and we have one light in our room. What it must have been to try to get around in this town when it was dark is hard to imagine. Even the people born and raised here do not know the entire city. The only vegetables we get are cabbage, brussels sprouts, parsnips, and once in a while onions. If you want to start a new war just offer me fish or boiled cabbage when I get back. It will be useless to give me a napkin, for I won't know what to do with it. We never see one here. If four are seated at the table you get one teaspoon, even if you are perfect strangers to each other. Two of the girls asked for a glass of water for breakfast and in each case they were told they could not serve water for breakfast—that they had not glasses for that meal. I think I told you the first night we were in London thirty-eight of us slept in the Turkish bath and the next morning we could not get water to wash our faces or scrub our teeth, so we had to appear before Lady Ward, who is the head of our personal bureau, with merely an extra dab of powder on our noses."

Here I have written all this time and have not told much that we are doing and have not answered a line of your good letters, and my time is up. My work is very, very hard and it is the most interesting thing I have ever done, but I can't seem to write about it. It is not tellable on paper, some way or other. When I get settled and can go sight-seeing I will have more to tell. It has been raining almost incessantly since we came here but the weather has not been very cold. One gets for a glimpse of real sunlight. The grass and ivy are very green and I imagine when the hedges are green and the shrubbery, which is everywhere, is in bloom, the country must be beautiful.

Women Returning to Peace Work.

The movement of women war workers to peace time production has begun. When a large number of gas mask workers were released from a government plant in Long Island City recently, the employer manager, who had telephoned the United States Employment Service before notifying the women.

"Good," was the response of the service official. "The world is going out of mourning. Lingerie, waist, necktie and collar manufacturers are calling for power-machine operators. Corset factories, released by the War Industries Board from their restricted output, need skilled operators. Send us others as you release them and we will place them."

A large motor manufacturer in Detroit who has been employing hundreds of women reports: "Our plant has unfilled contracts that will keep us at 100 per cent. production for two years. The questions are whether we can get materials and labor. The War Industries Board has already released steel suppliers before the war our great problem was a sufficient labor supply. We are ready to add to our force."

The first group of women to be released from war service in Washington was made the subject of special conference attention by the employment service. Their names, qualifications, and home addresses were requested by the United States Employment Service. Telegraphic machinery of the Clearance Division of Service was started and within a few hours it was evident that nearly every woman would be offered a position, many of them in or near her home town. This offer of a position will be coincident with her release from war service. Similar service can be rendered by the United States Employment Service throughout the country. A letter is being sent to each Federal Director, urging him to make special effort to list such clerical work as Washington women who have been engaged in war work can do, in order to be ready to place these women in their home States as rapidly as they are released from government service.

Much Insurance to Lapse.

Atlantic City.—Uncertainty in Washington as well as among the insurance companies and the lack of funds and interest following demobilization will lead to the lapse of 60 per cent. of the \$39,000,000,000 of life insurance the United States government has written since the country went to war, it was declared here by insurance experts of the Middle Atlantic and New England territories in conference. It was asserted by speakers that tens of thousands of the men insured by the government for \$10,000 each never have seen a policy nor anything more tangible than a mere certificate that amounted to nothing more than a receipt, and it also was said that thousands of these certificates have been lost by the soldiers.

"It is inconceivable that the government will go into the life insurance business permanently," one speaker said, "after its sorry experience with the payment of allotments and compensation through the War Risk Bureau. There would be no compensating benefits, either to the men or the government, that old line companies which have developed the finest life insurance system existing anywhere in the world, are not better equipped to provide than the government ever could. The government in the insurance game as a business proposition after the war would have to adopt the same actuarial standards that the companies follow, since the present contract with the fighting men contains no provision for refunding any part of the money paid in."

Experts, however, voiced the opinion that the government's experiment in writing more life insurance in 12 months than all the existing companies together have written in fifty years has been a splendid thing for the business. They look for a boom from the men who probably for the first time were brought face to face with the seriousness of making provision for dependents.

