

ONE ON THE BOCHES

The Germans during their occupation of Belgium forbade the killing of livestock in order that they might themselves draw free on this source of food supply. Needless to say, the prohibitory order was more honored in the breach than in the observance because it was impossible for them to enforce it everywhere.

One day, just after a pig had been killed on a certain farm the peasants were panic stricken to see a band of Germans coming to carry off some animals for slaughter. The quick wit of one of the Belgians, however, proved equal to the emergency. At his suggestion the peasants hastily carried the carcass of the pig off to the house, clothed it in a shirt and a night-cap and covered it up in a bed. Wax tapers were then lighted on the table near a crucifix and the curtains were carefully drawn.

Soon the searching party arrived. "The grandfather is dead," whispered one of the peasants as he reverently opened the door, revealing the taper-lit room with the "corpse" reposing peacefully on the bed. Everything was so realistic that the Germans merely glanced into the "death chamber" and then turned their attention to other parts of the house and to the outbuildings and finally went off empty-handed. For many days thereafter the peasants on the farm were observed breaking out into fits of laughter at frequent intervals.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

Before the war nearly all the beautiful Christmas tree decorations were made in Germany. This year Christmas trees will be decorated with American products made by skilled American toy makers and glass blowers. The first year of the war German-made ornaments were plentiful in the United States. The next year they were scarce and high in price and by 1916 they were gone entirely. The first American-made toys were crude in design and workmanship but now just as good balls and other tree decorations are made in the United States as anywhere. The promise is given that the stock for the coming Christmas will be full and equal in quality to the made-in-Germany toys of former years.

HAD WHISTLER GUESSING

One day while instructing an art class in Paris Whistler, the painter, undertook to change a red background which displeased him in a study which he had commenced. He covered it with brown but the objectionable red showed through so, after scraping off the brown, he put on gray. The effect was still unsatisfactory so he took up his knife and began scraping the gray off, remarking to one of his students as he

worked: "I suppose, sir, you understand what I am trying to do here."

"Oh, yes, sir," replied the student who had a profound admiration for the master.

"Well," said Whistler, "you understand more than I do, then," and, snatching up his hat, he hurried from the room.

BETTER-ENGLISH WORK

The English classes in the vocational years devoted most of last week to a Better-English Drive. Each class selected some common error of English and then each pupil in that class either drew a cartoon or wrote a rhyme against that particular error. A prize was offered to the best in each class and on Friday a vote was taken with the following results:

First Vocational: Cartoons—Jessie Cleveland and Charles Buchert.

Rhymes—Jessie Cleveland and Cruz McDaniel.

Second Vocational: Cartoons—Marian Wasson and Thomas Hoaglin.

Rhymes—Rose Paul and Dorcas Minthorne.

Third Vocational: Cartoons—William Frazier.

Rhymes—Florence Gensaw.

Fourth Vocational; Cartoons—Gus Gartiez.

Rhymes—Ann Sexton and Marguerite Chamberlin.

WAR ANECDOTES

In the early days of the war the officer in charge of a British post deep in the heart of Africa received this wireless message from his superior officer:

"War declared. Arrest all enemy aliens in your district."

With commendable promptness the superior received this reply:

"Have arrested seven Germans, three Belgians, two Frenchmen, two Italians, an Austrian and an American. Please say who we're at war with."

"Nurse, kin Ah go back to de front tomorrow?"

"Certainly not, you have lost a hand."

"Dat's why Ah wants to go back. Ah left ma razor in dat hand."

COMMON SENSE

It is very clear that by cutting down the output per man the cost of things must soar. One can sympathize with every reasonable demand for fair wages; but it is criminal to cripple production. The Unions are thereby bringing about conditions which must inevitably recoil upon the heads and the pockets of their members, because these members cannot escape bearing a full share of the abnormally high costs thus wickedly brought about. Labor, no more than any of the rest of us, can hope to loaf and at the same time roll in luxury. It cannot be done.