APPEAL FOR WOMEN OF FRANCE : FEMININE MIND UNINTERESTED IN WORLD POLITICS : EXCHANGE

WOMEN SKIP BIG WORLD NEWS IN PAPERS, BANKER ACCUSES

Since International Politics Has Backed "Sensational" Matter Into Discard, Front Pages No Longer Appeal

THE stirring indictment that women do not read the front pages of newspapers since news of international importance has pushed "sensational" matter into virtual discard was recently made by a New York banker.

It seems the gentleman had been riding on the trolley cars and found out.

Now, it would be grand and glorious to feel that a woman might smile serenely on the banker and the next moment tell him a whole lot of new Russian names and enough of world politics to settle forever the question of whether we do or do not absorb the first pages of a newspaper.

But—

LET'S get in a trolley car and find out.

There's a woman over there—the one with the beaver toque and the bunch of violets. She's opening her paper. There, she's on the front page; Russia's in the second column and—she's skipped it! Well, wait a minute. There's a naval probe in the third and surely she's going to read it, because her boy might—

No, she didn't. And, why she can't be, but she is—turning the page. Well, there's big news on the second page. Just because a woman doesn't want to ruin her brain trying to memorize a new set of Russian names every night and doesn't care to stoop to probes is no reason why she won't read about—

Why there she is—we told you so—all wrapped up in that second page. Quick, what's she reading? The marriage licenses!

SAVE BUTTER
by not serving too much to each person
SERVE INDIVIDUAL PORTIONS
A pound makes 48 one-third ounce pieces
Hotels Have Learned
that there is the least waste from one-third ounce pieces

LET us draw the curtain over the rest of the session of the lady in the beaver toque with her newspaper. Need we admit to each other that swiftly she skipped to the woman's page, left it for the society page and then returned via the death notices?

And need we admit that the man across the aisle was still systematically going through his first page when our interesting stranger had closed her paper?

THE long and the short of it is—the banker was right about, not by any means all, but a great many women.

It is good to read a woman's page, because wars may come and go, but women will always want a little common stamping ground where they can go and talk things over. It is good to read society pages because all work and no play makes Jill a dull companion—especially in wartime.

But it is not amiss to say that the woman who refuses to read and digest news of world importance is like the boy who tries to go through college with books closed. Only, she is in the *biggest* school in the world and refuses to be of it.

THE WOMAN'S EXCHANGE

Letters and questions submitted to this department must be written on one side of the paper only and signed with the name of the writer. Special queries like those given below are invited. It is understood that the editor does not necessarily indorse the sentiment expressed. All communications for this department should be addressed as follows: THE WOMAN'S EXCHANGE, *Evening Public Ledger, Philadelphia, Pa.*

TODAY'S INQUIRIES

1. What famous method of curing ham is used by some French housewives?

2. What short cut in sewing on hooks and eyes is afforded by the use of a tape measure?

3. When a tip comes off a shoe lace, how can a serviceable point be made to take its place?

1. What is the origin of the hat band?

2. Since women have decided the fighters need the sweaters, what garment is scheduled by fashion experts to take the place of the former wool jacket?

3. What is the correct way for a man to register for himself and wife at a hotel?

ANSWERS TO YESTERDAY'S INQUIRIES

1. If a piece of tape is tied to the end of the ribbon that is to be removed from lingerie before laundering it can be r— through the beading without the use of bodkin by simply pulling the ribbon out. Then when the ribbon is to be put back it is tied to the tape and the act of pulling the tape out runs the ribbon in.

2. The fireless cooker presents a very good opportunity for saving coal and gas in this time of fuel famine.

3. A cuddle doll to take the place of baby's small slumber pillow is made with a very wide skirt to act as a pillow slip and a head with the features worked in yarn.

1. Kathleen Norris, the novelist, is married, the wife of a captain in the United States army.

2. Clocks on stockings were originally designed to hide the seams where the stuff was joined together.

3. When a gift is presented inclosed in a box it is quite permissible to open it in the presence of the donor. However, judgment must be used about this, as sometimes it causes embarrassment.

Wants Advice About Backward Child

To the Editor of Woman's Page:

Dear Madam—I have anxiously studied your page for a week to see some reply to the recent plea of "A Mother," but have been sadly disappointed. I, too, have a boy whose mental development has been arrested, as the doctors say, and in whose education I am naturally much interested. Surely some woman among your readers will kindly tell me and "A Mother" what to do in this direction. ANOTHER MOTHER.

