

Mt. Scott Herald

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... This paper has enlisted with the government in the cause of America for the period of the war ...

CHILDREN'S PHYSICAL FITNESS.

The child health organization of New York is endeavoring to attract the attention of the country to the nation's duty of preserving the health of the children. Attention has been turned to this subject by the draft inspections, which show that 25 or 30 per cent of the young men are disqualified for service on account of physical debility. Much of this unfitness comes from malnutrition. In this connection the board furnishes tables showing what the height and weight of children should be at certain ages. For instance, a boy of ten should be 56 inches high and weigh 77 pounds. A girl of the same age should be 54 inches high and weigh 70 pounds. Similar figures are given for children of all ages from five to eighteen. The idea of these figures is to inform the parents, by obtaining the height and weight of their children, whether they have been sufficiently and intelligently fed or not. This is reducing the nutrition of children to a scientific scale, but it is to be doubted if many parents are patient and intelligent enough to ascertain these facts, says Ohio State Journal. Too many go upon the idea that feeding a boy all he will eat is increasing his strength, and, of course, they want their children strong, never thinking for a moment that overfeeding is quite as disastrous as underfeeding.

Like most men of culture, Sir R. B. Finlay, British lord high chancellor, knows his Bible and can quote it aptly. Referring to the recent extraordinary manifestations of German rage in the bombing of hospitals, he said they reminded him of a certain person concerning whom it was written that his "wrath is great because his time is short." The cable dispatch does not do the fitness of the quotation justice, however, says Chicago Evening Post. We looked it up and found it so admirably suited to recent happenings that we give it in full, as you may read it in Revelation, 2, 12: "Woe for the earth and for the sea, because the devil has gone down unto you, having great wrath, knowing that he hath but a short time." That explains more than the hospital bombings—it explains the frenzied drives on the west front and the raid on our Atlantic coast.

Figures made public by the marine corps show that since our entrance into the war the corps has enlisted 13,828 recruits under 21 years of age, representing 30 per cent of the enlistments during the period. The policy of the marine corps in admitting boys of eighteen years and over into the rank is more than justified, officers claim, by the heroic fighting by the marines at Chateau-Thierry and Belleau wood, the showing they have made in their sector of the Marne line since that time, and the youthfulness of many of the marines who have been decorated and cited in France. While it was known that many boys under twenty-one were serving with the sea soldiers, the statement that they aggregated nearly one-third of the enlistments was a surprise even to the marine officers themselves.

In 1917 only 1,614 persons emigrated from Denmark to foreign countries; of these 1,559 came to the United States. This is the smallest number of emigrants from Denmark in seventy years. Heretofore five-sixths of the emigrants have been farmers, workmen and house servants, but during 1917 only one-sixth belonged to these classes, a larger percentage than usual being tradesmen and commercial men of various kinds.

Maybe you will not regret so much the mileage you didn't accumulate on recent Sundays when you learn that your self-denial helped to send 500,000 barrels of much-needed gasoline to the front.

The Germans seem more afraid of the British tanks than of any other means of warfare. In these huge moving fortresses they are outclassed in their own favorite weapon of frightfulness.

STORING SUNBEAMS.

Among all the dreams of achievement, perhaps none offers such possibilities of reward as that of artificially storing sunbeams for use as needed for heat and power. Thus far man has been dependent upon nature's storage, and until a few decades ago was content with the contemporaneous supply furnished by the wood of the forests. With the tapping of energy deposits of coal in the nineteenth century began a drawing upon the accumulations of past ages that has continued with ever increasing recklessness and extravagance. In the United States, now the largest producer of coal, furnishing 38 per cent of the world's total in 1914, the aggregate quantity mined up to 1915 was 10,886,304,901 tons, as shown by the geological survey records, but of this only 15,000 tons had been produced up to 1820. An output of 10,000,000 tons a year had not been reached until 1853, while in 1861, at the beginning of the Civil war, the production was only 16,488,012 tons. The annual yield passed 100,000,000 tons in 1882, reached 200,000,000 in 1897, rose to 500,000,000 in 1912, and was 531,619,487 in 1915. At this rate, the coming of the fuelless age cannot be postponed many generations. Peat is a low-grade fuel existing in large quantities, and already used to some extent in Europe, but its importance seems to have been greatly exaggerated. Even the enormous energy of the waterpowers cannot indefinitely avert disaster, unless the accelerating demand slackens, or some new way of utilizing energy aids the fuel supply.

Shipbuilding data just at hand add another nail to the Kaiser's coffin, driven home and clinched. For the first six months of this year the sinkings of allied and neutral shipping by German submarines equaled 2,080,233 tons. The ship production for the same period was 2,111,591 tons. This definitely puts the submarine out of the war as a decisive factor. Moreover, the nefarious work of the submarine is steadily declining, owing to improved convoying, while the production of ships is increasing. The August production of American yards, say shipping board officials, was a world record, being 66 ships, aggregating 340,145 deadweight tons. The previous monthly record, held by Great Britain for June, was 235,911 deadweight tons.

The Berlin press tells the public that the Germans are seeking to weaken the enemy by retreating to the rear. The people are also assured that the German command is master of the situation since, after heavy battles, undesired withdrawal has been possible. The Germans are adopting the tactics of the man who boasted of holding the enemy by firmly inserting his nose between the latter's teeth.