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Want Yankee Soldiers as Police in Austria.

Vienna.—On all sides in the former Austrian Empire one hears the plea that small bodies of American troops be sent to the centres of population for the purpose of keeping order. Such a step, it is held, would work against the tendencies of unrest caused by the countless political and boundary disputes among the numerous races, and help prevent any trend toward Bolshevism that disorderly conditions might tend to promote.

It is urged by Jewish residents arriving here from Przemysl and Lemberg, for instance, that the presence of a few American uniforms would be sufficient protection against such anti-Semitic outbreaks as have occurred at those places recently.

The word Bolshevism is loosely used here, but the only authentic example of outbreaks taking on the complexion appears to be furnished among the Slovak population of Northwest-Hungary, where the former president, Magyar country gentlemen, have virtually abandoned their estates. It is reported that efforts by the Czechs to take possession of this territory was followed by an uprising of the peasants and also by outbreaks against the Jews.

The most recent example of the littleness with which the people of the old Dual Monarchy have interpreted President Wilson's conception of self-determination among every body of people of the same tongue and race, is to be found among the inhabitants of the region of Gottschee, some 80 miles northeast of Fiume, a body of about 20,000 German-speaking people living in the heart of Jugo-Slavia. Representatives of the Gottschee group visited the correspondent at Trieste three weeks ago and also came to Vienna after his arrival here, explaining that they wished the protection of America against the Jugo-slavs, so that they might declare a republic. They said they were friendly to the Jugo-slavs, but that in view of President Wilson's notes they felt they had a right to their own political freedom and wished to exist in the interior of Jugo-slavia just as San Marino did in Italy.

These people claim that Jugo-slav soldiers arrested the mayor of Gottschee and are persecuting the political leaders of the region. They declare their group had its origin in Bohemia, whence it emigrated 600 years ago and occupied Gottschee, but that it always retained the use of the German language and that now if their people are to be forced to abandon it, if

they remain, they prefer to abandon their homes.

Hundreds are homeless at Lemberg as the result of programs against the Jews in that city. It is reported that many people have been killed and wounded. Three churches and 80 houses burned and wholesale looting has taken place. The trouble is said to be extending west to Jaroslav and south to Drohobycz, as well as to many towns in western and eastern Galicia.

Jewish reports say that the disorders were not attributable to Bolshevism, but were the outcome of an effort to prevent the Jews from carrying out the principle of self-determination, according to President Wilson's program. Disinterested observers state that the fighting is the outcome of the fact that the Ukrainians in Poland wish to be free and under Ukrainian rule. In Lemberg there is a preponderance of Polish inhabitants, while around the city the Ukrainians are in the majority. The people of Lemberg, with the exception of the Jews, want to unite with the Poles. The Poles, therefore, according to the observers, are pursuing a policy of violence against the Jews.

Hubby's Blunder.

He resided in the suburbs, and when he accidentally met an old friend in the city who persuaded him to remain in town for the evening he went to the telegraph office and wired his wife as follows: "Missed the five-thirty train. Don't keep dinner waiting. Shall be home late."

It was very, very late when he did arrive home, and his wife met him at the door. "Did you get my message?" he said, beaming down at her. "Yes," she said, very quietly, "but I would like you to explain why you sent a message at four-twenty-eight telling me you had missed the five-thirty train."

Such Vanity!

Jones—What is Newlywed looking so glum about? Smith—Why, the gypsy fortune-teller told his wife that she would have two husbands, and that the second one would be a very fine sort of a man.

Jones—Ha, ha! And Newlywed thinks that is a reflection on him, I suppose?

Smith—Oh, no! He thinks his wife must have been married before and never told him.—Tit-Bits.

Reading's bituminous coal tonnage in November was 1,681,798 tons, compared with 1,703,231 in November 1917.

Medical.

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