This letter refers to one which appeared in the Woman's Page a week ago, in which a mother asked for advice about educating a boy whose physical age is nine years, but whose mental age is seven. The problem in educating the child consists in this: There are not sufficient means to send the child to an expensive boarding school for backward children, but he does not seem to be able to learn in the large classes such as in the public schools. Two letters in response to this appeal for advice were forwarded to the first mother, but the suggestions contained centered around the placing of the child in an expensive boarding school, which is out of the question. Here another mother adds her plea for advice about educating a backward one. We would like to hear from some mothers about this.

To Renew Hair Ribbons

To the Editor of Woman's Page:

Dear Madam—I wonder if any mothers have tried coloring the children's faded hair ribbons with colored crepe paper? So often now, on account of the poor quality of the dyes, when the hair ribbons are washed they fade badly. I had heard of dyeing crepe de chine waists in water in which a piece of crepe paper of the desired color had been soaked and I decided to apply the idea to doing up the children's hair ribbons. It works fine. I just fill the wash basin with warm water, put the piece of crepe paper in as near to the orginal color of the ribbon as I can get it, and then, after washing the ribbons, I let them soak for a while in this. Of course, when they are washed again they will fade out; but as one piece of the paper lasts for a long time it costs very little to renew them. LITTLE HELPS.

We thank Little Helps very much indeed for her suggestion.

Just Some Bits of Carpet

To the Editor of Woman's Page:

Dear Madam—I have read your column so many times in the EVENING PUBLIC LEDGER and have seen how you have helped so many other persons in different things now I would like to know if you could help me just a little. I have just gone housekeeping before Thanksgiving. I have three small children, the eldest four years and the other two and baby five months. I would like to know if some one that reads this column may have some old small pieces of carpet or matting to cover my floors with. The rooms the children play in have no covering on the floor. If you will help me you will make three little children happy. I would sew the pieces together. (Mrs.) M. B.

Mrs. M. B.'s address is held here and will be forwarded upon receipt of a self-addressed envelope.

"Sally Lunn"

To the Editor of Woman's Page:

Dear Madam—If it is not asking too much I would like to have a recipe for Sally Lunn. Thanking you for this and other favors, INEXPERIENCE.

The ingredients are two cupfuls of milk, one-half teaspoonful of salt, four teaspoonfuls of baking powder, two tablespoonfuls of sugar, two eggs, one cupful of milk and one-quarter cupful of shortening.

Sift dry ingredients together; then add the well beaten eggs, the milk and shortening. Beat all together and bake in shallow pans.

Girls Disagree

To the Editor of Woman's Page:

Dear Madam—I have been corresponding with a girl for about two years. She lives in another city. She came to visit me at Christmas. I took her out and showed her a nice time. One night my girl friend from this city and my friend from out of town and I were sitting in the parlor and talking. I am a jolly girl, always telling jokes and full of fun. My girl friend asked me if I wrote to her and I said in a joke, "She does, but I wouldn't care if she doesn't."

Now she knows that often things like that are said by me in joke. I myself have often said to her, "Don't talk to me, or don't come down to my house any more," and still we pal together. Really, I never meant it in earnest, but I think the girl from out of town took it so. She never remarked about it when she was here. She laughed and danced the remainder of the evening. When she left she said she would write to me just as soon as she arrived home. Two weeks had gone by and she didn't write. I thought something had happened, so I wrote to her, asking her why she didn't write. She answered me that I didn't have any sense. She wrote my sister a letter saying that she didn't care to write to me, but as I wrote first to her she will keep up the correspondence.

I am as undecided that I really don't know what to write her. On the other hand, I feel ashamed at her telling me I was ignorant.

In the letter sent me she left a note saying "Answer." C. L.

Evidently, my dear, you and your little friend from out of town had gotten a little bit on each other's nerves. It is simply a matter of one being out of sorts and catching the other up on a thing she ordinarily would not have noticed. Just write her a perfectly frank letter and tell her you would care very much if she did not write and that you only meant to be funny and are very sorry she misunderstood. It may be a little hard to put your pride in your pocket and apologize for something you feel she should not have taken offense at, as no offense was meant, but it's a pity to let a friendship of several years' standing break up for a trivial matter, and you will never regret your generous attitude in the matter.

