

13 MILLION MEN IS COST OF WAR

Figures Stupendous Beyond Power of Human Mind to Compass.

MOST OF THEM ARE KILLED

Big Price Being Paid for the World's Future Security—Money Cost Nearly \$175,000,000 a Day—Capital Cut Down.

By FREDERIC J. HASKIN. (Correspondent of the Chicago News.) Washington, D. C.—The figures relating to the cost of this war are stupendous beyond the power of the human mind to compass.

The number of men killed in battle has been between 7,000,000 and 8,000,000. Offsetting the number of deaths which would have occurred in times of peace, it is safe to set the war loss at more than 7,000,000 men. This is about one man in twenty for each year of the whole number mobilized.

The figures are large, but they are based on the greatest armies the world has ever seen. Moreover, the death rate has been falling steadily throughout the war, as methods more economical of human life are adopted and hospital efficiency increases. The well-prepared nations lose least. Russia has suffered casualties disproportionately large because in the first year of the war her troops were sent to the front poorly supported by artillery and sometimes literally unarmed. On the western front the French losses were heavier for the first two years, but as England takes over the bulk of the fighting her casualties increase and those of France fall off.

Total of 5,250,000 Disabled. In addition to the dead, the permanently disabled total about 5,250,000 men. This is the net loss in men amounts to about 13,000,000. There have probably been about 10,000,000 men less seriously wounded in such a way that they have either been returned to the front or able to pursue some useful occupation in civil life.

Some realization of the meaning of these totals may be gleaned from the reflection that the dead and the totally disabled equal more than half the able-bodied men in the United States.

The money cost is a vastly more confusing problem. The total is beyond all comparison with any national debts, loans or expenditures of the past. At the beginning of the war the cost of \$30,000,000 a day. It was predicted Europe could not stand it for six months. Now, well along in the fourth year, the cost is nearly \$175,000,000 a day and there are no signs of a financial breakdown.

It has become increasingly evident that lack of "munies" will never make any nation surrender. As long as sufficient economic resources actually exist in the shape of men and munitions, food and beasts and iron and steel, so long can the nation in question continue to make war. In looking for a German breakdown the eye should turn not toward the aburdely depreciated German mark, but toward what Germany has left in men and food and steel.

Its Future Mortgaged. This is because a nation can mortgage its future like a man who enters a shop with empty pockets and pays for goods with signed notes pledging the labor of his children. The world's debt since the war has increased by \$90,000,000,000. The total cost has exceeded this figure by at least \$15,000,000,000, the difference representing the amount levied in taxes in excess of the interest requirements. It is easy to see that if all the inter-

est is paid to people living in the United States, and the principal at the end of the term also paid to residents in the United States, the United States as a nation is no weaker financially for having borrowed \$20,000,000,000 than if it had never borrowed a cent. Such enormous loans will probably effect a redistribution of wealth, for the interest charges will be met by taxation, and provision made for a sinking fund in the same way. By redistributing this taxation wisely and equitably, the end of the period that the Liberty bonds have to run may well see a more efficient balance of wealth than the present.

As in reckoning war strength, the basic realities of the problem are economic rather than financial. Such part of the great war loans as is invested in convertible factories, in increase of food production and similar real assets, cannot be regarded as lost. On the other hand, the dollars that are spent for shells which explode and ships that sink are lost in fact.

World's Capital Cut Down.

Moreover, the cost in dollars is no measure of the real economic cost of the war, because it takes no account of the enormous destruction of property that has taken place. This represents a cutting into the capital of the world. The sinking of millions of tons of shipping, the destruction of cities, the ravaging of farm lands, the deterioration of industrial equipment in the last three years, are only a few of the items that must be charged to this account. One huge item is the labor of 55,000,000 men who have been taken completely from productive occupations. Even reckoning their value to industry at the moderate sum of \$1

a day, in four years of war the industrial loss amounts up to \$75,000,000,000.

