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THE OUTLOOK FOR DEMOCRACY

While Fighting Abroad We Must Not Forget the Foes in Our Own Household

By S. PARKS CADMAN, D. D., Pastor of the Central Congregational Church, Brooklyn, N. Y.

American literature abounds in optimistic sentiments about the triumph of democracy, to mention which seems an unforfeitable political heresy.

Few Western statesmen and publicists have rightly estimated the hold which medieval ideas have in Europe and the East.

The question of questions is, Which will prevail? Can the Kaiser and his formidable hosts in the Fatherland, in Austria, in Turkey, in Bulgaria, be subdued and taught by defeat that their adored methods are aberrant to the modern mind?

Where are these leaders today? And if it be granted that we possess them at all, how few in numbers they appear to be.

Openly hostile propaganda is abroad. Incredible as it may seem, it is nevertheless true that men who have inherited those gains, who are undisclosed debtors to our nation and its institutions, endorse that violent and unscrupulous method.

The old Adam dies hard, even in this uncensored America. We discover the parasite beneath the professed patriot, and that citizen who boasts of Washington have never been within the radius of his noble and sagacious spirit.

It is a faithful saying and widely accepted that the Church has come to the end of its ways. Let us admit that the State is equally at stake, and must reaffirm and practice the beliefs that made her, or undergo decline.

This great city is naturally one of its chosen centers. Its municipal offices and emoluments are a tempting bait, and in the disorganized state of affairs that exist here, it is not surprising that the temptations are being employed to release bitter passions, and the campaign has already touched the depths of false accusation, lies, treachery and fraud.

Both sides meet in Berne. At any time of the day in the Swiss capital one sees the uniforms of both sides on the streets for there are thousands of French, British, German and Belgian interned in Switzerland, and according to the rules of the game they must wear their uniforms, in order to make the breaking of parole harder.

My first sight of a German Fritz clumping down the streets in his neutral green uniform and his stout military boots gave me a kind of shock of surprise.

We'll have to put three-cent stamps on letters on November 2 and after, but there will be plenty of reminders of that. There are very few reminders about November 15 as the last day that Christmas mail for our soldiers in France can be put into the mails.

Tom Daly's Column

ROSA di BATTAGLIA

Here am I een Italy, Here am I at las! Through da sharks dat swim da sea Safe my sheep ee pass;

Soon da tranch we'll be een sight, Where som' day I gonna fight—

Sure! I want to, alla tight, But, please, not so fast!

Here am I at las, where long I have weched to be. Like man, so brave, so strong; Look upon me! See!

Ain't I granda soldier, eh? Now, bayfoye I march away, Look me up an' down—but, say! W'at'a wrong weech me!

I weech tal you. I am scared. But ee! eet should be Joe ees wounded over dere. Den you gonna see Stranger theems dan I can tal; Germans runnin', catchin' hal From a woman's han's an'—scat, She's a pon' be me!

SEVERAL folks who read the story of Fred Carr, the young clerk who lifted himself out of a Philadelphia drug store into the pilot's seat of a hundred-mile-an-hour airplane, have asked us if we could furnish a copy of the prescription that produced that result.

When Fred Carr first presented himself at the aviation camp outside Montreal he was told there were 2000 applicants ahead of him. So he went home and wrote to his mother about it.

When Fred's letter reached her she sat down and shot this back to him: "Never mind the artillery. The flying corps is the service for you. I am your mother and I know that the air is your element. You will fit there psychologically. So go back and tell them what I am saying to you and that you will wait your turn."

When the officer in command of the aviation camp read that mother's letter he jumped her red-headed kid over the 2000 applicants ahead of him, and there you are!

Soldiers' Sweethearts TO ANNA Say, Anna, you have turned my head, And I'm disconsolate;

I'll soon be numbered with the dead Unless I aminate.

TO PEARL Oh, Pearl, I see you're all for me— My ownest girlie girl! For hark! I hear the reveille, Which means I get a Pearl.

HARRY H. FIRTH has decided, if he can only get away from his business this winter, to take the trip to Honolulu that he's been promising himself for so long.

A FROSTY MORNING I love these frosty mornings, When all the outer air Is tingling with a freshness And vim beyond compare.

The north-wind in the tree-tops Proclaims the coming dawn, And sends the crisp leaves rattling Across the frozen lawn.

From some adjacent farmyard A watchful chanticleer, With raucous, joyous croaking Assails the atmosphere.

Then, nearer home, a watchdog, Awakened from his sleep, Gives voice to his resentment In tones prolonged and deep.

A wagon, bound for market, Goes creaking down the road. I hear the axles groaning Beneath the heavy load.

The light groves at my window, And on the pane, I see, Jack Frost has limned a picture Of silver tracery.

Now, from the servants' stairway, Slow feet descend the hall, And then a kitchen shutter Bangs out against the wall.

I love, these frosty mornings, To note these things, and then— To draw the bed-clothes closer And go to sleep again.

THE RECENT death of T. M. Daly, president of the Continental-Equitable Title and Trust Company, has led to deserved promotion for three Johns, who were in line—Skelly, Loughney and Umsted. Johnny-jump-up all o' ye, as we are in a letter to Umsted, and be come back with: "Three jacks would make a good hand in 'most any deal, and we'd be set out to 'prove it.'" And in the case of the other two...