An Evening Dress

To the Editor of Woman's Page:

Dear Madam—I am a young girl five feet two inches tall, with dark hair and blue eyes. I have quite good color. I want to get an evening dress and would like you to suggest something pretty for me. I am going to have it made, so if you would suggest the colors and the materials and a general way to make it I would be very thankful. I am slim. I have saved money and want the dress to be quite showy. ANNABELLE.

Pink and white would seem to be very safe colors for you to wear, and, in fact, "if you look like you sound," would be extremely becoming. Get pink pussywillow taffeta, charmeuse or messaline, white chiffon or georgette crepe and silver lace and little pink rosebuds. Have a full skirt of the georgette crepe or chiffon, or if this is too expensive have white messaline. Then have panels of the pink down the front and back in sort of apron fashion. Make the dress short-waisted and have the bodice entirely of the silver lace with the exception of little sleeves, which can be made of chiffon. Arrange the rosebuds in irregular fashion around the neck.

Women's War Work

To the Editor of Woman's Page:

Dear Madam—Can you please tell me where to apply about getting paid employment on women's war work? I am willing to do any sort of work. I have never done anything before, but as I am willing I think that possibly some of the bureaus that are spoken so much of can help to place me. WILLING.

The woman's war section of the Federal Employment Bureau can probably place such a willing worker as yourself. The office is at 135 South Sixteenth street and the hours between 9 and 4 daily. Labor is so scarce now that I am sure there are plenty of jobs at which, [illegible] women, as

IN THE MOMENT'S MODES

Blue, Green and Silver Are This Frock's Colors

Some of the most fascinating of the season's evening frocks, particularly those designed for the debutante or young matron, are fashioned from the softest of two-toned or changeable silk. The charming little frock in the sketch is developed in pale changeable blue-and-green satin. This material makes the tunic, which is bound with silver ribbon and embellished with wreaths of velvet flowers and leaves in the softest of pastel shades. The foundation skirt is of pale-green tulle over a slip of white georgette. The shoulder straps are of silver ribbon, and below the band of silver lace the little changeable satin bodice is caught in with a quaint girdle of the ribbon.

Tomorrow's War Menu

Porkless Day

BREAKFAST
Sliced Bananas with Dry Cereal
Cornmeal Pancakes Maple Syrup
Coffee

LUNCHEON
Macaroni with Cheese
Lettuce
Stewed Prunes Gingerbread

DINNER
Cream of Celery Soup
Hamburg Steak
Baked Potatoes Buttered Lima Beans
Sweet Pickles
Baked Fig Whip

BAKED FIG WHIP

Chop fine four or five large figs that have been steamed until quite soft. Have ready the whites of two eggs beaten stiff and to this add, beating all the while, a pinch of salt, the figs, a quarter of a cupful of powdered sugar and a tablespoonful of lemon juice. Pour this batter into greased timbale molds and let bake in a pan of hot water. The whip should be well risen and brown. It is served hot with lemon sauce or with a custard sauce.

Stirabout Pudding

This old-time dish is almost universally liked, and it is so wholesome that it should certainly be revived as a frequent supper or luncheon dish. Put three cupfuls of water on the fire and bring to the boiling point, add a teaspoonful of salt and when boiling rapidly stir in a cupful of cornmeal mixed to a paste with a cupful of water. Stir constantly while adding the meal and it will not become lumpy. Cook over hot water for thirty minutes to one hour. Serve with rich milk or molasses.—Good Housekeeping.

Insufficiency

There is no one beside thee and no one above thee,
Thou standest alone as the nightingale sings!
And my words that would praise thee are impotent things,
For none can express thee though all should approve thee,
I love thee, so, dear, that I only can love thee.

—Elizabeth Barrett Browning

Women's Interests

The war has opened up a wide field for American women in chemistry.

Many girls at Wellesley College are taking a war course in wireless telegraphy.

The women of Finland have had full equal suffrage since 1907, and the right to sit in Parliament.

The coming year will mark the centennial anniversary of the birth of Lucy Stone, pioneer American woman suffragist.

Women employed as conductors on the street railways in New York city work eight hours a day and receive the same wages as men.

A nail-driving contest is a leading feature of the annual field day sports for girl students at the Minnesota School of Agriculture.