There is no disposition on the part of the allies to begrudge the expenditure. It is the highest price that has ever been paid in history for anything, but the thing purchased is security for the application of these same forces to peaceful aims in the future. It is literally true that the men and money spent in this war could have transformed the earth. They could have established universal sanitation, universal education, eliminated barbarism and savagery, reclaimed all the waste lands, established communications by rail and steam with every corner of the globe, and brought the millennium nearer by a long stride. At least, the human race has ceased to be awed by the magnitude of any project. In the hell of war, men have learned that no task is too great for them, and that is a thought worth carrying into times of peace.

SPIES TRAINED FROM BOYHOOD

Secret Activities of German Women Told by Dr. Arthur Lynch, M. P.

SYSTEM IS FAR REACHING

Eyes of French People Suddenly Opened to Extent of the Organization and Its Studied and Elaborate Character.

London.—Dr. Arthur Lynch, M. P., writing under a Paris date to the Daily Chronicle on German spies in France, says:

"In Marcel Prevost's Les Angles Gardiens (The Guardian Angels, otherwise governesses) he depicts an English governess who is fond of drink, an Italian whose beauty wins the affections of the son and heir, and a German, Meg by name—a jolly and attractive young woman, unembarrassed by moral scruples, but capable and shrewd. Meg is a spy, and her spying

SPAIN INVADES BROADWAY



Spain has invaded Broadway. No less than three companies of Spanish dancers are showing New York "something new." With the arrival of two new Spanish dancers in town, Minna Valeri, who has been dancing in "Maytime" at the Shubert Theater, has issued an invitation to her rivals, L'Argentine, in the "Land of Joy," a new production at the Park Theater, and Tortola de Valencia, who has been engaged for the "Miss 1917" at the Century. Miss Valeri wants to arrange a special matinee at which she can match her skill against the others—the contest to decide which is the most graceful and expert in Spanish dancing, and which has greatest endurance. At the top is Tortola de Valencia, on the right is Minna Valeri, and inset is L'Argentine.

is the more dangerous for the fact that she is the beautiful angel of the daughter of the French war minister. "This story, written with a certain grace of style, set all France talking, and many a bourgeois family scrutinized with horror their stockish, stolid-looking but hardworking Westphalian maid, who knew little outside the small household and who, moreover, had conceived a real affection for the children. "I confess I was inclined to laugh at the spy scare, but some time before the war I used to meet, on the staircase of a modest and quiet little private hotel the dame who stood for the original of Meg. She had an apartment adjoining mine. There was nothing about her appearance or her manners to attract attention. Meg had, in good German style, brown lipsing though still attractive in the German fashion.

"One evening, on returning to my rooms, I saw Meg's lady companion, a dragon looking person, camped on a chair on the landing near Meg's door, and presently three middle-aged gentlemen left Meg's rooms. Meg knew that the war was coming, and no doubt serious business was on hand that night.

"Abused by German Husband. "Parisians have become very suspicious of late, but the surprise was general nevertheless when they discovered that their exotic favorite, Mata Hari, the Hindoo dancer, was a German spy. This lady with the dusky skin and flexible wrists and languorous graces of Eastern dancing women turned out to be a formidable personage. At the age of seventeen she married a German who had obtained Dutch nationality in order to mask his spying work. The marriage was rather in the nature of a formal business transaction, but this did not prevent the one-time German officer from brutally ill-treating his young wife.

"Nevertheless she entered into the spy system with zest, became duly registered and paid, trusted and delighted Paris for some years with her audacious performances, became acquainted with various highly placed officials and politicians and found means, it is said, to make known to the Germans some of the most important French plans in the first months of the war. "Certainly it is absurd to find a spy in every German kitchen and hall porter or barber's apprentice, but eyes have been opened to the extent of the organization, its studied and elaborate character and the cleverness of the German spy system. "Here in Paris is a type very different from Meg, but one who employs the Meigs as his agents—the count of W—. 'Old Adolph' as he was familiarly called, half in affection and half in contempt, Adolph was, not so many years ago, a dashing officer of the Guards, a great rider, a beau, a lady killer. Certain histories in this latter direction cut off his career as a Guardsman and he came to Paris. Old Adolph had then nothing of the beau cavalier of old; he seemed good natured, but stupid; he did not look as if he could mount a horse, for he moved all in a block, like a piece of wood.