Snow May Help Italians Considering the masses and the material the Austro-Germans have thrown against the Italian lines, it is scarcely surprising that the Italian command should have resorted to the expedient of snow.

"UND ONLY MY UNSELFISHNESS ISS SAFING YOU!"



ITALY, COCKPIT OF EUROPE

Decisive Battles of the War May Be Fought on the Venetian Plains, With French and English Taking Part

By ADALBERTO CAPORALE

WHAT was not plain a few days ago is clear today. Germany, with the assistance of the entire Austrian army, is trying to achieve on Italian territory a decisive victory not merely in regard to Italy's war, but affecting the whole European situation.

The Austro-German offensive is developing now on a front stretching itself from fewer than ten miles south of the Great Pontebbina road, of Napoleonic fame, and the sea.

The northern army, which, by reason of the strong support given by the Tolmino bridgehead and the vicinity of the Italian boundary line, has borne the brunt of the Teutonic attacks, has been compelled to give way before massed attacks, in which German heavy artillery has played an overwhelming role.

Whole Line in Danger Doubtless Gorizia's loss is a hard blow to the Italians, but not so much from the military as from the moral point of view.

It is impossible to foresee what will become of the Italian Third Army and the Carro line. If Von Mackensen is able to march south after reaching Udine, Cadorna's headquarters, the Duke of Aosta will be compelled to fall back on the Tagliamento, where the Italians are likely to put up a strong stand.

It is not improbable that we shall see French and British divisions and masses of artillery fight perhaps the last great battle of the European war, the decisive one, on the Julian front.

Awakening of the Allies The offensive, victorious as it were, of the British and the French, along the western front have given the Allies ground and have won considerably the Kaiser's forces, but have not given them a decision simply because the fighting is going on out of German territory, in France or in Belgium, and Germany is not losing one inch of her own soil.

What Do You Know?

- 1. What is a "depth charge" in naval warfare? 2. Who was Prometheus? 3. For whom was Virginia named? 4. What is a tartan? 5. Of what country is Hanan VII king? 6. About whom was the telephone invented? 7. No railway operated in the United States (exclusive of territories, etc.) is owned by the Government. Is this the case abroad? 8. Name the three academic ranks or degrees. 9. What kind of vessel is called a "transit"? 10. Is Niagara Falls in the United States?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

- 1. San Paolo is, next to Rio de Janeiro, the largest of the Brazilian cities. 2. The planet Uranus is also called Herschel. 3. Toltecs: A race traditionally held to have ruled in Mexico before the Aztecs. 4. The Russian emperors: Nicholas, Alexander, and Nicholas II. 5. New York is officially a State; Pennsylvania, a Commonwealth. 6. Cosmetics: Preparations designed to beautify the hair, complexion, etc. 7. "Arriere pensee" (French): An ulterior motive; a mental reservation. Pronounced "arrayee pansay," the "n" having a nasal sound. 8. "Paderewski Lesson": A lesson of Paderewski which the great pianist is trying to recall in time to save the situation. 9. The most important amendment to the selective conscription act which has passed in the Senate is that it shall take effect on September 19, 1917. 10. Kings County: One of the counties of Greater New York, that includes Brooklyn.

ford to see his capital threatened, and above all the Hungarians would not suffer a violation of their own territory, which could easily be invaded from Lialbach.

The Allies have come rather slowly to the realization of the possibilities the Italian front offered them since Cadorna's army proved to be able to inflict on the Austro-Germans losses which were not merely for Italy, but there is every reason to believe that she can again beat the invaders, but only if the Allies, for Europe, for the whole world which is fighting the German "political" war, the British press is already clamoring for "measures" to smash the plans of the German staff. It is the wish of the Allies to the importance of the Italian front?

Historic Battleground

The fact that from Paris and London it is announced that the western Allies are rushing help to the Italians must be interpreted in the sense that French and British troops and artillery have been or are being dispatched to the Italian front. The plan of the Allies, whose history has been shaped from time immemorial, become again the battlefield of Europe. Another Leipzig, another Waterloo, another Austerlitz, another time not against France, must be fought for between the Alps and the Julian Alps for the sake of the nations against the power which fired Europe into the present war in order to submit the world to its domination.

As Marengo decided the War of the Second Coalition in favor of the then First Consul, and a European war was brought to an end in Italy, the plains of Veneto now decide the present conflagration and now decide the fate of the world while the British and French attack on the Alps and in Flanders.

RETORT SCOTTISH

A British military journal relates an amusing story of a Highlander who is not being able to get over a man-o-war which he had first time in his life, was keenly interested in all he saw. The marines seemed another battle of the world, and, being particularly impressed by the badge on the marines' cap and asked him what it was. The marine, anxious to score off the visitor, looked at him in surprise and asked: "Why, that's a turnip, of course." "Why, that's a turnip, of course," "Why, that's a turnip, of course," "Why, that's a turnip, of course," "Why, that's a turnip, of course."

SHAW ON JOURNALISM

I am a journalist proud of it, deliberate cutting out of my work all that is not journalism, convinced that nothing but journalism will live long as literature, or be of any use while it does live. I do not believe in the present, and as a dramatist I have no clue to any historical or contemporary situation. I have no sympathy with any man who writes about the past, and no sympathy with any man who writes about the future.