The elevated and subway roads in New York city, which already have women ticket sellers and platform guards, are now to employ women as

DRIED FRUITS IDEAL DIET

Advice on preventive medicine will be given by Doctor Kellogg in this column daily; but in no case will diagnosis or treatment of ailments be attempted. Personal queries on health will be promptly answered if postage is inclosed.

By J. H. KELLOGG, M. D., LL. D.

FORMERLY, raisins were not used so extensively in the United States as they are at the present time. They were used in desserts and with nuts and eaten occasionally out of hand, but now they are esteemed as one of the most valuable of the dried fruits, and when stewed or steamed make a most delicious sauce.

Cooked raisins are particularly good for growing children, and the child who will refuse raisins in any form is probably not to be found. Since she can buy seedless raisins, much labor is saved the housekeeper.

There are no more delicious raisins in the world than are produced in California. This luscious fruit can be purchased in large or small packages, and comes clean to the consumer. It is well always to purchase dried fruits in small packages and not in bulk, because the sticky surfaces furnish a favorable lodging place for dust and germs of all kinds. Where fruits stand open in shops they are always unclean. Even the package fruits should be given the hot bath before being put to soak.

It is possible for one to live in full health and vigor for long periods when subsisting on a diet of dried fruits, nuts and a few grains and some of the fresh fruits. It is the dried fruits that furnish the bulk of nourishment to fruitarians. In the summer time when both dried fruits and fresh fruits of all kinds are in the market, even those who are meat eaters in cold weather can plan a healthful and satisfying menu without flesh foods.

Figs are also both food and medicine, and should be used much more freely than they are. To some people the seeds are irritating and in that case strained fig syrup may be used on cereals or in any preferred way. By soaking dried figs over night, they can be made almost like fresh figs. It is better, however, to steam or stew figs before eating them. A quantity of figs can be steamed, and then used when convenient. Many housekeepers do not realize that the juice from cooked dried fruits is a very palatable beverage and with the addition of a little citrus juice will make a pleasing variety of fruit beverages.

The craving for sweets in grown-ups as well as in children may be satisfied by dried fruits because the fruit sugar answers the natural physiologic demand for sweets and without the injury that accompanies the consumption of ordinary sugar foods. Many of the objections to pastry and sweet desserts will be removed if more fruits are used in their preparation to the exclusion of sugar.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Frost Bite

I am a dairyman and have suffered severely with frost bite for two or three winters. What can I do to keep my feet comfortable? JOHN J.

Extensive experience in the trenches during the European war showed that lack of cleanliness of the feet is an important predisposing cause of frost bite. Moisture and overtight shoes are also contributing causes. In bad cases there has been found a fungus similar to the mold which sometimes grows on meat and bread.

Washing the feet with borated camphorated soap and keeping them warm and dry are necessary aids to recovery.

The alternate hot and cold foot bath is of great service in restoring the vitality of the injured tissues.

The mold referred to abounds in straw and stable litter, and hence dairymen and those who work in stables should take care to wash their feet several times a week with the disinfecting soap above mentioned or some similar preparation.

Carbuncles

When a patient has had two carbuncles and another seems to be forming what can be done to prevent this condition? R. B. R.

A carbuncle is simply a large boil. A sty is a very small boil on the eyelid. Treatment for each is the same as for ordinary boils. The application of heat and cold alternately will sometimes disperse a boil in the early stage. When it becomes painful, apply hot fomentations frequently, with the wet compress during the intervals, or apply continuously a soft poultice. The wet compress covered with oil silk has the same effect as a poultice. The kind of poultice is quite immaterial, if it be nonirritating, for its only valuable properties are warmth and moisture.

When the boil is ripe—that is, when a little white vesicle appears near the surface—its cure may be hastened by lancing with a sharp knife. The discharge may be encouraged by gentle pressure; but squeezing boils is a very harmful practice and greatly retards their cure. After opening, a boil should be dressed with compresses wet with boracic acid solution or with a 5 per cent solution of common salt. Applications for the treatment of boils, to be effective, should include the surrounding tissues as well as the boil.

Insomnia

What is the cause of insomnia in a person who does not seem to be really diseased, yet he never feels very well? G. H. B.