Had Hired Chateau. "Old Adolph incidentally had hired a chateau which commanded a great range of country and which possessed a real value for war purposes. To this chateau he made several additions and improvements, which were thought to be a fad of dear, stupid old Adolph; they could be used as excellent gun emplacements. It is still a moot point in the circles that old Adolph frequented whether he really was a fool or only had that appearance. But it is not remote from this question to remark that at one point the disastrous flight of the Germans from the Marne was brought to an end

by the fact that they arrived at positions which had been carefully noted and prepared by Germans before the war.

"I have lifted the veil here and there upon the types; the framework of the system is no less edifying to study. For the past two generations the Germans have been extending and perfecting their spy system; it has now become one of the important functions of state. A spy is not taken at haphazard and asked impromptu to undertake difficult and hazardous work."

CANDY WITHOUT SUGAR



Mary Elizabeth Evans, has solved the problem of making the candies without using large quantities of sugar which is so scarce, by the substitution of honey, molasses, maple sugar, fruits, nuts, raisins and chocolate.

Miss Evans recently visited Mr. Hoover, federal food administrator, his assistant, Doctor Willour and Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, Doctor Taylor and two important facts have been the result. One is that the human being needs sweets, and that they can be made just as tasty with the use of the substitutes mentioned above.

SENSITIVE ABOUT HER FEET

Kansas City Woman Resents Reference to Her Pedal Extremities by Judge.

Kansas City, Mo.—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Miller, a bridal couple, quarreled within 48 hours after their marriage. Their troubles came before Judge Joe Keenan of the municipal court.

Mrs. Miller explained that her husband made a sarcastic remark about her feet, as she slipped on the ice and snow, on a downtown corner, and the quarrel ensued. The police had to interfere.

The judge admonished them and gave some sage advice: "Try to be more careful next time," he advised.

As the couple started to leave the judge remarked: "Your feet look like they ought to hold you up."

"I hope you fell flat the first minute you step outside the door," replied Mrs. Miller, as, with reddening cheeks, she tucked out of the court room.

In the Midst of Warmth, Comfort and Contentment Don't Forget Suffering Armenians

Union County hasn't felt the war's rigors as it some day will. It lives in comparative luxury and comfort while over in Armenia 400,000 orphans are starving and 40,000,000 are harassed, murdered and tortured. These Christian people—the first Christian nation of the world, is being murdered and butchered by the hundreds daily, and countless other hundreds die of starvation every month.

Do these facts appeal to you?

Have you given your share? (you know what share). Five dollars saves one Armenian life one month. What in mind.

Next Thursday each business and professional firm in La Grande is to solicit its own employees, but what about those who won't be reached that way? Are you one of them? Will YOU feel right about it if you don't give some? Get right with your own conscience in this matter.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO J. GARFIELD KING, Y. M. C. A., LA GRANDE, OREGON.

Table with 3 columns: Learn to Give!, Truly Modest, A Day-Coach Musing. Each column contains a short anecdote or quote.

Advertisement for Sawyer-Holmes Mercantile Co. featuring the text: Trade With THE Sawyer-Holmes Mercantile Co. And You Will Be Treated Right. Wholesale and Retail Dealers in Hay, Grain, Wood, Coal and all kinds of Poultry Supplies. WE ALSO HAVE STORAGE SPACE. Phone Main 17.



Largest Automobile Show Ever Held in the Northwest

Feb. 7 to 13

Portland's Ninth Annual Automobile Show

Latest models in Farm Tractors, Trucks and Automobiles. Portland's Magnificent New Auditorium. One Week, Commencing Thursday, Feb. 7. Admission 25 CENTS. Reduced Railroad Rates—Certificate Plan.

When a Want Ad Is Working For You

You're making sure progress in your hunt for a buyer for that used machinery, or furniture or office appliances. People are not afraid to buy needed things because they are "second hand." The important thing is that they are still good enough to give satisfactory service. If they are your ad, will do business for you.