The plan to free the schools from all alien enemy influences is one which will meet the full approbation of the public. The schools constitute the most dangerous ground for alien propaganda, for it is there that the seeds of mischief fall upon the most fertile soil. It is in the schools that patriotism must be firmly planted, for it is in the growing generation that the safety of the nation depends.

German prisoners are enjoying a rare compensation in a chance which war has brought them for revenge. They are indulging in insolence to their officers captured with them, knowing that the latter are as powerless to resent or punish these insults as the men themselves were powerless to protect themselves from their former superiors' abuse.

German war correspondents must be well disciplined, too, when they can keep their faces straight while Hindenburg and Ludendorff loftily explain that the second defeat at the Marne was nothing but what they had anticipated and fully prepared for—after losing almost 500,000 men to reach the river.

Spain is stirred into nervous but impressive awe by the stories of a Spanish war correspondent describing the size of the American army in France. Alfonso may not be high in the brow, but he knows enough not to slip on the same banana skin twice.

Borrowing cheap dollars that must be paid back in dear dollars is what the profiteers have forced upon this country, but if the profiteers escape the job of paying we are no judge of mince meat. Watch the revenue bill.

It is now estimated that the government will have to issue \$20,000,000 more in Liberty bonds before the thing is over. That will give everybody a chance for a fine investment.

A "noiseless" typewriting machine is on the market. We take it from this that it has no shelf for the chewing gum.

Mount Vesuvius is in eruption again, but the old fellow can hardly get an audience for his act these days.

FRENCH BOY IS REAL WAR HERO

Bears Excruciating Pain Without Word of Complaint.

LEG BONE IS SNAPPED OFF

Eleven-Year-Old Youth Is Hit by Dispatch Rider on Motorcycle—Not a Cry Out of Him as Automobile Dashes Over Rough Roads to Take Him to Hospital—Example of Hun Savagery in Bombing of Commercy.

He is only eleven years old but the entire battlefields of Europe have failed to produce a bigger hero.

I came across him the other day while on my way to Saint Mihiel, during which I noticed a crowd in the road near Pagny sur Meuse. A doughboy stepped from the crowd and stopped our car, saying that an American motorcycle dispatch rider had struck a child and broken his leg. He also explained that the rider had sustained a dislocated shoulder.

There were no hospitals or doctors in the town, so we stopped and I told him the D. R. I. would take him back to Toul to the hospital. He asked me if I would deliver his dispatches and when I told him I could not, he refused to go to the hospital.

Gives First Aid.

So the chauffeur, the doughboy and myself got hold of him, wedged him against the car and pulled on his left arm until we snapped it back in the socket.

I got him some cognac from a Frenchwoman. He took a drink, finally got on his motorcycle and rode on slowly.

Then I looked at the boy, a French kid about eleven years old. His right leg bone was snapped off clean as a whistle just below the thigh, so that it wobbled around. His poor old father was standing there helpless, and begged that I wouldn't leave the child there helpless "comme un chien," like a dog in the road.

So we put the lad in the car and rushed him to the Toul hospital. It must have caused him excruciating pain as we dashed over the road but never a word of complaint, although in the front seat I could hear him sucking in his breath sharply from the torture of the broken ends of the bone rubbing against one another.

He was as white as marble. We put him in the hospital at Toul. I then went on to Saint Mihiel, and as I was passing through the buckle of the Meuse river southwest of the town where it is low and flat and was formerly "no man's land," covered with barbed wire, an American aviator, Lieut. Palmer Gaillard of Mobile, who knows my grandfather, stepped out and asked me where he was.

Knew It Was All Right.

He had been forced to land through engine trouble and was not sure whether he was in the allied or German lines, but when he saw a car marked "U. S.," he knew it was all right. He was a long way from an inhabited town, as the nearest ones, a couple of kilometers away, had been shelled to pieces, and he couldn't talk French, so was in a bad position.

I picked him up and we went to Saint Mihiel. It was just getting dark, and the Boche bombed us there, at Commercy, going back, at Void, at Pagny, and at Toul again, where I dropped him and I ran into a raid getting back to Nancy. Six raids in one night is a record, I guess.

We stopped outside Commercy while they were bombing it, then running through we could smell powder wherever a bomb struck.

They were taking a dead child out of one house and dragging a wounded woman out of the cellar of another.

WAR MOTHERS ORGANIZE

Take That Title for National Society of Relatives of Fighters.

"War Mothers of America" is the name officially chosen by the first national convention of the organization at Evansville, Ind., after a spirited contest. The constitution provides that Evansville shall be the national headquarters of the organization.

Only the mother or wife of a soldier or sailor "who has been or is in active military service of the United States of America in the prosecution of the great war," are entitled to membership. Thirty-one states are represented in the convention, which is expected to complete its work tonight.

WOMEN TAKE MEN'S JOBS

Relieve Men of Military Age in London Business Houses.

One of the wholesale dry goods houses of the city of London affords an interesting example of the extent to which the substitutions of women workers for men of military age can be carried out. Over fifty members of the staff of this firm have joined the forces and in practically every case women have taken their places for the duration of the war. The wives of the commercial travelers who have been called up, are taking their husbands' places—on the road—and in addition to the all-woman clerical staff, women porters and women packers are being employed with highly satisfactory results.

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