The disease may be due to too much blood in the brain or to irritating poisons in the blood. The cause must be removed. Insomnia is usually accompanied by constipation, and is the natural result of the absorption of poisonous matters from the colon. The putrefaction of undigested remnants of food in the colon gives rise to the formation of poisons of various sorts, some of which are capable of exciting the brain and nerves in such a way as to give rise to insomnia. It is generally impossible to cure insomnia without relief of accompanying constipation.

Numb Fingers

What causes numbness and tingling in the finger ends when they become cold? ROY F. B.

A disturbed circulation. Bathing the hands alternately in hot and cold water morning and night for ten minutes and massage are useful measures.

Exposure to the sun's rays is a good remedy. Care must be taken to protect the fingers from the cold.

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Conservation

The Watchword

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HEROIC WOMEN OF FRANCE SUSTAIN MORALE OF ARMY

They Constitute Most Splendid Figure in Modern World, Says Dr. Alonzo Taylor, of University of Pennsylvania

Women of France hitched to the plow in place of work animals

By DR. ALONZO TAYLOR

Doctor Taylor is Rush professor of physiological chemistry at the University of Pennsylvania. He has been importantly allied with the food administration for some time and, representing such interests, he was a member of Colonel House's war mission abroad. In 1916, as an attache of the American embassy in Berlin, he engaged in Red Cross work. At present Doctor Taylor divides his time between Philadelphia and Washington.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11.

MY WORDS are not powerful enough to do even scanty justice to the most heroic figure in the modern world and of ages past—the woman of France.

Of the healthy men who are engaged in the military service in France, virtually all are engaged either in transportation or in the manufacture of munitions, leaving the agriculture absolutely to the women. Not only this, but they have stepped into the place of work animals; you can go into any section of France today and see women of magnificent, noble womanhood hitched to the plow and cultivating the soil. All of the agriculture rests upon their shoulders. The home, always an extremely efficient home, maintains a few old men, the wounded and the tubercular. Uncomplaining, with high devotion, with an attitude that amounts almost to religious exaltation, the woman of France bears the burden.

Now, conditions being as they are, does it lie within the heart of the American people to preserve and hold to every convenience of our life at the expense of adding an additional burden to the womanhood of France? This is the exact question that is involved in our substitution of other cereals in place of wheat.

The women of France must be enabled to hold up the morale of the French soldier until next spring. The morale of the house decides the morale of the soldier in the fighting line. We can do this by giving to them the greatest possible freedom in their food supply, and of this wheat is the chief factor.

"FORTNIGHTLY" MARKS SILVER ANNIVERSARY

Male Chorus Celebrates With Varide Program of Popular Character

The Fortnightly Club, one of the sterling musical organizations of Philadelphia, gave the first concert of its twenty-fifth season last night in the Academy of Music before an invited audience which crowded the capacious auditorium. The Fortnightly Club is one of the best male choruses in the country and is comprised of carefully selected and diligently drilled voices. Its silver anniversary program was varied and interesting and of a peculiarly appealing popular character. It ran as follows:

The Beleaguered.....A. Cellier.....Sullivan
The Fortnightly Club
Un Bel Di Vedremo (Madame Butterfly) Puccini
Miss Kerns
Evening Peace.....Svendsen-Wright
Gentle Friend Pierrot.....Leonora Allo-Harling
The Fortnightly Club
All Hail Thou Lowly Dwelling (from Faust) Gounod
Mr. Pontius
The Sailor's Dream.....Kircke
Triple quartet—Messrs. James, Martin, Windisch, Glover, C. W. Brown, Kennedy, Fenimore, W. J. Brown, Kane, Searey, Addis, Hilmore.
Baritone solo, Edgar W. Hawley
The Fortnightly Club
In the Garden.....Harris
Tenor solo, Mr. Pontius
The Fortnightly Club
Snowflakes.....Mallinson
Dusk in June.....Foster
Spring Flower.....Campbell-Tipton
Hebb-Hol The Sunshine.....Phillips
Miss Kerns
The Song of the Camp.....Stewart
Baritone solo, Howard F. Story
The Fortnightly Club
Within a Mile of Edinboro Town
Scotch Melody arranged by Bartlett
Incidental solos, Dr. G. Morris Golden, tenor
Harry Smith, baritone
Carry Me Back to Old Virginny.....Bland
Miss Kerns and
The Fortnightly Club
With You Dear.....Scott
The Fortnightly Club

Flanked on both sides by uniformed members of the chorus who are in the nation's service standing at attention, the civilian part of the chorus, re-enforced by Grace Kerns, soprano, and Walter Pontius, tenor, the soloists of the evening, and with Clarence Bawden, the accompanist, at the piano, gave a stirring redition of the "Star Spangled Banner."

Miss Kerns was troubled with a slight vibrato in the first part of the Puccini aria, "One Fine Day," but this wore off, leaving only the dramatic fervor and lovely vocal quality as memories. In addition to her program numbers she was obliged to sing "Old Folks at Home" as an encore. She does these "darkey melodies" very artistically. Her "Carry Me Back to Old Virginny" was received with high favor.

Mr. Pontius, whose tenor is mellifluous and produced easily and efficiently, brought the sweetest of lyric tones to the impassioned "Faust" air, "Salut De meure." His solor role in Harris's "In the Garden" was excellently taken. W. R. M.

SIMON GRATZ DENIES FRICTION WITH WOLF

Explains That New Seventh Grade at Kinsey School Won't Affect Pastorius Building

Denial has been made by Simon Gratz, veteran member of the Board of Education, that there is any friction between him and Edwin Wolf, president of the board, over the establishment of a seventh grade in the Kinsey School, at Sixty-fifth and Limeklin avenues.

"The report is incorrect," said Mr. Gratz, "and a retraction should be made. Because the elementary schools committee decided to establish a seventh grade in the Kinsey building it was interpreted as meaning the elimination of that grade in the Pastorius School, which is wholly incorrect. If you will consult Mr. Wolf I am sure he will deny there is any misunderstanding regarding this.

"A seventh grade is to be established at the Kinsey School in response to the demand of parents in that section that their children be allowed to continue their studies there instead of being transferred. But although a seventh grade is to be established there, no pupils will be taken from the Pastorius. This, I think, explains the misunderstanding."

The Dinner Pail

How can the dinner pail, carried to factory and shop, do its bit for food conservation? asks the United States Food Administration.

By supplying the worker with war sandwiches so good that he does not find his lunch any poorer for the change. These may be made with cornmeal bread, oatmeal, buckwheat or rye bread. These breads mean saving wheat for shipment to the Allies and their armies and ours. The same nourishment which can be had from a meat sandwich filling can be secured from filling of cottage cheese, raisins and nuts, dates, peanut butter or baked beans. Scrambled-egg sandwiches or those made with creamed egg moistened with sauce or salad dressing serve the same purpose of saving meat and yet give strength for work. Oatmeal and cornmeal cookies are conservation sweets. The most important thing is to see that the worker has strengthening food—the next care should be that he consumes as little as possible of the kind of foods so badly needed by our soldiers and the Allies.

LE PAGE'S GLUE HANDY TUBES
WILL MEND IT

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1 Nat. Muskrat Head with Beaver Coat, regular $200.00—$150.00
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THE WORLD'S WAR Through Woman's Eyes

By ELLEN ADAIR

With the American Y. M. C. A.

London, Dec. 1.

SINCE the Americans "came to town" the face of old London has been considerably brightened. War has its cheerful side. And I think my American readers will be interested to hear something of the cheering-up process which Americans in London and all over Great Britain are setting afoot these days.

It was with this idea in mind that I walked through old-world Russell Square in London and entered the handsome house of the American Y. M. C. A. to have a chat with Major A. W. Hamilton and the numerous other departmental heads from all the colleges in America.

It is a busy place—this headquarters of the United States Y. M. C. A. in Great Britain. Tall young men in khaki uniforms, solemn young men in mufti and spectacles, men of all shapes and sizes, darting hither and thither, answering hundreds of phone calls, interviewing dozens of callers, writing dozens of cables to America, giving tremendous orders for the shipment of colossal stores—one wonders how they can possibly do it all!

But they are picked men, these Y. M. C. A. organizers—the brightest brains of Harvard, Yale, Cornell, Princeton, Pennsylvania and of all the great American colleges. There is no slacking here. These are business offices, controlling an immense and all-powerful organization. And each man is a hustler of the first water, or he could never hold his job.

My first encounter was with Major A. W. Hamilton, a Southerner with a delightful southern drawl, a man of action and of quick decision, who holds the task of keeping a brotherly eye on every American officer in London, of giving him advice, help, social introductions, of acting the part of guide, philosopher and friend-in-need, and of organizing the various clubs and huts which will soon be occupied by American officers.

In private life Major Hamilton is a professor of English literature in Berea University, Kentucky. He has "a way with him" which captivates the heart of every American man who comes in contact with him.

"Well, what can I tell you today?" was his opening remark. "Do you come laden with more invitations from London society hostesses for my men?"

I smiled, for Major Hamilton accuses me of collecting more invitations for his "lonely" officers than they can well accept!

"I come on a more serious mission," I said. "I want to know how all the American millions are being spent. I want to hear all your winter plans for housing officers in London. I want to——"

Major Hamilton held up his hand. "You'll have to talk to F. W. Leighton—our man from Dartmouth College," he said. "He's the authority on all information. But come with me today to 5 Cavendish Square. We are opening it in December as a temporary officers' club, run on Y. M. C. A. lines, to house forty American officers. It will be exceedingly comfortable. It's in the best part of London. It may not be quite so thrillingly luxurious as the American Officers' Club in Lord Leconfield's house, now open, in Chesterfield Gardens, but you bet the men will find it homelike and cheerful.

"I'm very busy, too," he continued "over the Hut we're opening in St. James Square for American officers. The work is still under construction, and won't be completed for several months yet.

"You see, this war is going to continue for a long time. The folks back home don't quite realize that fact. We Americans will be a long time in Europe—you'll see. We're working rather in the dark, so far. We don't know how many American officers will come to London—whether they won't ship the majority of them straight to France and other parts of the zone, without touching London. We might have thousands in London, or we might only have a few hundred. We're working on guesswork just now."

We were interrupted by F. W. Leighton, of Dartmouth, who took me down to see the library of the Y. M. C. A., the "dumping ground" of thousands of books, all ready to be sent off to the various Y. M. C. A. centers in France and Britain.

"Do tell your American friends to send us books, books and more books," said Mr. Leighton, smiling. "You can't think how much our men want them in these lonely, out of the way camps. All kinds are welcome—biographies, histories, classics, travel—they'll read anything and everything.

"We want books, and money to buy books. No, we don't catalogue them. They're sent off the very day they arrive, in great bundles. Be sure they're welcomed heartily, too."

He led me upstairs to his office. From a drawer he drew forth a little book. It bore on its cloth cover the title—"American Soldiers' Geography of Europe."

"I've had this printed specially for our troops," he said, "and ordered 10,000 copies for France alone! It's a most useful little volume. Look at the elaborate war-maps. It gives the men a grasp of the situation in the shortest possible time."

He bent over another drawer, and drew from it a much larger and heavier volume.

"This is what appeals to our boys," he said, smiling.

I looked at its cover. "American Y. M. C. A. Songs, Vol. 1," I read.

They were arranged in order, these songs, twenty-five of them. I noticed that the first thirteen were of a lively ragtime order, starting off with "Back Home in Tennessee" and "Pack Up Your Troubles in Your Old Kit-Bag," and followed by those of a more sentimental kind, such as "The Rosary."

"We've arranged them that way for a particular reason," said Mr. Leighton. "The boys in the different huts will sing them right through. After they've worked off steam on the lively songs, they'll get quieted down a bit over the sentimental ones. They'll start thinking of the folks at home. That's the time to switch them on to singing a few hymns and to finish the evening off with family prayers."

He turned aside for a moment to write a cable out for 100 Bibles to be sent over from America at once, and handed it to Dr. Crewe, another strenuous worker. Dr. Crewe visits every scattered group of American soldiers throughout England, bringing them books, newspapers from home, American magazines, messages, letters, comforts, gifts.

"I think your headquarters here in Russell Square the most energetic I have ever visited," I said. "You've got a grip on France as well as on Britain, educating the troops at long distance, attending to all their wants mentally, spiritually, bodily, even handling affairs in Russia, Italy——"

"It's hard work, but we love it," said Mr. Leighton and Dr. Crewe together.

"You've got millions of dollars on hand?" I queried.

"The American soldiers all seem so happy," I interrupted. "They say they have every care and comfort."

Mr. Leighton smiled in his boyish enthusiastic way. "Wherever there are American troops," he said, "the Y. M. C. A. is there to serve them."

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